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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

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House Probing D. of J. Film Trade Impact

To Hear Spokesmen for Distributors, Exhibitors

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—A study of block booking and proposed enforcement of fair trade practices within the film industry will be made by the House Small Business Subcommittee studying monopoly, Representative Estes Kefauver, chairman, said here today.

Investigator William Bennett discloses that several distributor representatives will be called before the committee some time after Oct. 15 to explain the impact of anti-trust regulation, including the New York anti-trust suit, upon the motion picture field.

"Block booking is of primary concern to us," Kefauver asserted.

"Exhibitor organizations will be given a voice at the hearings, if they desire. The mission of the committee is to see if adequate enforcement

(*Continued on page* 11)

CSU Files Against IATSE and Majors

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—Seven Conference of Studio Unions locals today filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board against ten majors and the IATSE, charging that the studios had refused to bargain collectively with the CSU since Oct. 24, 1945, and had conspired with the IATSE to deprive complaining unions of their "legal rights." The locals involved are the carpenters, painters,

(*Continued on page* 11)

MPEA in Holland Theatre Operation

The Motion Picture Export Association has joined with the Rotterdam Bank in the purchase of a 1,100-seat theatre, the Asta, in The Hague. The house was formerly German property and was acquired from the Alien Property Custodian of the Netherlands by MPEA and the Rotterdam banking interests, headed by W. L. Woltersom,

(*Continued on page* 11)

3,424 of 3,600 Theatre Owners Approve ATA Intervention in N. Y. Case

Of the first 3,600 replies received by the American Theatres Association on the question of its intervention in the New York anti-trust suit to oppose auction selling, 3,424 theatres of which only five per cent are said to be ATA members, approve the move and only 176 are against it, according to an ATA official here.

ATA indicated that it had sent out 16,000 cards asking exhibitor views on its move to intervene, with exhibitors asked to indicate whether they approve or oppose the move.

The polling results thus far would indicate that better than 95 per cent of those who have already replied are in favor of the move. While exhibitors polled were not asked whether or not they favor or oppose auction selling, but rather the ATA move against auction selling, comments indicate strong opposition to auction selling itself, it was said.

$39,537,980 Taxes to U.S.

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—U. S. admission tax collections for August, registering July business at box-offices, amounted to $39,537,980, the Bureau of Internal Revenue said here today.

August collections indicate a slight drop at box-offices in July. Collections for June amounted to $40,248,042. July, 1945, collections amounted to only $33,289,380.

Collections during August for the third (New York) Internal Revenue district, including all of Manhattan above 23rd Street, amounted to $6,559,140. The New York area figure represents a $900,000 increase over the tax return in July for June receipts.

Woll Warns of Reds In Motion Pictures

Matthew Woll, a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor, today will warn leaders of the film industry that unless Hollywood stars and script-writers cease to sponsor Communist-front organizations, millions of members of American trade unions might be influenced to join in a nationwide picketing campaign of theatres showing films in which it is alleged Communists and "fellow-traveling" stars and authors are featured.

Woll's warning will be contained in a signed editorial in *The American Photo-Engraver,* (AFL) trade-union publication.

"A few years ago," Mr. Woll said, "The League for Decency (National Legion of Decency) was formed as

(*Continued on page* 11)

Para. Slates 22 for '46-7

Paramount has set for release between Nov. 22 and Sept. 1, 1947, a tentative list of 22 pictures, it was disclosed here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, at the opening of a series of home office conferences between district and branch managers from all over the nation. The meetings were called by Reagan to discuss sales problems presented by "the new method of merchandising" pictures. Reagan said that the company proposes to release as many pictures as it could successfully handle and the market is capable of absorbing.

The pictures listed are: "Two Years Before the Mast," slated for

(*Continued on page* 11)

'Keep Production Rolling': Balaban

While the consent decree in its present form is burdensome because it necessitates complete reorganization of the method of buying and selling films, the distributors must not falter in keeping product rolling to the theatres, said Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, yesterday at the opening of the company's meeting of special field representatives and home-office and studio department heads, called together at the Hotel Warwick here in a move to re-orientate the firm's whole machinery of publicity, advertising and exploitation to meet the requirements of the expected new method of selling.

The most vexing problem facing the distributor is that of trying to set tentative selling plans that may have

(*Continued on page* 11)

Final Decree Arguments to Start Oct. 22

Court Hears ATA, CSA, Lust Pleas on Oct. 21

The three-judge Federal Court in the New York anti-trust suit will start to hear oral arguments on a proposed decree in U. S. District Court here on Tuesday, Oct. 22, according to procedure arranged yesterday at a conference between counsel and Federal Judges John Bright and Henry Goddard.

It was further arranged that the three judges will hear arguments on the day preceding, Oct. 21, on the petitions of the American Theatres Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations to intervene in the case to oppose auction selling and will also hear argument on the plea of Lust Theatres of Washington to upset an award of the motion picture arbitration appeals board.

The oral arguments on the proposed

(*Continued on page* 11)

CIEA Meets Today On Decision Course

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30. — The Conference of Independent Exhibitors Association will open a two-day meeting at the Statler Hotel here tomorrow with representatives of exhibitor groups aligned with CIEA sitting in to express views on the New York trust suit and set a course of action.

This is expected to take the form of a list of recommendations to be handed over to the Department of

(*Continued on page* 11)

Berger Sees Single Group Beneficial

MINNEAPOLIS, Sept. 30.—Possibility of various groups of independents joining into one compact organization are "very favorable," Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, Minneapolis, said this week on his return from observing the national Allied convention in Boston last week.

"I can't see where any of the inde-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Kansas-Missouri to Meet in K. C. Today

KANSAS CITY, Sept. 30.—The Kansas-Missouri Theatres Association meeting, tomorrow and Wednesday, to which non-member exhibitors have been invited, will take up vital exhibitor problems, and is expected to be the largest in years. Si Fabian, president of American Theatres Association, and Robert Coyne, executive secretary, will speak on ATA on the opening day. Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPT OA, will discuss the pending decree. Other visiting speakers will include Claude Lee, Paramount; Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio; H. M. Richey, M-G-M, and Paul Mooney, National Screen Service, Tom Edwards, president of the KMTA, will also discuss the decree. During the two days, Stewart Barlow of Thomas Leedom Carpet Co., and representatives of RCA, National Theatre Supply and other supply houses, will talk on conditions in their fields. Senn Lawler, Fox Midwest, will outline conditions of city taxes affecting theatres.

To Discuss Buying, Booking

There will be general discussions on buying and booking, on checking, and on other topics. The banquet will be held tomorrow night at the convention hotel, the Muehlebach. A cocktail party will be given by Missouri Theatre Supply Co. and another by the association.

Many exhibitors hereabouts are hopeful that constructive steps will be taken at the convention for action towards adjusting differences and problems within the industry. There is a difference of opinion, the balance of which is not now discernible, as to affiliation, both individually and as an association, with the ATA.

Iowa-Nebraska Meet Delayed to Oct. 28

DES MOINES, Sept. 30.—Mid-year convention of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska has been moved back from Oct. 14-15, as previously announced, to Oct. 28-29 at the Fort Des Moines Hotel, Des Moines. Howard Brookings, president, announced that lack of hotel accommodations was the reason for the change in dates. Affiliation with national Allied is expected to headline the discussions which will include local checkers and Confidential Reports; demand for a complete copy of each checker's final report with each engagement checked; opposition to practice inaugurated by some distributors refusing to allow dating and/or playing new releases by non-competing independent theatres until after they have played key runs; auction selling; percentage pictures; and the consent decree.

Brookings, who recently succeeded Leo Wolcott as president of AITO, will preside at all business sessions.

First day's session will be devoted exclusively to business, with only independent exhibitors participating.

Personal Mention

WALT DISNEY, accompanied by writer JOHN BATTLE and associate producer PERCE PIERCE, will sail from New York for Ireland on Nov. 14.

•

RUSSELL BIRDWELL will leave Hollywood on Friday by plane for London to confer with JOHN SUTRO, managing director of Ortus Film Prod., on plans for their forthcoming joint production of Gertrude Lawrence's autobiography, "A Star Danced," to be filmed in England.

•

SAM KATZ, M-G-M studio executive, returned yesterday to the Coast after a visit to his mother's home in Chicago, where his brother, HARRY, head of Monarch Theatres of Indiana, suffered a heart attack and is now recuperating.

•

MACK GORDON, 20th Century-Fox producer, has arrived in New York from the Coast. The producer, who is accompanied by MRS. GORDON, will remain here three weeks.

•

HERMAN GOLDBERG, Warner exchanges purchasing agent and supervisor of maintenance, will be in New Haven for the next few days from New York.

•

THAD SHERIDAN, former United Artists salesman in San Francisco, has joined the sales staff of Monogram's San Francisco exchange.

•

M. L. SIMONS, editor of M-G-M's sales organ, *Distributor,* arrived on the Coast yesterday for a two-week stay.

•

GEORGE E. SIDNEY, M-G-M director, and his wife are in Chicago for a few days.

•

STANLEY HIGGINSON, Warners managing director in Australia, is due here Oct. 7.

•

ANDREW STONE, United Artists producer, was scheduled to arrive here yesterday from the Coast.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew assistant treasurer, is due back from Chicago on Thursday.

•

MAX WOLFF, head of Loew purchasing, left St. Louis yesterday for New York.

ROBERT COYNE, executive director of the American Theatres Association, left New York yesterday for Kansas City.

•

SIDENY TOLER, Monogram star, is confined to his Coast home following a minor emergency operation at the Elmer Belt Clinic. TOLER, accompanied by his wife, leave next month for a short holiday in England.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp. and SI SIEGEL and JOSEPH J. DEITCH left here by plane yesterday on a western trip.

•

BERNARD P. BROOKS, film buyer for the Fabian circuit, and MRS. BROOKS are the parents of a son, HARLAN HERBERT, their first child, born at Bronx Hospital.

•

WALTER BROOKS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, head of M-G-M's exhibitor relations, arrived in Kansas City yesterday from New York by plane.

•

MARK HELLINGER, Universal producer, is en route to New York from the Coast by plane.

•

REX TAYLOR, Eastern pictorial coordinator for Paramount, has returned here from the Coast.

•

JOSEPH CALLAHAN of Paramount's home office exploitation department has returned here from a Coast vacation.

•

JOHN FRIEDL, head of Minnesota Amusement Co., Minneapolis, has recovered from an operation.

•

JERRY COOPER of Paramount's home office exploitation staff has returned from a Canadian vacation.

•

ROGER LEWIS of the 20th Century-Fox advertising department is vacationing this week.

•

MRS. BILLY GRADY, wife of M-G-M casting director, has arrived here from Beverly Hills.

•

PAT O'BRIEN and GEORGE RAFT are here from the Coast.

•

SAM ISRAEL, Coast publicist, is en route to New York.

Johnston Tour Now Set for Oct. 5

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Motion Picture Association president Eric A. Johnston has again postponed his trip to Europe, scheduled to begin tomorrow, to Saturday. Gerald Mayer, Joyce O'Hara and Gerald Movins will accompany him on the tour. The postponement was made because of other business here and transportation considerations, but has no bearing on the Hollywood studio labor situation, according to Kenneth Clark, MPA public relations chief.

Youngstein Is New Eagle-Lion Ad Head

Max E. Youngstein has been named advertising-publicity head of Eagle-Lion Films, by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and sales head.

For a number of years, Youngstein was assistant director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox and during the war served as publicity director for the motion picture and special events sections of the War Finance division of the U. S. Treasury Department. More recently, he was general manager of Story Productions and vice-president and general manager of Richard Condon Inc., public relations consultants.

Griffith Decision Is Expected This Week

Oklahoma City, Sept. 30. — Federal Court attaches here believe there is a strong likelihood that Judge Edgar S. Vaught will hand down a decision in the Government's anti-trust suit against Griffith Amusement Co. within the week.

Ampa Luncheon Today

Claire Trevor, actress, will be among the guests at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' luncheon at Sardi's, here, today.

Roach-Wanger Luncheon

United Artists will give a press luncheon to UA producers Roach-Wanger, tomorrow, in the 21 Club, here.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Cary GRANT • Ingrid BERGMAN
In Alfred Hitchcock's "NOTORIOUS"
with CLAUDE RAINS
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL & ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Van JOHNSON
Esther WILLIAMS
'Easy to Wed'
In Technicolor
IN PERSON
TOMMY RIGGS
DANNY O'NEIL

BOB HOPE
and Joan Caulfield in
"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE"
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK AND BAND
BOB EVANS JOHN and RENE ARNAUT
EXTRA! PEGGY LEE
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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Get on the bandwagon with

Singing!



VIVIAN BLAINE

Crooning!



PERRY COMO

Swinging!



HARRY JAMES

Laughing!



CARMEN MIRANDA

in the Musical with the Good Luck Charm!



If I'm Lucky



They'll soon be voted the Nation's No. 1 Hits!

- IF I'M LUCKY
- FOLLOW THE BAND
- ONE MORE KISS
- ONE MORE VOTE
- BET YOUR BOTTOM DOLLAR
- JAM SESSION IN BRAZIL (THE BATUCADA)

"IF I'M LUCKY" Starring VIVIAN BLAINE · PERRY COMO · HARRY JAMES · CARMEN MIRANDA with PHIL SILVERS · EDGAR BUCHANAN · Reed Hadley and HARRY JAMES' MUSIC MAKERS · Directed by LEWIS SEILER · Produced by BRYAN FOY · Screen Play by Snag Werris, Robert Ellis, Helen Logan and George Bricker · Music and Lyrics by Josef Myrow and Edgar De Lange · Dances Staged by Kenny Williams

The 4 Leaf clover musical from 20th *Century Fox*

FP-C Managers in Three-Day Meet

TORONTO, Sept. 30. — A three-day conference of district managers from Coast to Coast was opened here today by Famous Players-Canadian Corp. at the Royal York Hotel, under direction of president J. J. Fitzgibbons, to deal with new developments in the industry. Home office managers and other executives are participating in roundtable discussions.

This conference will lead to regional meetings of FP-C theatre managers in other zones, which will replace a national managers' convention this year.

Among those attending are Frank Gow and Maynard Joiner of Vancouver, E. A. Zorn and Harold Bishop of Winnepeg, Robert Roddick of Halifax, Ray Tubman of Ottowa, as well as Jack Arthur, Dan Krendel and Robert Eves, who supervise the Ontario and Toronto units.

FP-C Theatres Buy Republic's Program

TORONTO, Sept. 30.—Republic Pictures has closed a deal for its 1946-47 program with Famous Players Canadian Corp., operating 130 theatres in Canada.

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president and general sales manager, flew to Canada to sit in with A. W. Perry, president of Empire Films, distributor of Republic product in Canada; John J. Fitzgibbons, circuit president, and Ben Geldsaler, chief FPC film buyer.

de Rochemont Notes Europe Film Needs

Many post-war changes effected in motion picture programing, and their resultant audience reactions, are still prevalent in Europe, said Richard de Rochemont, producer of "March of Time," yesterday, after his recent return from a four-week trip to France and England. Because films, unlike other forms of public expression sent to foreign lands, are usually not censored, de Rochemont stated that American films should give a more faithful picture of life in the United States.

The French government's war-time electricity-conserving edict of limiting full film programs to 10,000 feet, still prevails, much to French exhibitors' profit. In accordance with this limitation, MOT shows one-reel versions in France and most of the other foreign countries, de Rochemont added.

de Rochemont stated that American films will have "to fight" to maintain their position in England.

New Move to Avert Exchange Strike

Confidence that a threatened strike of New York exchange employes can be averted was expressed here yesterday by a spokesman for the distributors, while the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild announced that negotiations for salary increases will be resumed at a meeting with company representatives on Friday morning.

SOPEG affiliated employes of the M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists and Columbia exchanges voted last Monday empowering the union's executive board and negotiating committee to call a strike. They had asked $10-per-week raises for all workers, plus a $30-per-week minimum. The companies had offered a flat five per cent increase, which was rejected.

SOPEG exchange contracts have been in effect for a year and run through July 31, 1947. The salary increases, to be retroactive to Aug. 1, have been demanded under the terms of a reopening clause.

New contracts covering home office employes will be ready for signing by SOPEG and the companies at a meeting here on Thursday afternoon, it was also announced yesterday. Home office workers will receive weekly raises of $6, or 15 per cent, whichever is greater.

Sarnoff Is Given Science Award

Honored for his 40 years in radio, David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corp. of America, was presented with the Man of Science Award yesterday in ceremonies in his offices, here, before a group of RCA associates. Sarnoff was presented with a scroll by Dr. Gerald Wendt, scientist.

Sarnoff, who held the rank of Brigadier General in the Army during the war, described his own contributions to science as "the reflection of an organization." What science has accomplished in the past 40 years, he said, "will be insignificant as to what will happen in the next 40 years."

Bruce-Winston Dead

Charles Bruce-Winston, 67, British actor and producer, died Sunday while enroute to New York from England aboard the *S.S. John Ericsson,* which arrived here yesterday.

Cordero Epands

Expanded headquarters of Trans-Continental Films, Inc., have been established here by J. A. Cordero, president of that company.

Secret Guild Vote On Picket-lines

New York home offices of producer-distributors learned last night by long distance telephone from Hollywood that heads of the Screen Actors Guild had called a membership meeting for Wednesday night to vote secretly on whether the actors should continue to cross picket lines in the present studio labor jurisdictional fight.

Services Today for Bragg of Canada

TORONTO, Sept. 30.—Services will be held tomorrow afternoon from the Church of St. Michael's and All Angels', here, for Thomas J. Bragg, executive of the J. Arthur Rank companies, who died on Sunday following a chronic illness.

Bragg was vice-president and a director of Odeon Theatres of Canada, president of General Theatres Investment Co., secretary-treasurer of Theatres Properties (Hamilton), Ltd., and treasurer of Empire-Universal Films, Ltd.

Joining the late N. L. Nathanson in 1921, Bragg became secretary-treasurer of Famous Players-Canadian, from which he resigned, with Nathanson, in 1941 to form the Odeon circuit.

M-G-M Checkers Meet in Chicago

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—Charles K. Stern, Loew's assistant treasurer, presided at a two-day meeting with M-G-M checking supervisors at the Drake Hotel, here, over the weekend. William G. Brenner, in charge of the company's checking department, left for Kansas City today after the meet.

Paramount, Cooper Cases Marked Off

Three suits and counter-suits stemming from cross charges on theatre ownership brought by Paramount against the late Joseph H. Cooper and by Cooper against the company, were yesterday marked off the non-jury calendar in Federal Court here, all made subject to restoration on five days notice by either Paramount or Cooper's estate. The cases had been scheduled for trial on Oct. 7.

Colo., Neb. Interests Involved

Involved in the dispute are Colorado and Nebraska theatre interests jointly owned by Cooper and Paramount. Court action was brought first by Paramount against Cooper in connection with alleged taking by the latter of disproportionate earnings. Countersuits, in a similar vein, were brought by Cooper.

After Cooper died early this year, Austin C. Keough, Paramount legal vice-president, was named one of the executors of the deceased's estate.

Max Weisfeldt Forms Criterion Pictures

Annual reports of the nation's leading corporations will provide the basis for a new phase of future motion pictures essentially educational in character, according to plans of M. J. Weisfeldt, president of the new Criterion Pictures Corp., which will sponsor this innovation to present the annual activities of industry in films and exhibit them in brokerage offices, schools, colleges, business establishments, telecasts and elsewhere.

Details of the project will be revealed at the annual "Oscars of Industry Awards" dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, on Friday. Meanwhile, Weisfeldt, formerly of Columbia Pictures, said that individual members of the Securities and Exchange Commission and officers of the New York Stock Exchange, have cited the plan.

ANNOUNCING

The establishment of our expanded new premises where business is carried on as usual.

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243 West 56th Street New York 19, N. Y.
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M-G-M TRADE SHOW
NEW HAVEN TERRITORY ONLY
"IT HAPPENED AT THE INN"
(French Version)
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4
1:30 P. M.
20TH CENTURY-FOX SCREEN ROOM
40 WHITING STREET - NEW HAVEN, CONN.

NY, Coast, London, In Jolson Tribute

A three-way, international pick-up between New York, Hollywood and London will feature a broadcast going out over Mutual's lines from 10:30 to 11:30 tonight (EST), honoring Al Jolson during the testimonial dinner to be given him by the motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee at the Hotel Astor, here. Jolson is being honored "for the outstanding job he did entertaining troops during the war."

Among those scheduled to be heard during the hour-long air show are: Hildegarde, Perry Como and Martha Raye, who will be picked up from New York; Charles Cochrane, British producer, and Anna Neagle, who will broadcast from London, and George Jessel, Bob Hope, Eddie Cantor, Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Burns and Allen and Mitchell Ayers and his orchestra, who will be "piped-in" from Hollywood. Jessel will serve as master of ceremonies for the West Coast portion of the broadcast.

Broidy Outlines 'Fifth Avenue' Plans

CHICAGO, Sept. 30.—Monogram franchise holders, meeting at the Drake Hotel here today, heard president Steve Broidy outline pre-release plans for "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," the company's special picture, which will be completed Oct. 19. An advertising budget of $250,000, greater than that expended on "Suspense," will be used in advertising the picture. Ed Morey, vice-president and assistant to Broidy, is here from New York for the conclave, and the two visited leading circuit heads here.

Broidy said that Monogram had purchased the St. Louis exchange from George West on Sept. 1 for an undisclosed sum, but added that no further purchases were contemplated.

Ministers Ask Censor Board in New Jersey

OCEAN CITY, N. J., Sept. 30.—A resolution calling for a state board of censors, following a recent controversy over the showing of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," has been adopted by the New Jersey Conference of the Methodist Church at a meeting held here.

The resolution, suggested by Bishop Fred P. Corson, said: "Recent pictures shown in New Jersey have been of an immoral nature, and it is a known fact that motion pictures have a great psychological and moral effect upon people."

Jesse Meis Passes

CINCINNATI, Sept. 30.—Jesse J. Meis, 64, for many years operator of the neighborhood Forest and Nordland theatres, died at his home here tonight. He retired three years ago on account of ill health. A widow and daughter survive.

Moscou's Father Dies

Paul Moscou, 58, father of Joseph Moscou, counsel for Confidential Reports, died Sunday at Memphis. Services will be held at the Park West Chapel, here, later this week.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ATLANTA

Baseball and the fair cut into business this week. The weather has been good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross :$12,000. Average: $13,500)

JESSE JAMES (20th-Fox reissue)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,200)

U.S.S. (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c) 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—CAPITAL (2,446) (55c-60c) 2nd week, moveover from Paramount. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,200)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000)

BALTIMORE

Major attractions are doing big business. In other instances, business is only about average. Weather is well suited to film-going, and nothing of importance offers outside competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—KEITH'S (2,406) (35c-40c-50c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,750)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $17,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. With stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

OPEN CITY (Mayer-Burstyn)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,900)

BUFFALO

"Till the End of Time" is the one stand-out here in an otherwise ordinary week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 5:

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M) and THE FRENCH KEY (Rep.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and SWAMP FIRE (Para.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and THE GENTLEMAN MISBEHAVES (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,000)

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB) and GAY BLADES (Rep.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $16,000)

CINCINNATI

"Gallant Bess" is leading the field, and while there are a few good spots on the box office curve, returns generally are around average. The weather has been oppressively hot. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 1-4:

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturdy midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,500)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $10,000)

STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox) and QUEEN OF BURLESQUE (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600)

TALL IN THE SADDLE (RKO Radio) and HER ADVENTUROUS NIGHT (U)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,250. (Average: $1,100)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $7,500)

SHE WROTE THE BOOK (U) and DEAD OF NIGHT (U)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross. $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,500)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Theatres failed to do much better than average in the first week of cool fall weather here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd wek on moveover from Radio City. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,500)

DEADLINE FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,400)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from State. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,500)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $2,500)

TORONTO

General strength was exhibited in all first-runs, the weather being favorable. Chief opposition came from big-time football, the last Thorncliffe racing of the turf season and the opening of the fall meeting at Dufferin Park. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3-4:

CLUNY BROWN (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $4,700)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,800. (Average: $14,300)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $13,300)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,100. (Average: $14,600)

THE KILLERS (U)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,400. (Average: $11,400)

CLUNY BROWN (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 dys.. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,800)

New Films Aid NY Theatres

New arrivals at New York's first-run theatres, led by "Two Years Before the Mast," at the Rivoli, are generally scoring heavily with the result that the level of receipts has again turned upward after dipping since Labor Day.

Other strong arrivals are: "Three Little Girls in Blue," at the R[illegible]; "Sister Kenny," at the Palace; "Mr. Ace," at the Globe, and "The Raiders," at the Rialto. The "Fantasia's" return engagement at the Republic is also a strong starter.

"Two Years Before the Mast" is headed for a sensational $85,000, or better, for an initial week at the Rivoli, which will top the previous record, held by "Love Letters," by $12,000, or even more. Receipts would have been even higher were it not for the special invitation performance held last Tuesday, necessitating clearing the house.

"Three Little Girls in Blue" and a stage bill featuring Beatrice Kay and Maurice Rocco are combining to give the Roxy a big $110,000 for an initial week. "Sister Kenny" is expected to draw a strong $40,000, or better, in an initial week at the Palace. "Mr. Ace" is headed for a solid $31,000 for an initial week at the Globe. "The Raiders," British documentary, is expected to bring in a heavy $14,000 for its initial seven days at the Rialto. "Black Angel," new arrival at the Criterion, is drawing a moderate $26,000 for an initial week. "Three Wise Fools," combined with a stage bill presenting Paul Whiteman and his orchestra, plus others, is leading the Capitol to a profitable $86,000 for an initial week.

'Notorious' Gets $130,000

"Notorious" at Radio City Music Hall, remains outstanding among holdovers with an impressive $130,000 expected for a seventh week; this will equal sixth week receipts of the same figures. "Monsieur Beaucaire," at the Paramount, combined with a stage show presenting Charlie Spivak and his orchestra, are expected to draw a heavy $81,000 for a fourth week. "The Killers" is maintaining a blistering pace at the Winter Garden with the fifth week's receipts headed for $45,000, following a fourth's $47,000.

"Caesar and Cleopatra" is expected to bring in a moderate $33,000 for a fourth week at the Astor, while "If I'm Lucky" is expected to draw a good $21,000 for a second week at the Victoria. "The Big Sleep" and a stage bill are expected to give the Strand a sturdy $53,000 for a sixth and final week; "Cloak and Dagger" will take over on Friday. "Night and Day" will bring in a profitable $21,000 for a 10th week at the Hollywood.

"Fantasia" is expected to bring a heavy $15,000 for an initial week at the Republic, which will almost double the figure recorded on a similar return engagement at the same house about two years ago. "Henry V" continues outstandingly at the John Golden Theatre on a two-a-day reserved-seat basis, with $14,700 grossed for a fourth week at this house, following over 10 weeks at the City Center. "Rendezvous with Annie" is headed for a slow $6,500 for a second and final week at the Gotham.

A magnificent motion picture to add new lustre to the screen!

FRANK BORZAGE'S

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU

A Republic Picture
in
TECHNICOLOR

A Great Love Story Enriched

FRANK BORZAGE'S PRODUCTION

of

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU

A Distinguished Motion Picture in Romantic TECHNICOLOR

PHILIP DORN · CATHERINE McLEOD
WILLIAM CARTER

MME. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA

Felix Bressart • Fritz Feld • Elizabeth Patterson
Vanessa Brown • Lewis Howard

Directed by FRANK BORZAGE

Screen Play by Bordon Chase
Adapted from his American Magazine Story "Concerto"

Piano Recordings by Artur Rubinstein
World's Greatest Pianist

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

by Music and Technicolor!



"I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU" is being sold to the nation by an extensive advertising and promotion campaign utilizing every imaginable type of media!

Advertising:

to 36,857,044 people through full page ads in 46 national publications including LIFE, AMERICAN WEEKLY, COSMOPOLITAN, WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION, LOOK.

to 20,000,000 people through extensive radio advertising in every key city!

to MILLIONS MORE through billboards and other types of outdoor advertising!

Promotion:

to 75,000,000 people through a tremendous list of tie-ups headed by RCA-Victor and including scores of others . . . featuring nation-wide advertising in newspapers and magazines, plus store windows and displays!

Final Decree

(Continued from page 1)

decrees of the distributor-defendants and the Department of Justice are expected to last two or three days. After this, the judges are expected to begin work on a final decree.

The intervention motions of ATA and CSA are scheduled to come before U. S. District Judge Francis G. Caffey here today and will be referred to the three-judge statutory court for hearing Oct. 21, according to the procedure arranged.

Robert L. Wright, government counsel and special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, who came up from Washington yesterday for the conference, has already sent a letter to the three judges opposing the ATA intervention as a party to the action, but he is understood to have indicated in his letter that the Department of Justice would not oppose intervention as *amicus curiae*.

Wright indicated yesterday that he plans to file his final proposed decree and findings of fact Oct. 7 whether or not he receives any further material from the five theatre-owning defendants who have thus far merely sent him a "tentative proposed decree" draft. Whitney North Seymour, Paramount counsel and representing the five theatre-owning defendants at yesterday's conference, is understood to have indicated that these defendants do not know when they will be able to present further material to Wright.

The hearings in court, starting Oct. 22, will be on proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law as well as on the proposed decree. Counsel for the defendants and the Department of Justice will be provided with a full opportunity to present their arguments before the three judges who, beside Judges Bright and Goddard, include presiding Justice Augustus N. Hand of the U. S. Circuit Court.

Among those present at yesterday's meeting, besides Seymour, and Wright, were George Raftery, representing United Artists and Universal, and Max Rose, representing Columbia. Wright was accompanied by Harold Lasser of the New York office of the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice.

To Contend Exhibitors Not Represented by D of J

WASHINGTON, Sept. 30.—Counsel for the American Theatres Association in argument for intervention into the New York industry anti-trust case plans to contend that the Department of Justice "does not represent the exhibitors for whom the suit was started," if the Justice Department insists on opposing exhibitor intervention, it is said here.

A spokesman in the office of Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel, pointed out that the Government anti-trust action was started for the protection of the independent exhibitor.

Berger on Single Unit

(Continued from page 1)

pendents are very far apart on their views of important problems," Berger said, adding that he came out of the Allied convention convinced that "it seems certain something will break soon to bring all independents under one banner."

Don Schwartz, NCA executive secretary, who accompanied Berger to Boston, predicted two large groups and two locals would soon join National Allied. He would not identify the organizations.

Berger called a meeting of Twin Cities members for today and a board meeting for the following Monday to discuss a mid-November semi-annual convention on the decree and possibly poll the board and full membership on a national Allied affiliation.

Brandt's group left a committee at Boston to explore affiliation with Allied and CIEA will meet in Washington Oct. 1-2, also to discuss plans to merge all groups.

National Allied president Jack Kirsch has been invited to attend a special meeting of AITO of Iowa-Nebraska, possibly before the unit's mid-year convention in Des Moines, Oct 28-29, to outline benefits of Allied affiliation.

House Probe

(Continued from page 1)

of anti-trust laws is being conducted by the Justice Department."

In addition, Kefauver stated that his committee will be interested in finding out what impact such Government regulation has upon independent exhibitors. The committee may decide to recommend changes in present anti-trust laws, he added.

First to testify at the hearings planned by the committee will be Government officials. They will be followed by representatives of industry, it was said.

Woll Warns of Reds

(Continued from page 1)

part of a nationwide protest against immoral movies. Motion picture houses in a score of cities were picketed, box-office receipts dropped, and the Hays' office was forced to step in to clean up a disagreeable situation.

"Unless the industry takes steps at once, it may well be confronted with a similar public reaction, this time directed against many stars and script-writers who are part of the Communist fifth column in America," Woll warned.

CSU Files

(Continued from page 1)

electricians, set designers, story analysts, cartoonists, and machinists. No date was set for a hearing.

Today, pickets appeared for the first time at the Roach studio, but disbanded two hours later. Elsewhere, picketing was peaceful and in compliance with Superior Judge A. W. Ashburn's restraining order, issued last week. Only at M-G-M was any disturbance reported. There, a revolving picket line was established, as the legal number posted at the gate was relieved every 30 seconds by others recruited from a crowd of 300 posted at the legal distance of 200 feet from the studio.

MPA's Byron Price told the Press: "Without exception, every studio involved reported shooting in progress today on every scheduled picture. Unions supporting the jurisdiction strike represent about 15 per cent of the employees of struck studios. It is evident a great majority want to stay on their jobs and are opposing this outlaw strike."

Meanwhile, SIMPP's Donad Nelson met with IATSE's Roy Brewer, reportedly to discuss IATSE's claim to exclusive jurisdiction over construction work at independent studios.

Vanguard Halts Work on 2, But Studio Remains Open

HOLLYWOOD, Sept. 30.—In the absence in New York of Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard Films, the following statement was issued here today by E. L. Scanlon, executive vice-president of Vanguard and co-director of the Selznick studio:

"Existing labor conditions have temporarily interfered with the ability of the studio to proceed with the preparation of 'Little Women' in Technicolor and 'The Paradine Case,' originally scheduled to begin production early in October at a total cost of over $6,250,000. Accordingly, these pictures have been postponed."

MPEA in Holland

(Continued from page 1)

on a 50-50 basis.

Woltersom, now here on a three-month visit, was honor guest of the MPEA at a Waldorf-Astoria Hotel luncheon yesterday. Plans for the joint operation of the theatre were discussed.

Francis Harmon, MPEA vice-president, was host at the luncheon, which was attended by: Barney Balaban, Spyros P. Skouras, John Whitaker, John J. O'Connor, Louis Lober, Arnold Picker, Emanuel Silverstone, Morton Spring, George Weltner, R. K. Hawkinson, Joseph Seidelman, Wolfe Cohen, Joseph Hummel, Arthur Loew, Stanton Griffis, Will H. Hays, John Glynn, Harmon, Gerald Mayer, George Borthwick, Carl E. Milliken, Irving Maas, Robert Vining and Theodore Hope.

CIEA Meets

(Continued from page 1)

Justice in its pursuit of the case. Jesse Stern, CIEA chairman, will preside and some 25 to 30 delegates are expected to attend, including Abram Myers of National Allied; Robert Poole, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors; Benjamin Berger. North Central Allied; Leo Woolcott, Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Neb.

Balaban Speech

(Continued from page 1)

to be scrapped when the decree is handed down in its final form, Balaban said. "But we are going to do the best we can under the circumstances," he told the meeting, which will run for four days, with Curtis Mitchell, national director of publicity and advertising presiding.

The industry is forced to go forward, he said, but to go forward it must exercise a maximum of promotional effort. The greater promotional drive thrown behind pictures will have the dual purpose of enlarging the audience for screen entertainment and of stimulating added exhibitor interest in product offered, he said.

Balaban voiced the belief that the proper exploitation of pictures under the new system of selling will have the effect of bringing to the film theatres a vast new audience drawn from the ranks of the millions that attend motion pictures only sporadically. It is the job of the exploitation men to reach this potential audience, which, he said, the industry must look to to supply the additional revenue necessary to reduce the cost of making and selling screen entertainment. The audience waiting to be won as regular patrons of film theatres was estimated by Balaban at 10,000,000 to 15,000,000.

Among other speakers were Adolph Zukor, Charles Reagan, Claude Lee, Oscar Morgan, Stanley Shuford, Al Wilkie, and Sid Mesibov.

Para. Slates 22

(Continued from page 1)

Nov. 22 release; "Blue Skies," Dec. 27; Pine-Thomas' "I Cover Big Town;" "Cross My Heart;" Hal Wallis' "The Perfect Marriage;" "California," in Technicolor; Pine-Thomas' "Seven Were Saved;" "Dear Ruth;" "Ladies' Man;" Pine-Thomas' "Danger Street;" Hope Enterprises' "My Favorite Brunette;" "The Trouble with Women;" "Calcutta;" "Easy Come, Easy Go;" "Welcome Stranger;" "Perils of Pauline," in Technicolor; Pine-Thomas' "Jungle Flight;" "The Imperfect Lady;" Hal Wallis' "Desert Town;" "Suddenly It's Spring;" Pine-Thomas' "Adventure Island" and "Variety Girl."

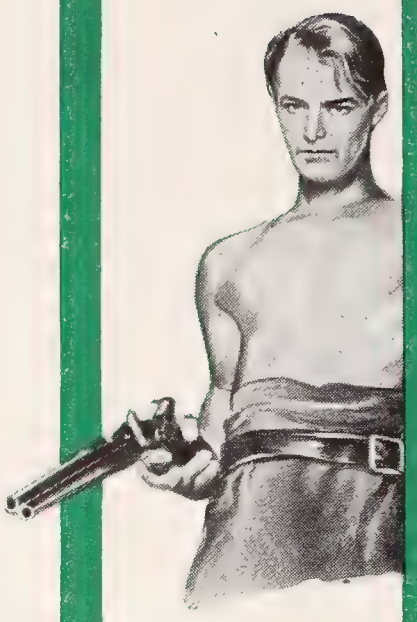
Reagan explained that Paramount had deferred drawing up a comprehensive release schedule for the new selling season until the company's distribution department was able "to thoroughly familiarize itself with the new selling procedure."

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING
OF
"VACATION IN RENO"
WEDNESDAY, OCT. 9, at 2.30 P. M.
RKO PROJ. ROOM, 630 Ninth Ave., NEW YORK, N. Y.

TONIGHT AT 10:35!
★ FANNIE BRICE
★ BURNS & ALLEN
★ EDDIE CANTOR
★ PERRY COMO
★ HILDEGARDE
★ BOB HOPE
★ GEORGE JESSEL
★ AL JOLSON
★ MARTHA RAYE
★ DINAH SHORE
★ FRANK SINATRA
★ SIDNEY SKOLSKY
★ JAMES J. WALKER
MBS NETWORK
ALL-STAR SALUTE TO JOLSON!
and WNEW NEW YORK

WEATHER REPORT: ALL-DAY RAIN

for N. Y. Rivoli's American premiere, with worst weather in months, yet theatre had constant box office line from 8 A. M. till ticket sale stopped at 4 P. M. to clear house for special invitation premiere performance.



BOX OFFICE REPORT: ALL-TIME RECORD!

Midweek premiere topped *Saturday* openings of all Rivoli's biggest hits, with first half-day almost *double* "Lost Weekend" and "Kitty" business! And Second day topped any weekday in theatre's history, and "Kitty's" first *Sunday*.

INDUSTRY REPORT: "THIS IS PARAMOUN

"TWO YEARS B
THE MAS

Starring

ALAN LADD · BRIAN DONLEVY · WILLIAM BENDIX

with Howard da SILVA · Esther FERNANDEZ · Albert DEKKER · Luis VAN RO

CRITICS' REPORT:

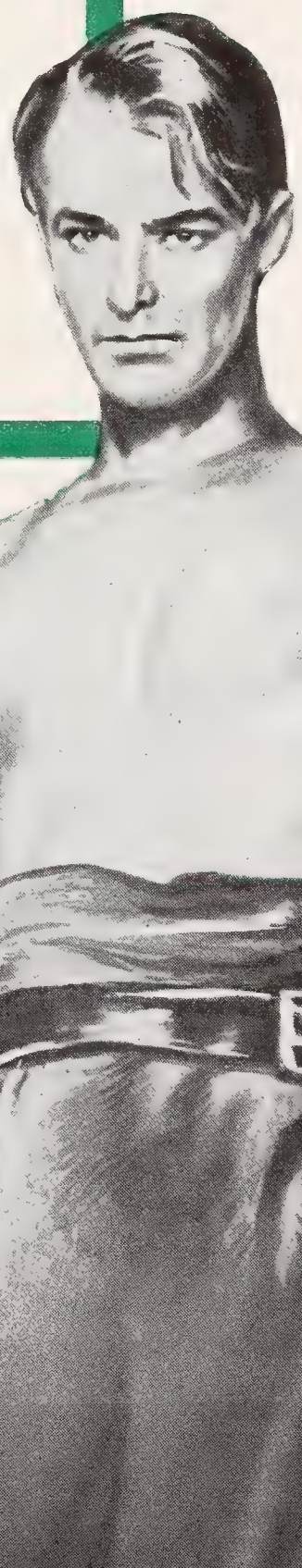
"ALL-STAR SENSATION!"

"Absorbing . . . heartily recommended."— *News*. "Blood-and-thunder thrills."— *Times*. "Robust . . . exciting . . . dramatic." —*Herald Tribune*. "More thrills and excitement than any two mystery chillers."—*Journal*.

Don't Miss That Trade Showing October 8!







"'S BIGGEST YET!"

EFORE T"

BARRY
FITZGERALD

EN · Darryl HICKMAN

Directed by
JOHN FARROW

Produced by
Seton I. Miller
Screen Play by
Seton I. Miller
& George Bruce

"Look at all 3"

LIFE, LOOK, and the POST each reaches more than 12 Million Readers per issue

—verified in newest studies of magazine readership

The three leading magazines in size of total audience per issue are:

LIFE	22,550,000 people
SAT. EVE. POST	12,700,000 people
LOOK	12,650,000 people

You will find the full facts in a new survey sponsored by Look and completed in June 1946—and in the latest Life Continuing Study of Magazine Audiences, completed in March 1946, and just released.

Both studies were made by Crossley, Inc. Both were made by identical techniques. The findings of both are validated by the Magazine Audience Group. Composing this group are the outstanding national research experts including the directors of the three national political polls, and representatives of professional practice of statistics and psychology.

Advertisers can now look at the findings in combination and draw some interesting conclusions. Here's the box score:

LOOK REPORT based on U.S. civilian population 10 yrs. and older estimated at July 1, 1946 112,000,000*

LIFE REPORT based on U.S. civilian population 10 yrs. and older estimated at Jan. 1, 1946 107,500,000

MAGAZINE	Per cent of population reached	Total Audience Reached Per Issue (Teen-Age and Over)
LOOK	11.3	12,650,000
AMERICAN	8.4	9,400,000
COSMOPOLITAN	6.4	7,150,000
LIFE	21.0	22,550,000
SAT. EVE. POST	11.8	12,700,000
COLLIER'S	10.1	10,900,000

* *The population 10 yrs. and older of 112,000,000 includes a conservative estimate of the servicemen re-entering the civilian population during the first six months of 1946.*

BUT WHAT HAPPENS when you translate these figures into the number of people you reach in these magazines for each dollar paid for a page advertisement?

As a guide to advertisers seeking to appraise these magazines for their 1947 lists, we have worked out 5 tables using latest civilian readership figures and latest rates for each publication.

LOOK SCORES FIRST 4 times out of 5!

Each of the 5 tables below shows the number of people reached per dollar paid for a black and white full page advertisement. In each table the full page rate is figured against that one group of readers.

TOTAL AUDIENCE (readers per $)	
*LOOK	1,998 people
AMERICAN	1,709 people
COLLIER'S	1,557 people
*LIFE	1,555 people
COSMOPOLITAN	1,554 people
SAT. EVE. POST	1,270 people

ADULT AUDIENCE (readers per $)	
*LOOK	1,508 adults
AMERICAN	1,455 adults
COSMOPOLITAN	1,326 adults
COLLIER'S	1,286 adults
*LIFE	1,228 adults
SAT. EVE. POST	1,040 adults

WOMEN ONLY (readers per $)	
COSMOPOLITAN	935 women
AMERICAN	900 women
*LOOK	726 women
COLLIER'S	700 women
*LIFE	624 women
SAT. EVE. POST	495 women

MEN ONLY (readers per $)	
*LOOK	782 men
*LIFE	604 men
COLLIER'S	586 men
AMERICAN	555 men
SAT. EVE. POST	545 men
COSMOPOLITAN	391 men

TEEN-AGERS ONLY (10 years to 19 years)
(readers per $)

*LOOK	490 teen-agers
*LIFE	327 teen-agers
COLLIER'S	271 teen-agers
AMERICAN	254 teen-agers
SAT. EVE. POST	230 teen-agers
COSMOPOLITAN	228 teen-agers

**One time rate. Only Life and Look grant frequency discounts.*

That's why we say, "Look at all 3" when you're lining up 1947 lists. Write to Look, 511 Fifth Avenue, New York, for complete report and you'll agree — dollar for dollar it's hard to beat what you get in Look, America's Family Magazine.

LOOK

Read by 12,650,000 people each issue

America's Family Magazine



FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 66 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 1946 TEN CENTS

MPA Prepares Opposition to Censor Bills

Sees State Measures Encouraged by 'Outlaw'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1.—An expected wave of state laws providing for the censorship of motion pictures is being "prepared for" at Motion Picture Association headquarters here as a result of the nationwide criticism coming from public exhibition and advertising of "The Outlaw," it was learned today.

MPA legislative machinery is geared to "contest" the first censorship meaure introduced in a state legislature, according to Jack Bryson, MPA legislative director.

Presently there are six states with censorship laws. They are Maryland, Virginia, Ohio, Kansas, New York, Massachusetts and Pennsylvania.

MPA officials here expressed the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Warners to Build Abroad: Hummel

Europe's need of "everything" from raw stock to theatres, as a result of the war, will not deter Warner Brothers' plans in those markets, Joseph S. Hummel, vice-president of Warner International, said here yesterday, upon his return from Paris. Hummel stated that his company's plans include construction of a theatre in Alexandria, Egypt, and added that Warners will build theatres in localities where they cannot get "proper" representation.

Abroad for 20 months, Hummel,

(*Continued on page* 10)

Cite Al Jolson for Services in War

Leaders of the film and other entertainment industries gathered at the Hotel Astor here last night to pay tribute to Al Jolson for his work in entertaining troops in this country and abroad during the war. The testimonial dinner was given by the motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee, with former Mayor James J. Walker as toastmaster.

Paul Allen sang the national an-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Ask Court to Order Surrender of Code Seal for 'Outlaw'

The Motion Picture Association yesterday complained to the New York Federal District Court that Howard Hughes has not surrendered the MPA seal of approval which was revoked from his film, "The Outlaw," on Sept. 6, and has not removed the seal from all prints now on exhibition, although the time limit for such removal has elapsed.

In amended answers to Hughes' complaint in his anti-trust suit against MPA, the association demands that the complaint be dismissed and that the court order the removal of the seal from all prints and that Hughes be "restrained perpetually" from ex-

(*Continued on page* 10)

22 New Members in Picture Pioneers

The executive committee of the Picture Pioneers yesterday approved for membership 22 new applicants, including Frederick Mercy, Jr., of Yakima, Wash., who thus becomes the first son of a "Pioneer" in the organization.

Jack Cohn presided at a meeting of the committee, at which were present Harold Rodner, Sam Rinzler, Red Kann, Hal Hode and Gilbert Josephson. The meeting also confirmed the Nov. 20 date for the Pioneers' annual

(*Continued on page* 10)

Says Single Unit Now Not Beneficial

Detroit, Oct. 1.—James Sharkey, speaking today for Cooperative Theatres of Michigan, reports that no action has been taken on the invitation of Jack Kirsch, president of National Allied, to join that organization, Sharkey expressing himself as being in favor of a nationwide independent exhibitor organization, but says that he cannot foresee any immediate gain from this move now.

"The possibility has not even been considered, and no meetings are contemplated to discuss it," he said.

Producers Ask Law To Stop Disorder

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Producers today visited District Attorney Fred Howser and Sheriff Eugene Biscailuz demanding action by county officials to stop the violence which flared anew at M-G-M this morning. After conferring with Jack Warner, Joseph Schenck, Benjamin Kahane, Maurice Benjamin, Y. Frank Freeman, Nicholas Nayfack and other studio executives, Howser and Biscailuz stated the "law enforcement agencies in this county intend to maintain law and order and will use every instrumentality in our power to preserve peace and protect our citizens." Howser ap-

(*Continued on page* 10)

"The Dark Mirror"

[*Universal-International*]

THE first contribution of Leo Spitz and William Goetz to the Universal-International program should get the new combine off to a flying start at box-offices. Beyond living up to the highest standards of psychological mystery melodrama, it emerges as the screen's most penetrating study of twins and, beyond that, as a heart-breaking exposition of human jealousy. Thus, all sorts of audiences, attracted by the drawing power of Olivia de Havilland and Lew Ayres, undoubtedly will find this a good film to shudder through, to weep at and to discuss after seeing.

Nunnally Johnson's screenplay and production are almost impeccable, breathing simplicity and warmth at every turn into what might have been pretty academic material. And Robert Siodmak's talent for directing this sort of thing is imprinted throughout. His cameras focus most of the time upon the two principals, playing three roles, with occasional support from Thomas Mitchell, but they turn out an unlimited range of scenic and emotional variety.

Miss de Havilland comes through with one of her top performances as Ruth and Terry Collins, a pair of identical twins who find it convenient, now and then, to swap places behind a cigar counter and even on dates. So, when a man with whom one of them has had dinner is found stabbed to death and

(*Continued on page* 3)

CIEA May Ask Court For Flat Fee Sales

Official Recommendation Likely to Come Today

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1. — Film rental on a flat fee basis rather than percentage of gross may be recommended to the New York Court as a substitute for auction selling. This was under serious consideration this afternoon as the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Association ended the first of its two-day session here. If the plan is finally approved tomorrow it will be suggested to the Department of Justice as voicing the views of exhibitors in 30 states represented at the conference.

The ban on cross-licensing, recommended by the Department of Justice, is also being looked upon favorably

(*Continued on page* 10)

KMTA Meet Weighs Decree and Taxes

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 1.—The Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association, opening its convention here today, heard American Theatres Association executive secretary Robert Coyne discuss the ATA, and was addressed by Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, on the subject of the MPTOA brief to be filed in the New York anti-trust decree case.

Senn Lawler of Fox-Midwest opened a discussion on high local

(*Continued on page* 10)

Top Business Will Continue: O'Shea

CHICAGO, Oct. 1.—E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, sales manager for Liberty Films, enroute East after two weeks on the West Coast, predicted today on a stopover here that he felt the current business boom in theatre business will last at least four or five more years.

O'Shea said he expected Liberty's first film, "It's a Wonderful Life" to be ready for exhibition by the end of December. Current plans are to

(*Continued on page* 10)

Personal Mention

NATE J. BLUMBERG, Universal president, is en route to New York from Hollywood by train.

•

DR. and MRS. BERNARD J. HANDLER, he is NBC's medical director, became the parents of a six pound, seven ounce boy, RICHARD PAUL, their first child, born at the Harkness Pavilion yesterday.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, Universal-International production executive, will leave the Coast on Friday for New York to establish a U-I Eastern story department.

•

JAMES S. BURKETT, Monogram producer, has checked in at the St. John's hospital, Santa Monica, Calif., for observation. He has been suffering with a sacro-iliac condition.

•

MORT NATHANSON, Eastern publicity director of Liberty Films, and MRS. NATHANSON became the parents on Monday of a second daughter, LUCY, born at Polyclinic Hospital.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, Eastern sales manager for United Artists, will leave New York for Detroit on Sunday.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans Lux Theatres, will leave here today for Boston and Washington and will return here on Monday.

•

CHARLES LAM MARKMANN has been appointed New York film, theatre and night-life correspondent of *Samedi-Soir,* Parisian weekly.

•

G. S. EYSELL, president and managing director of Radio City Music Hall, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

FRANK MARX, director of general engineering for ABC, will attend the Intra-American Radio Congress which opens in Mexico City next week.

•

DIXIE GRAHAM, former office manager for PRC, Atlanta, has been appointed office manager of Kay Film Exchanges, Atlanta.

•

JACK SAYERS, Audience Research vice-president, will leave Hollywood for New York today by plane.

•

GEORGE L. CARRINGTON, president of Altec Service, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager for Warners, will be in Albany today from New York.

•

RUTGERS NEILSON, RKO Radio publicity manager, is home nursing a badly bruised knee.

•

FRED THROWER, ABC vice-president in charge of sales, is vacationing in Belgrade Lakes, Me.

•

DON SEARLE, vice-president in charge of ABC's Western division, is in New York for a few days.

Depinet Meets UK Sales Force of RKO

Ned E. Depinet, executive vice-president and vice-chairman of the board of RKO, met the company's United Kingdom sales force at the Dorchester Hotel, yesterday, and outlined RKO Radio's new plans, the home office discloses.

Phil Reisman, vice-president of RKO Radio in charge of foreign operations, attended the meeting which was arranged by Robert Wolff, managing director of RKO Radio, in the United Kingdom; also in attendance were: David E. Griffiths, International Picture's British representative; J. E. Ricketts and E. J. Davis of the Walt Disney organization; Arthur Dent, British representative for Samuel Goldwyn; George W. Dawson, a director of RKO Radio; Ernest Simon, general sales manager; Joe Vegoda, assistant sales manager; Col. Jack Votion, RKO Hollywood studio representative; Phil Gersdorf, RKO studio publicity department, and London and provincial branch managers.

A highlight of the proceedings was the presentation of a silver box to Depinet from RKO's United Kingdom organization on the occasion of his first visit to Britain and an engraving to Reisman as a birthday remembrance.

International production plans of RKO Radio were outlined by Depinet with emphasis on films now in the making in Great Britain, Mexico and France, to complement the program now under way in Hollywood.

M. H. Schenck to Hold 'Stars' Meet Here

First meeting of the producing committee of the 1946 annual "Night of Stars" benefit show, which will be held at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 12th, was held here last night in the office of Marvin H. Schenck, chairman. Proceeds of the show will go to the United Jewish Appeal to further the work of the Joint Distribution Committee, United Palestine Appeal, National Refugee Service and the Jewish Welfare Board.

Among those who attended the meeting were: Arthur Knorr, Lester B. Isaac, Max Wolff, Jesse Kaye, Harry Kalcheim, Nat Kalcheim, Sidney Piermont, Robert M. Weitman, Leonard Romm, Arthur Weill and David A. Werblin.

Balaban, Nizer at Boston UJA Dinner

BOSTON, Oct. 1.—Barney Balaban, Paramount president, was guest of honor, and Louis Nizer, guest speaker, at a dinner at the Hotel Bradford here tonight, attended by more than 300 exhibitors and distributors to inaugurate their participation in the 1946 "Greater Boston Combined Jewish Appeal" campaign.

A goal of $250,000 for the film group has been set by Samuel Pinanski of M. and P. Theatres, chairman of the motion picture division of the United Appeal's $100,000,000 drive.

Film's War Job Is Lauded by McGraw

MEMPHIS, Oct. 1.—Calling on his wartime experiences, William McGraw, Attorney General of Texas, told the Memphis Variety Club last night that the industry had done one of the finest jobs during World War II for maintenance of morale of American troops.

A national director of Variety Clubs of America, McGraw spoke at the Memphis Tent No. 20 opening of a new clubroom in the Hotel Gayoso.

"The most remarkable figure of this war to me," he said, "was Joe E. Brown. He was associated with the early days of pictures. He gave his only son and then added an outstanding job of showmanship.

"Joe E. Brown," he said, "performed on Iwo Jima 21 times in three days. He was symbolic of America's most popular amusement."

Shuford Outlines Para. Ad Planning

The meeting of Paramount's field representatives and home office and studio department heads to map advertising, publicity and exploitation changes to meet demands of new selling policies, continued at the Hotel Warwick here yesterday with Stanley Shuford, advertising manager disclosing that promotional plans for Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies" call for the largest magazine advertising budget in the company's history.

The sessions will continue through tomorrow.

It was also divulged by Shuford that the company has lined up a big campaign for "Two Years Before the Mast," to be launched nationally tomorrow.

George Weltner, president of Paramount International Films, and Sid Mesibov, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, will be the principal speakers at today's sessions.

John Hughes Gets UA Promotion Here

John Hughes, play-date manager for United Artists, has been promoted to the home office sales department, by J. J. Unger, general sales manager. Hughes started with the company nine years ago as a member of the play-date department, and was appointed manager of the department two years ago.

Howard Hengstler, who has returned from the Army to take up his former post as Hughes' assistant, has been named manager of play-dates.

Tom Duane Joins Vanguard Sales

Tom Duane has joined Vanguard Films as New England and Canadian sales representative.

Prior to joining Vanguard, Duane was Boston branch manager for Republic and before that was with Paramount for 15 years in various key-city sales positions. Duane will make mount for 15 years in various posts.

Newsreel Parade

FOOTBALL is the No. 1 subject in current newsreels, numerically. The Allied court's verdict at Nuremberg, Soviet president Kalinin's funeral, and Fred Allen are featured among a variety of items, mostly on the serious side, completing news programs this week. Complete sy[illegible]es follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 10 — Allied court finds Nazi gang guilty at Nuremberg. Stalin leads Soviet bigwigs at president Kalinin's funeral. British speed flyer killed in jet plane trying for record. Fred Allen is toastmaster at Variety Club banquet. New bathing suits made of wood. "Pig skin parade:" President Truman sees Army beat Oklahoma, Navy beats Villanova, Notre Dame wallops Illinois.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 208—The verdict is "guilty" at Nuremberg. Fred Allen gives tips on politics. Harriman joins Byrnes in Paris. Cannes revives fiesta. President sees West Point gridders crush Oklahoma; Irish against Illinois; Alabama against Tulane.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 11 — Greek king goes home. Indians charge Manhattan fraud. Moscow mourns. President sees football.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 13—Football: Army-Oklahoma, N. D.-Illinois. Funeral of Kalinin, former Russian president. Riots give way to floods in Bombay, India. British designs make bid for world trade. U. S. freighter splits, off Britain.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 542 — Postwar British industry. President of Soviet mourned. Gridiron highlights: Army 21-Oklahoma 7, Alabama 7-Tulane 6, N. D. 26-Illinois 6.

Press Photo Chief Asks Ad Men's Aid

An appeal to film press and publicity representatives to supply newspaper men and press photographers with "clean, accurate information," and to avoid "phony publicity stunts" was made yesterday by Joseph Costa, president of the National Press Photographers Association of America, in an address at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' luncheon at Sardi's, here, yesterday.

Noting that the two organizations are dedicated to the same basic goal, improvement in craftsmanship, Costa declared that advertising men and press agents are an invaluable source of news and that "an infraction of the truth by any one of them casts a stigma on all."

The speaker was introduced by William Finn, president of the Press Photographers Association of New York. Morris Leftoff, a member of both that organization and AMPA, was guest master-of-ceremonies. Arnold Stoltz, AMPA president, presided.

Brenon Funeral Today

Last rites for Mrs. Algernon St. John Brenon, mother of Aileen Brenon, head of Paramount home office magazine publicity, will be held this afternoon at M. A. Gleason's Funeral Home, Whitestone. Mrs. Brenon, wife of the music critic and author, died Monday at her home in Flushing, after a long illness.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; Single copies, 10c.

Program Plans of TBA Are Completed

Final program plans of the second television conference and exhibition of the Television Broadcasters Association, to be held at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, here, on Oct. 10-11 were disclosed by TBA officials at a luncheon at the Waldorf here yesterday. Between 1,000 and 1,200 reservations are expected.

There will be a luncheon salute to the United Nations on Oct. 10 at which Benjamin Cohen of Chile, assistant secretary-general of the UN will be the principal speaker. Winners of TBA awards will be honored at the TBA banquet on the evening of that date.

Most of the conference proceedings will be televised over stations WNBT and WABD, New York; WRGB, Schenectady; WPTZ, Philadelphia, and WTTG, Washington, Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp. and general chairman of the conference and exhibition, announced here yesterday. Between 28 and 30 different models of television sets of nine different manufacturers will be on display and in operation at the conference, Austrian added.

Executives to Attend

Executives in radio, motion pictures, advertising and other fields are expected to attend the conference, the first to be held since 1944.

In addition to Austrian, J. R. Poppele, TBA president, and Will Baltin, TBA executive secretary, participated in yesterday's discussion of final plans with press representatives.

Among speakers to be heard at the conference are Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith of the Institute of Radio Engineers; Merlin H. Aylesworth, business consultant; Arthur F. Van Dyck, RCA Laboratories; Edgar Kobak, Mutual Broadcasting; Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald;* Leonard F. Cramer, DuMont Television; H. V. Kaltenborn, NBC, and others.

Among the television panel discussions which will be featured during the two-day sessions will be "Television Programming," "Television Station Management," "Television and Education," "Television Commercials," "Preparing a Television Commercial," "Present Status of Television," "Talent Looks at Television," and "Television Receiver Servicing."

RKO Radio Sets October Tradeshows

RKO Radio will hold a trade showing of "Nocturne" at the Normandie Theatre, here, on Monday, Oct. 14, and it will also be shown the same day at various exchanges throughout the country, with the exception of St. Louis where it will be held the following day.

"Child of Divorce" is also set for screening Oct. 14. "Criminal Court" will be shown Tuesday, Oct. 15, with the exception of St. Louis where it will be screened on the following day. "Genius at Work" will be shown Wednesday, Oct. 16, with the exception of Cincinnati, where it will be screened on the preceding day, and in St. Louis, where it will be shown on Oct. 17. "Deadlier Than the Male" will be shown in all exchange centers on Thursday, Nov. 7.

"The Dark Mirror"

(*Continued from page* 1)

detective Mitchell runs them in for questioning, they find it convenient to let the authorities puzzle—in vain—over which girl was seen on the premises and which was seen all evening in a park four miles away. Therefore the girls are released, with only a stinging lecture.

Ayers, brought into the case by Mitchell, takes over at this point. He is a psychologist specializing in twin characteristics and has known the girls slightly in the past and persuades them, for a fee, to assist in his researches. These absorb a majority of the picture's footage but, thanks to excellent acting and the expert direction, never go dull. Slowly Ruth emerges as a sweet, normal person, protecting her hard-boiled sister, whose jealousy has grown into a dangerous paranoia. To complicate matters, both for the doctor and the audience, the crazy one finally resorts to an elaborate scheme of driving the sane one crazy—or at least of convincing her she is having hallucinations. Ayres, having fallen in love with Ruth, decides to lay the truth before her, but Terry, intercepting his phone call, shows up for the appointment and thus hears the full, horrible story of her own mental condition. A whirlwind, thrilling denouement, involving Ruth's apparent suicide, traps the guilty sister into what amounts to a confession of the murder with which the story began.

Special mention should be made of the costumes, designed by Irene Sharaff, for they include the subtle use of jewelry to identify the twins when it is important to know who's who. Without this device Vladimir Pozner's *Good Housekeeping* yarn possibly could never have been brought to the screen. And that would have been a pity.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

TOM LOY

"Undercurrent"

(*M-G-M*)

ROBERT TAYLOR, out of the service, makes his re-appearance in "Undercurrent." It is a point to bear in mind. To remember, also, is the fact that this is Katharine Hepburn's first since "Without Love," which went into general release a year ago last May. And that's not all.

The co-stars here have interesting roles in an interesting story, with alternating mystery and suspense overtones, produced by Pandro S. Berman and directed by Vincente Minnelli, with the production quality usually associated with the M-G-M trademark. "Undercurrent" takes considerable footage to get where it goes, but it is a good show which should register its mark at the box-office.

This is drama about a young woman who is swept off her feet by the physical and financial attractiveness of Taylor, business tycoon in aeronautics. In the background, but rapidly swinging into the foreground, is his brother who, very late, is divulged as Robert Mitchum. He is the undercurrent in the drama and actually on the screen for a handful of minutes. Mitchum, by indirection chiefly, and through what turns out to be Taylor's lies, is developed into a menace who actually is Taylor. Through one means and another the unseen Mitchum influence spreads into the brief married life of the couple, leaning uncertainty to the nuptual tie.

It does not take long before Taylor, however, falls under Miss Hepburn's suspicions. She catches him in lies about his mother. The surrounding characters are obviously under restraint. The atmosphere finally becomes electrified with clouded doubts. In her desire to clear the air, and to preserve the marriage, Miss Hepburn undertakes her own investigation, runs afoul of Taylor's anger, and finally, his threats. Then Mitchum shows up, charging Taylor with murder for commercial gain and extracting a promise that Taylor will tell his wife the truth. By this time, Taylor's own suspicions, plus his jealousies, are aroused to a point where he believes Miss Hepburn is in love with Mitchum. Pretty much in a corner and in love himself, he tries to kill her and, in turn, is kicked to death under the hoofs of Mitchum's horse. The final suggestion, quite clear, is that in another day Miss Hepburn and Mitchum will proceed along the identical romantic path.

In some ways, the story base of "Undercurrent" reminds one of "Keeper of the Flames," an earlier Hepburn film in which Spencer Tracy was co-star. The twists are different, of course, but the treatments bear resemblance. In "Undercurrent," Edward Chodorov's screenplay, based on a story by Thelma Strabel, has been directed in more footage than appears to be in the best interests of the completed job. Had the climatic sequences been reached sooner, dramatic impact would have been sharper. Moreover, the romantic implications tying Miss Hepburn and Mitchum are not too well pieced together and not always entirely believable. But the attraction has star power, supported by competent support from Mitchum, Edmund Gwenn, Marjorie Main, Jayne Meadows, and others, and it will appeal strongly to women.

Running time, 111 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

RED KANN

Melniker Heads RKO Censor Department

Harold Melniker has been appointed head of RKO Radio's censorship department by N. Peter Rathvon, president of the company. He replaces William Gordon, who recently resigned.

Melniker, known in Hollywood as assistant manager of the Central Casting Corp., recently completed five years in the Army, in the intelligence division.

Univ.-Int'l Promotes Carmichael, Dawson

Universal-International has advanced W. G. Carmichael to branch manager in Cincinnati, and R. P. Dawson to branch manager in Memphis, it was announced here yesterday by William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager. Both had been salesmen in Memphis.

J. A. Prichard, formerly branch manager in Memphis, has been transferred to the same post in Dallas.

20th's Campaigns Delay Ad Meeting

In view of the extensive advertising-publicity campaign planned by 20th Century-Fox for the October pre-releases of "My Darling Clementine" and "Margie," it will be impractical to hold the national advertising convention of field exploitation men, home office advertising staff and studio promotional representatives on Oct. 15, as previously planned, Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity head, said here yesterday. The convention, which was to have been a four-day affair, will be postponed until the conclusion of the "Spyros Skouras Sales Drive" on December 28, with new dates to be announced later by Schlaifer.

'Clementine' Premiere

The world premiere of "My Darling Clementine," Darryl F. Zanuck production, will be held at the Fox Theatre, San Francisco, on Oct. 16. John Ford, who directed the picture, is now there making arrangements for the premiere, and stars from 20th's studios will attend. George Jessel will be master of ceremonies. Following the premiere, the picture will open day and date in 100 key situations.

Schlaifer further announced that he will visit a number of key situations around the country to discuss with exhibitors new and streamlined methods of advertising, exploitation and publicity which 20th Century-Fox has outlined for its future releases. Advertising and exploitation campaigns already have been finalized on "The Razor's Edge," "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," "13 Rue Madeleine," "The Late George Apley," "Carnival in Costa Rica" and "The Brasher Doubloon." In addition to preparing for the localization of the campaigns, Schlaifer also will discuss with theatre men the company's plans for exploiting its releases.

Mestanza Plans 15 For Latin America

Foreign Screen Corp. will distribute 15 features in Latin American markets during 1947, according to its president, H. Alban-Mestanza.

Heading the 1947 line-up are six Pathé of London features, including "A Yank in London," "Man From Morocco," "The Night Has Eyes," "Night Boat to Dublin," "Suspected Person" and "Tower of Terror."

Also on the program are: "African Vengeance," FSC's first own production which is due for domestic as well as foreign release; "Arenes Joyeuses," and three other André E. Algazy French productions, as yet unnamed; also "The Crimson Deity," "I'll Give You the Moon," musical, and two more as yet unnamed Coast films.

End of N. Y. Astor May Follow 'Duel'

City Investing Co., owner of the New York Astor Theatre Building, has under consideration a plan to raze the famous Broadway landmark following the engagement of "Duel in the Sun," which is expected to open there in December.

City Investing has plans to erect a new building which is to house two theatres, one seating 2,600 and the other 2,200, on the Broadway block front from 45th Street to 46th Street which includes the Astor site.



"EASY RESTS THE HEAD THAT WEARS THIS CROWN!"

On the next page you'll see why Mr. M-G-M Exhibitor enjoys sweet dreams. Variety's Survey, which it states has been "checked and double-checked" is further incontestible evidence of M-G-M Leadership. There are constant and understandably sincere claims of leadership in the industry, but to showmen all that matters is the final accounting at the end of each year—year after year! M-G-M's Friendly Customers know the score from their own records, now verified by Variety's report. We list on the next page some of the M-G-M Top Hits of the Future. Stick with M-G-M and rest easy!

TALK ABOUT FACTS!

(FROM VARIETY, ISSUE OF SEPT. 25, 1946)

"OUT OF HOLLYWOOD'S 33 TOP HITS—"

M-G-M HAS 13

NEXT COMPANY	. . .	5
" "	. . .	4
" "	. . .	4
" "	. . .	4
" "	. . .	3
	Total	33

Yes! Only One Company Can Be First. And by such a margin. Almost 3 times as many top hits as the runner up. Almost 40 per cent of the entire industry's Top Hit Total!

AND LOOK AHEAD TO M-G-M TOP HITS TO COME:

THE YEARLING (Technicolor)
GREGORY PECK, JANE WYMAN, Claude Jarman, Jr.

A WOMAN OF MY OWN
GREER GARSON, ROBERT MITCHUM, RICHARD HART

THE SEA OF GRASS
SPENCER TRACY, KATHARINE HEPBURN, MELVYN DOUGLAS, ROBERT WALKER

UNDERCURRENT
KATHARINE HEPBURN, ROBERT TAYLOR, ROBERT MITCHUM

FIESTA (Technicolor)
ESTHER WILLIAMS, Akim Tamiroff, Ricardo Montalban, John Carroll, Mary Astor, Cyd Charisse

ANDY HARDY COMES BACK
MICKEY ROONEY, Lewis Stone, Sara Haden, Lina Romay

HIGH BARBAREE
VAN JOHNSON, JUNE ALLYSON, Thomas Mitchell, Marilyn Maxwell

THE UNFINISHED DANCE (Technicolor)
MARGARET O'BRIEN, Cyd Charisse, Karen Booth, Danny Thomas

IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN
FRANK SINATRA, KATHRYN GRAYSON, Jimmy Durante, Peter Lawford

MY BROTHER TALKS TO HORSES
"BUTCH" JENKINS, PETER LAWFORD, BEVERLY TYLER

TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY (Technicolor)
(Cast alphabetically) JUNE ALLYSON, LUCILLE BREMER, JUDY GARLAND, KATHRYN GRAYSON, VAN HEFLIN, LENA HORNE, VAN JOHNSON, TONY MARTIN, DINAH SHORE, FRANK SINATRA, ROBERT WALKER

SUMMER HOLIDAY (Technicolor)
MICKEY ROONEY, WALTER HUSTON, GLORIA DE HAVEN, "BUTCH" JENKINS, Frank Morgan, Marilyn Maxwell, Agnes Moorehead, Selena Royle

THE SECRET HEART
CLAUDETTE COLBERT, WALTER PIDGEON, JUNE ALLYSON

THE BEGINNING OR THE END
BRIAN DONLEVY, ROBERT WALKER, Tom Drake, Beverly Tyler, Audrey Totter

TENTH AVENUE ANGEL
MARGARET O'BRIEN, Angela Lansbury, George Murphy, Phyllis Thaxter

THE MIGHTY McGURK
WALLACE BEERY, Dean Stockwell, Edward Arnold, Aline MacMahon

LIFE'S FOR THE LOVING
GENE KELLY, Marie MacDonald, Charles Winninger

THIS TIME FOR KEEPS (Technicolor)
ESTHER WILLIAMS, Lauritz Melchior, Jimmy Durante, Johnnie Johnston, Xavier Cugat

LADY IN THE LAKE
ROBERT MONTGOMERY, Audrey Totter, Lloyd Nolan

The BEST thing t

SAMUEL

"The Best Yea

MYRNA LOY · FREDRIC

TERESA WRIGHT

and introducing

Directed by **WILLIAM WYLER** •

From the novel by

Director of Photograph



You'll **SEE IT Happen Here!**

hat ever happened . . .

GOLDWYN'S

rs of Our Lives"

MARCH · DANA ANDREWS

VIRGINIA MAYO

CATHY O'DONNELL

Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD

MacKINLAY KANTOR

GREGG TOLAND



Released thru

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

The year's hottest weather cut into grosses at first-run theatres in a week during which holdovers predominated. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,200. (Average, for 7 days: $8,900)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $19,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,200. (Average, for 7 days: $14,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,700)

I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING (Rank Prestige)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,600)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,100. (Average, for 7 days: $12,700)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $8,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,700)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $11,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,200)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 5th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average, for 7 days: $24,600)

REBECCA (UA reissue)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $4,750. (Average: $6,100)

REBECCA (UA reissue)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

REBECCA (UA reissue)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $6,000)

REBECCA (UA reissue)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,800)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and WANDERER OF THE WASTELAND (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $23,100)

STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,100)

STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,400)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—RITZ (1,375) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,300)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,000)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,100)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,500)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $8,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (W. B.)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $21,600)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $16,100)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,700)

SALT LAKE CITY

State Fair week and cooler weather have boosted grosses somewhat. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,900)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—CENTER (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $13,500)

G. I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. With vaudeville. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,700)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,700)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,800)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,950. (Average: $12,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Warm weather and a minimum of new bookings resulted in only fair business this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 1-3:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,100)

NIGHT AND DAY (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,250)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $22,800)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days of vaudeville starring Tony Pastor. Gross: $24,200. (Average for 7 days: $28,000)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c - 60c - 74c - 80c - 85c - 94c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $28,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,000.

O. S. S. (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,800)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,500)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $29,300. (Average: $28,300)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,900)

IN OLD SACRAMENTO (Rep.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $12,600. (Average: $11,200)

CHICAGO

With the Grand adopting a 24-hour daily policy, backed by a big exploitation campaign, "Notorious" had a huge opening week. Business generally has been good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3-4:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—APOLLO (1,200) (55c-65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,250) (55c-65c-95c). On stage: Larry Adler. Gross: $70,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40). Twice daily. 8th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (55c-65c-95c). 5th week on a moveover after 4 weeks at Chicago. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $45,000. (Average: $18,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Del Courtney's orchestra. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $45,000).

THE KILLERS (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). 2nd week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $45,000)

CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (55c-65c-95c). 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

NIGHT AND DAY (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (95c). 5th week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $29,000)

EASY TO WED (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (95c). 3rd week. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO-Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (55c-65c-95c). 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

DENVER

The polio epidemic is over; children again are going to theatres; grosses are up. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA (U)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

O.S.S. (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $11,500)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Webber. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Paramount. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ALIBI (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $15,500)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

CANYON PASSAGE (U) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Webber, Esquire, Aladdin. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,000)

BOSTON

Grosses in the downtown shopping district have held up reasonably well during a week that began with hot weather and turned cold after a severe storm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show, Alvino Rey and orchestra. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $26,300)

STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and SUNSET PASS (RKO-Radio)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,600. (Average: $7,300)

NOTORIOUS (RKO-Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $36,000. (Average: $24,800)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and DECOY (Mono.)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,800)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $22,700)

STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and SUNSET PASS (RKO-Radio)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,200)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,300).

KANSAS CITY

Business is around average in a week of pleasant fall weather punctuated by some rain. "The Glass Menagerie" on the Music Hall stage and a

(*Continued on page* 10)

RKO PATHE STUDIOS

New York Production Facilities



RKO Pathe's motion picture studios at Park Avenue and 106th Street, New York, are ready for occupancy.

SHOOTING STAGES — SCORING STAGES
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2ND WEEK

Warner's ALDINE PHILADELPHIA

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Harry Arthur's F & M AMBASSADOR ST. LOUIS
MALCO MEMPHIS
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UPTOWN SALT LAKE CITY
BROADWAY PORTLAND, ORE.

OPENS THIS WEEK

FULTON PITTSBURGH
RKO CAPITOL CINCINNATI
LOEW'S STATE CLEVELAND
PALACE DALLAS
METROPOLITAN HOUSTON
LOEW'S STATE and ORPHEUM BOSTON

Key City Grosses

(*Continued from page 8*)

food show at the Municipal Auditorium drew thousands. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 1-3:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,750)

YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and BREAKFAST IN HOLLYWOOD (UA)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

OUR HEARTS WERE GROWING UP (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000)

QUEEN OF BURLESQUE (PRC) and INSIDE JOB (U)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Moderate figures for modest attractions is the rule again this week. A cold snap is a stimulating factor. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 1-2:

PARTNERS IN TIME (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (46c-72c) 7 days, with Henry Busse band on stage. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $22,000)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and DANGER WOMAN (U)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,800)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and SUSPENSE (Mono.)—LOEW'S (2,450 (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,400)

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days on a moveover from Indiana. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,700)

Producers Ask

(*Continued from page 1*)

pointed three deputy district attorneys who will be stationed at police stations adjacent to Warners and M-G-M. It the latter studio rioting took place this morning between sheriff's deputies and uniformed pickets who had obtained a permit to "parade" from the Culver City police chief. Fighting broke out as deputies attempted to force the "paraders" back from the studio gates. Nearly 40 persons were injured in the subsequent melee. Most seriously hurt were three deputies hospitalized with head wounds and internal injuries.

Meanwhile, IASTE international president Richard Walsh arrived this morning and conferred with Roy Brewer. Shortly thereafter, Brewer served notice on Independent M. P. Producers' I. E. Chadwick that IATSE members would not work with CSU production workers. Similar ultimatum was served on Society of Independent M. P. Producers Donald Nelson late yesterday. Neither Nelson nor Chadwick would comment. CSU spokesman claimed this move merely was a further attempt by the IATSE to take over all studio employment.

CSU carpenters walked off the Goldwyn lot this afternoon, refusing work on "hot" sets. At Enterprise production was slowed as 31 carpenters walked off following studio managers' demand that those responsible for injuring IATSE erector identify themselves.

'Outlaw' Seal

(*Continued from page 1*)

hibiting "Outlaw" prints bearing the seal. His action in continuing such display "may cause irreparable damage to the defendant and its members," MPA declares.

The amended answers, containing a general denial of Hughes' allegations that MPA is in violation of the anti-trust laws, point out that the association voided the "Outlaw" seal because the plaintiff failed to submit all advertising and publicity matter for the film to the Advertising Code Administration for approval and because unapproved advertising had been used.

Early last summer, Judge John Bright denied Hughes' request for an injunction to restrain MPA from revoking the seal. In his opinion at that time, the jurist held that the association's ban of "lascivious" advertising did not constitute a violation of the anti-trust laws. Later, the Department of Justice refused Hughes' request for an investigation of the MPA, noting that such an investigation previously had been held and no violation found.

Censor Bills

(*Continued from page 1*)

belief that "It takes something like 'The Outlaw' to start a crusade."

The association will appear in opposition if and when any measures are introduced, it was said. "We have a good record and believe we can make an excellent case before any state legislative committee studying censorship," an MPA spokesman asserted.

The last drastic state censorship law for films was passed in 1922. While the MPA is not "extremely worried" it is aware that the public atttitude created because of exhibition of "The Outlaw" might induce many religious and civic groups to sponsor such legislation in their states.

The New Jersey Conference of the Methodist Church recently recommended appointment of a state board of censors in consequence of controversy there over exhibition of "The Outlaw."

"A crusade might not start but, if it does, the association stands ready to fight any state censorship laws which are proposed," the spokesman concluded.

Picture Pioneers

(*Continued from page 1*)

dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel.

The other new members of the organization are: Abraham Bernstein, Boston; Josh Binney, New York; Frank Chippani, New York; E. Myer Feltman, Boston; Louis Goldstein, Buenos Aires; Meyer Gruber, Boston; William H. Gueringer, Blowing Rock, N. C.; Henry C. Kaufman, New York; Sam Lefkowitz, New York; William Mancuso, Boston; Jack Meyers, Boston; Louis Phillips, New York; E. C. Rhoden, Kansas City; Arthur Robinson, Detroit; John J. Scully, Boston; Harry F. Shaw, Boston; Samuel J. Switow, Louisville; Joseph A. Tanney, New York; Abe I. Weiner, Boston; Robert B. Wilby, Atlanta, and Harry Zeitz, New Bedford, Mass.

CIEA May Ask

(*Continued from page 1*)

by the exhibitors represented here, it was learned. Abram F. Myers, chairman of the Allied States board of directors, acted as spokesman for the group in a conference with the trade press. He described today's meeting as "friendly."

Myers pointed out that the discussions are presently in a "formative" stage, and no decision will be made until tomorrow. All groups, however, appear to be in opposition to auction selling. It was indicated that plans for a brief to the New York Court are not being formulated. "We plan to work through the Justice Department," Myers concluded.

Representatives at the conference were: for Allied States—Nathan Yamins, Boston; Sidney E. Samuelson, Philadelphia, and Abram F. Myers, general counsel; Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners Hugh W. Bruen, Whittier, Cal.; Rotus Harvey and Gerald Hardy of San Francisco; L. O. Lukan, Seattle, and Robert H. Poole, legislative secretary of the PCCITO.

Inter-Mountain Exhibitor Organization was represented by Sam Gillett of Salt Lake City. The National Central Allied had on hand Ernest L. Peaslee of Stillwater, Minn. Iowa-Nebsaska Allied was represented by Leo Wolcott of Eldata, Iowa, and Howard F. Brookings, president. Jesse L. Stern was spokesman for the Unaffiliated Independent Exhibitors of New York.

KMTA Meeting

(*Continued from page 1*)

taxes on theatres with the suggestion that exhibitors make a study of an equitable tax basis, thus preparing themselves to confer with local officials when revenue is needed. He suggested, additionally, that exhibitors demonstrate willingness to bear their share, a point, he added, which might develop a program for directing the tax thinking of city officials.

From Fox-Midwest's Elmer C. Rhoden came an urging that exhibitors develop good public relations for the purpose of promoting general understanding of theatres' position. KMTA president Tom Edwards, meeting chairman, thereupon indicated he will appoint a committee to study the situation and suggested a resolution of gratitude to Fox-Midwest and to J. T. Ghosen for their having closed their house in Sedalia in protest against a city license tax of five per cent on gross receipts.

Other speakers included Walter Brooks of M-G-M and Leon Bamberger of RKO, the latter suggesting exhibitors provide good 16mm. entertainment for isolated sections.

Tomorrow's session will bring continued discussions and elections.

O'Shea

(*Continued from page 1*)

hold the world premiere of the Frank Capra picture, starring Jimmy Stewart at the RKO-Grand Theatre, Chicago. He said that George Stevens is now lining up five important players for "One Big Happy Family."

O'Shea spent a week in Los Angeles and three days in San Francisco. He is conferring here with circuit heads and others and expects to plane out of here for New York tomorrow night.

15 Theatres Added To Newins Circuit

In one of the largest independent theatre operational changes, numerically, in this area in some time Intercounty Circuit, Inc., headed by Harvey B. Newins, yesterday acquired St. Cloud Amusement's circuit of 15 theatres in Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon counties in Northwestern New Jersey, it was announced here by Newins. Intercounty paid $450,000 in the transaction, it was stated. St. Cloud was headed by Alvin Sloan and Clifton E. Smith. Smith will stay as film buyer.

Intercounty will further increase its interests with new theatres in Sparta and Lambertville, N. J., when building materials become available, Newins said.

Warners Abroad

(*Continued from page 1*)

who heads 42 Warner sales offices in Europe, Scandinavia and Africa, reported that theatre ticket prices are still on the increase throughout those areas. In some cases increases are being effected because of high taxes on tickets, such as in France which recently levied a 40 per cent tax increase, Hummel added.

The U. S. State Department is "doing an excellent job" for American producers abroad, Hummel said.

Cite Jolson

(*Continued from page 1*)

them. Walter Brown, AVC chapter head, welcomed the guests. A brief address was made by William Brandell of the Friar's Club, followed by a period of entertainment featuring Phil Silvers. Walker, after a eulogy of Jolson, introduced Dick Powell, June Allyson, Adele Jergens, Sidney Skolsky, Sophie Tucker, Ted Lewis, Milton Berle, Harry Akst, Mrs. Jolson, Louis Sobol, Paul Allen and others.

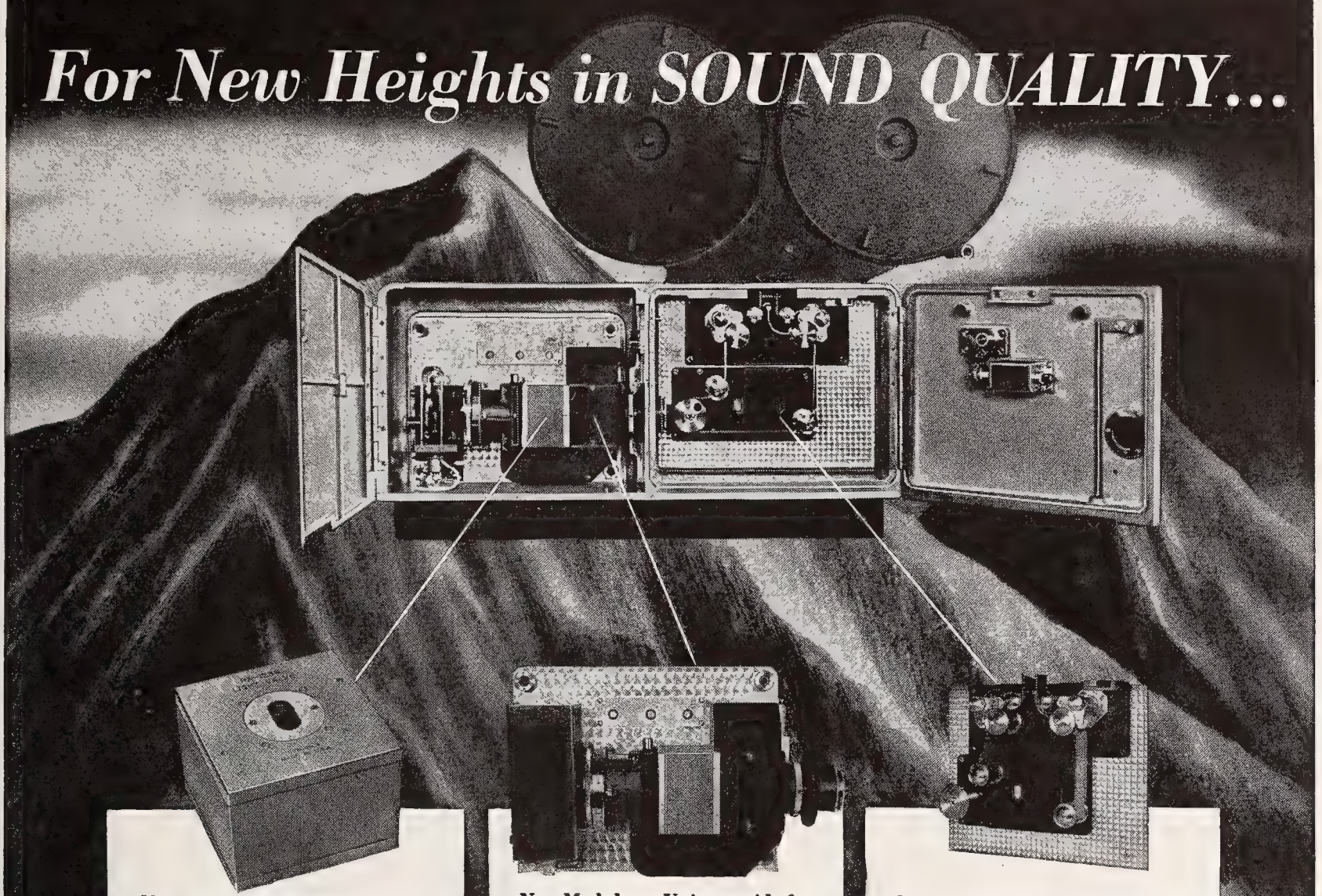
The event was climaxed by a special broadcast over the Mutual system, with George Jessel supervising pick-ups from New York, Hollywood and London.

Among those invited to the dais, in addition to those mentioned were: John O'Connor, Malcolm Kingsberg, Maj. Albert Walker, Charles C. Moskowitz, Abe Montague, Herman Robbins, Harry Brandt, Jack Cohn, Tech. Sgt. Herman Oretsky, Charles Botte, Gen. John Reed Kilpatrick, Joseph R. Vogel, Si Fabian, Zeb Epstein, Jay Emanuel, Roger Lewis, John W. Alicoate, Ashley Trimble Cole, Abel Green, Matt Shelby, Louis Bernstein, Eugene Picker, Leo Lindy, Rocco Vocco, Robert D. Swezey, Robert M. Weitman, Hal Horne, William Morris, Jr., Lee Shubert, Red Kann, A. J. Balaban, Ben Kalmenson, Jack Mills, Oscar Doob, Gus Eyssell, Mannie Sachs, Alan Corelli, Emil Friedlander, Jack Bergman, Joseph Maharam, Dave Ferguson, I. Lubin, Jack Robbins, Lionel Toll, Charles E. Lewis and James Jerrauld.

SGP Meet in Chicago

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 1.—Screen Guild Prod. president John H. Jones entrained for Chicago today to arrange a directors' meeting at the Hotel Blackstone there Oct. 11.

For New Heights in SOUND QUALITY...



New Light Valves—magnetically sealed. Small. dust-free, rugged, stable in operation, far superior to previous light valves in efficiency and uniformity of response.

New Modulator Units provide for variable area or variable density recording—100 mil standard or 200 mil push-pull—with a *single* recording machine.

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In addition to the recording unit shown above, all other units in the system—mixer, limiting amplifier, noise reduction unit, regulated power supply and fully automatic recorder controls—are newly designed and "packaged" to enable studios to put finer-than-ever sound in their pictures of tomorrow.

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. . . a great motion picture!



with

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Produced and Directed by

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Glenn Ford is the new box-office sensation!

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GALLANT JOURNEY!

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Judges Want To Streamline NY Case Moves

Oppose Argument After Entry of Final Decree

Apparently determined to hasten the entry of a final judgment in the New York anti-trust suit, the three - judge Federal statutory court has indicated to the Department of Justice and the distributor defendants that it does not intend that its final judgment should be subject to further arguments or motions as is customary under ordinary legal procedure.

The question of whether the judges would entertain the customary motions to set aside portions of its judgment was raised by counsel. Judge Bright is understood to have made it quite clear that the court does not intend that the parties should have a second opportunity for argument after the final decree is ordered.

Under ordinary procedure rules, the

(*Continued on page* 10)

Columbia Net Is $3,450,489

Gross earnings of Columbia Pictures Corp. for the fiscal year ended June 30 amounted to $7,000,489, the company reported yesterday. Earnings after deduction of Federal income and excess profits taxes amounting to $3,550,000 were $3,450,489.

In the preceding fiscal year, gross earnings amounted to $3,648,855, and net after deduction of Federal taxes amounting to $1,703,687, was

(*Continued on page* 10)

$9,149,000 Quarter Dividends Reported

Washington, Oct. 2.—Industry stock dividends continue to soar with payments for this quarter amounting to $9,149,000, it is learned, here. Department of Commerce figures, however, show a minor decline for August with dividends amounting to $428,000 compared with $531,000 for the same month in 1945.

No Action Now on Day Auction Plan

Distributor defendants in the New York anti-trust suit do not plan to take any action at the present time on the plan for handling bids under auction selling proposed by representatives of the Joseph P. Day Co., it is understood.

Principal objection to any such plan, which would provide for a central clearing house for bids, is said to be the possibility of an interchange of information relating to rental terms. Many of the distribution heads who received the proposals forwarded them to their company counsel.

Johnston Postpones His European Trip

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has postponed indefinitely his trip to Europe because of the jurisdictional labor dispute in Hollywood.

The MPA president asserted that he does not wish to be out of the country while there is such a dispute on the West Coast.

Johnston has been letting MPA vice-president Byron Price handle the situation on the Coast with the counsel of the Hollywood labor committee.

Johnston is strongly considering a trip to the Coast to confer with film leaders. Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, has already gone to Hollywood, and if he is unsuccessful in breaking up the strike,

(*Continued on page* 10)

House Group May Call Exhibitors in Justice Dept. Probe

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Exhibitors may be called before the House Small Business Subcommittee studying monopoly to make known their criticisms of Justice Department administration of the Sherman anti-trust act, insofar as it touches upon the film industry and independent theatre owners, Representative Estes Kefauver, committee chairman, disclosed today.

Representatives of exhibitor groups will be contacted by the committee

(*Continued on page* 10)

Koegel Named Chief 20th-Fox Counsel

Otto E. Koegel has been appointed chief counsel of 20th Century-Fox and its subsidiaries, it was announced yesterday by Spyros P. Skouras, president.



Otto E. Koegel

Koegel will continue as a member of the firm of Dwight, Harris, Koegel and Caskey, which is general counsel of 20th-Fox, but will now maintain an office in the 20th-Fox home office here. He has given a large part of his time to the legal affairs of the corporation since 1930.

KMTA Defers Action On ATA; Names Strowig

Now Is Time to Join ATA, Gamble Warns

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 2.—Ted R. Gamble, here on personal business, urged more active exhibitor support of ATA intervention in the New York anti-trust suit case. "Those who oppose and those who are inactive should act with us while we still have business to act for," he said.

Gamble predicted congressional action is the only alternative if the final decree in the New York anti-trust

(*Continued on page* 10)

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 2.—Following a lengthy discussion today, its final meeting day, the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association voted to leave to the KMTA board of directors proposed taking of action on affiliation with the American Theatres Association, and recommended to the War Activities Committee of the area that it contribute $1,500 to the ATA activities.

Elections of officers put Homer Strowig of Abilene in as president. He was vice-president, has been on

(*Continued on page* 10)

CIEA Talks Decree Plan With Wright

Will Present Proposals To U. S. Tomorrow

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Plans were formulated for the submission of recommendations on the Government's final decree proposals to Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General today as the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations ended its two-day meeting here.

The group is reported to have looked with favor upon the proposed ban on cross licensing between affiliated theatres.

Flat film rentals rather than per-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Decree Covers All: Berge

In asking that the petition of the American Theatres Association to intervene in the New York anti-trust suit to oppose auction selling be denied, Wendell Berge, Assistant U. S. Attorney General in charge of of the anti-trust division, has told the three-judge Federal statutory court here that the rights of the ATA intervenors would be affected to no greater extent than those of any other exhibitors.

Berge has made known his views on opposition to the ATA

(*Continued on page* 10)

Doubt Schine Appeal Hearing Before Jan.

The crowded condition of the docket of the U. S. Supreme Court is expected to make it impossible

(*Continued on page* 10)

In This Issue

"Trigger Fingers" is reviewed on page 10; the New York Anti-Trust Decision Calendar appears on page 3; Key City Grosses on 7.

Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, vice-president of Loew's, Inc., will leave here on Saturday for the Coast.

•

JOSEPH H. MOSKOWITZ, vice-president and Eastern studio representative of 20th Century-Fox, left New York yesterday for the Coast. LEW SCHREIBER, 20th-Fox production executive, who has been in New York for the past week, accompanied him.

•

EDWARD L. WALTON, Republic assistant general sales manager, is visiting in Oklahoma City and will stop over at Dallas prior to his return to New York on Oct. 14.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, in charge of Republic's branch operations, is in New Orleans on a tour of Southern branches, to Charlotte, Atlanta, Dallas and Memphis.

•

EVELYN GOLDIN and SALLY RUBENSTEIN of Warners home office trust department were married recently, the former to ADOLPH MEIROWITZ, and the latter to GEORGE S. SCHMIDT.

•

RALPH COHN, Comet Prod. executive, left New York for Hollywood yesterday. BUDDY ROGERS, also of Comet, will leave here for the Coast today.

•

KARL HOBLITZELLE, president, ROBERT J. O'DONNELL, general manager, and JOHN MARONEY, counsel, all of Interstate ,are in New York from Dallas.

•

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic executive vice-president and general sales manager, left here for Boston yesterday.

•

SIDNEY SKOLSKY, columnist and producer of "The Jolson Story," will return to California from New York on Sunday.

•

SAM ISRAEL, West Coast director of publicity for Eagle-Lion studios, has arrived here from Hollywood for a one-week stay.

•

DOROTHY MANNERS, screen columnist, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast for one month's vacation.

•

CLYDE GOODSON and AL DUREN, Paramount's Atlanta branch manager and sales manager, respectively, are in New York.

•

EUGENE ZUKOR, accompanied by MRS. ZUKOR, will leave the Coast by train on Saturday for New York.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, assistant treasurer of Loew's, returned here yesterday from Chicago.

•

RICHARD MORGAN, Paramount counsel, has returned to New York from Charlotte.

•

IRVING BERLIN has returned here from Great Britain.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE opening chapter in the American career of "Brief Encounter" ought to interest showmen who are on the prowl for interesting product introduced with gentle thunder. This is a British film adapted from one of the playlets included by Noel Coward in his series known as "Tonight at 8:30." The two leads, Celia Johnson and Trevor Howard, are unknown here, but the likelihod is strong they will be remembered for their beautifully shaded performances if this film gets the widespread playing time it deserves.

Theirs is the story of two strangers who meet in a suburban railway station and fall desperately in love. Both are married and have families; both come off with honor unsullied, if with deep and shattering heartbreak. David Lean's direction is a gem of calm understatement, devoid of heroics and flamboyance, but genuine and ringingly true. "Brief Encounter" falls clearly into the category of intelligent entertainment with a penetrating appeal for adult and appreciative audiences.

■

Produced by the Rank organization, the picture now finds its way to this market as the first under the label of Prestige Pictures, incidentally a designation which could not be more apropos. It was slipped quietly into the Little Carnegie theatre in New York, where it drew fine reviews. It has grossed $45,765 in its first five weeks, or a weekly average of $9,153, in a 383 seat house charging 95 cents to 5 P.M. and $1.20 thereafter Monday through Friday and the latter price from opening to closing over weekends and on holidays. The combined Saturday-Sunday take in the sixth week was $3,556, which means slightly less than 3,000 people pushed their way into the house in two days.

Of itself, this is decidedly unusual.

■

This cycle of events, it now develops, has not gone by unnoticed. RKO is displaying keen signs of interest on behalf of its metropolitan New York circuit. So, likewise, are circuits elsewhere. Which reminds of several other things. For instance, it reminds of the normal resistance of the well-entrenchced chains against taking a chance on anything that represents a chance.

This is not quite the crack it may appear to be. There is no substitution for screen time once it is gone. There are only 365 days in anybody's year so that each one of them has to deliver as tellingly as product, smart booking and alert merchandising make possible. From the circuit viewpoint, this sort of policy consequently should be understandable as well as understood.

However, it becomes an interesting matter of speculation to ponder how the so-called "art theatre" can reach far beyond its prescribed function in influencing the future of meritorious product which may not have a wide mass-appeal base. While there is no new evidence to suggest success in these little houses is a warranty of success in the great rank and file of regular theatres, the influence undeniably is there. It can be important, also.

Attractions, either softly approached by their distributors or incapable of cracking time with the large and dubious chains, have been launched in this manner before. There, dollar power has established itself and, once that's been done, interest has been known to quicken and playdates to have been forthcoming. This appears to be the direction in which "Brief Encounter" is heading.

■

The fact happens to be this is Universal's deliberate plan in promoting whatever it releases under the Prestige Pictures banner. It represents a reversal of normal selling procedures. It calls for patience and slower grosses sprawling over a wider spread on the calendar. But for the distributor and a line of pictures not in a hurry it can be effective.

Whether this or United Artists' plan of holding "Henry V" to limited runs along roadshow lines, the conclusion shaping up anew is that there's ample room for both kinds of selling and both types of exhibition. Those inclined to kid the idea may poke all the fun they like. Before doing so, however, let them note this:

In Boston, and since April, UA's end of the Hub City engagement stands at $100,000. In eight key city runs—Baltimore, Buffalo, Boston, Chicago, Detroit, Los Angeles, New York and San Francisco — UA's film rental has soared to $500,000. And all but Baltimore and Buffalo continue. That ain't hay!

Roach-Wanger Tell Production Plans

Hal Roach's six feature length comedies for United Artists release will be in Cinecolor, the producer said yesterday at a luncheon at 21 Club here tendered by UA in connection with the signing of the new releasing deals with Roach and Walter Wanger.

Wanger will work at the Hal Roach Studio in Culver City, which will be enlarged to accommodate his company. He will produce a minimum of three features for UA and still has a commitment to deliver three pictures to Universal, which also has two more coming from Diana Prod., in which Wanger is associated with Fritz Lang and Joan Bennett.

Describing Cinecolor as "the best for comedies," Roach said he could promise that his productions would be good.

"Our own money will be in them," he said, "and they will be the best that we can make them."

Roach said their length would be limited to what was necessary for good comedy, adding that they would not be drawn out.

Wanger said he plans to start work at the Roach lot after the first of the year and has contracts with Ingrid Bergman, Joan Bennett, Susan Hayward and a newcomer, Paula Drew, among others. New talent is expected to be developed between his own and Roach's facilities, he said. He referred to his contract as "non-exclusive."

Paul Lazarus, Jr., United Artists publicity-advertising director, presided at the luncheon, which was attended by company executives and trade press representatives in addition to the guests of honor.

Detroit Operators File Trust Suit

DETROIT, Oct. 2.—Claiming that it has been necessary to give patrons $34,317 worth of dishes to induce their attendance, Joseph Miskinis and his son, Joseph, Jr., who operate the Civic Theatre here, have filed suit in Federal District Court for $1,200,000 triple damages, charging a violation of the anti-trust laws.

Because of discrimination in the distribution of new films, the plaintiffs claim, the house has never been full since it was opened in May, 1941. Named as defendants were the United Detroit Theatres, Harper Theatre Co., Seven Mile Theatre Co., Paramount Theatres Inc., RKO-Radio Pictures, Inc., Warner Bros. Pictures Distribution Co., 20th Century-Fox Film, Columbia, Universal Film Exchanges, United Artists Corp., and Loew's, Inc.

New Colorado Circuit

DENVER, Oct. 2.—Norval I. Foster has started a circuit embracing Mesa, Carbondale and Grand Valley, Colo., giving each spot a day of films each week.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Berlin Plans Para. Exploitation Tour

Irving Berlin will contribute to the exploitation of Paramount's "Blue Skies," Technicolor musical of which he is the composer, by visiting a number of cities scheduled to play pre-release engagements of the film, it was disclosed yesterday by Curtis Mitchell, national publicity and advertising director, at a luncheon in connection with the conference of field representatives and home office and studio department heads being held at the Hotel Warwick here to effect changes in the company's publicity, advertising and exploitation machinery made necessary by the new method of selling pictures.

The composer, who returned on Tuesday from Great Britain, where he attended trade showings of the picture and the world premiere of the production at the Carlton Theatre, London, on Sept. 25, was a guest at the luncheon.

Another speaker was George Weltner, president of Paramount International, who discussed the company's activities in the foreign field.

The conference will end today, with Sid Mesibov, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, as the principal speaker.

Attendees

District managers taking part include A. M. Kane, in charge of Boston, New Haven, Albany and Buffalo; H. H. Goldstein, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Detroit; Allen Usher, Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Indianapolis; M. R. Clark, Dallas, Oklahoma City, Memphis; Del Goodman, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle, Portland; Hugh Braly, Denver, Salt Lake City, Omaha; R. C. LiBeau, Kansas City, St. Louis, Des Moines.

Branch managers participating are Henry Randel, New York; Edward W. Ruff, Boston; Henry Germaine, New Haven; John Moore, Albany; M. A. Brown, Buffalo; Clyde Goodson, Atlanta; Harry H. Haas, Charlotte; Gordon Bradley, New Orleans; Ulrik F. Smith, Philadelphia; J. E. Fontaine, Washington; D. Kimelman, Pittsburgh; Saul Frifield, Cleveland; J. J. Oulahan, Cincinnati; H. E. Stuckey, Detroit; J. H. Stevens, Chicago; Harold Wirthweis, Milwaukee; B. Blotcky, Minneapolis; G. R. Frank, Indianapolis; Fred Larned, Dallas; C. H. Weaver, Oklahoma City; L. W. McClintock, Memphis; Alfred R. Taylor, Los Angeles; H. Neal East, San Francisco; Herbert Kaufman, Seattle; Henry Haustein, Portland; C. J. Bell, Denver; F. H. Smith, Salt Lake City; J. T. McBride, Omaha; R. M. Copeland, Kansas City; M. Schweitzer, St. Louis; Harry Hamburg, Des Moines.

Divisional sales managers active in the conferences are Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division; Earle W. Sweigert, Mid-Eastern division; James J. Donohue, Central division; George A. Smith, Western division. Also participating is Oscar Morgan, the company's short subjects sales manager. Other participants are Jack Roper, assistant to Owen; Herman Lorber, assistant to Sweigert; Arthur Dunne, assistant to Donohue, and Lester Coleman, assistant to Smith.

'Gallant' Opens Oct. 9

"Gallant Journey" will have its New York premiere at the Criterion Theatre Oct. 9, the Columbia home office announces.

New York Anti-Trust Decision Calendar

Oct. 7.—Department of Justice scheduled to file with the Federal Court its final proposed decree, findings of fact and conclusions of law.

The five distributor-defendants with affiliated circuits: Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, Warners and RKO Radio, will probably have their final proposed decree, findings and conclusions ready for the Department of Justice and will probably file them in court.

(The three non-theatre owning distributor-defendants: Columbia, Universal and United Artists, have already filed proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law; included in their arguments before the court might be some suggestions for a final decree.)

Oct. 3 to Oct. 21—Allied States, MPTOA and the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations and others plan to file pleas to be heard as "friends of the court" or submit their views to the Department of Justice in Washington.

Oct. 21—Intervention petitions of the American Theatres Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations to oppose auction selling, already filed, are scheduled to be heard by the court.

Oct. 22—Oral arguments on a final decree will start in U. S. District Court, here, before the three-judge Federal statutory court, probably lasting several days.

After Oct. 22—After hearing oral arguments of the Government and distributor defendants, the three judges will probably ask for briefs to be submitted. They will then retire to work on the final decree. The final decree can be the one proposed by the Government, or by the five theatre-owning defendants, or one written by the court itself, incorporating some proposals of both sides, together with those of the court. Once this final judgment is ordered, the parties will have another opportunity to offer arguments before the final judgment is entered. After entry of the final judgment by the court, the way will be clear for any of the parties to take an appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court.

20th International Students Get Posts

The first group of students of 20th Century-Fox International's training program, following completion of an eight-months' course, have been assigned to their posts by Murray Silverstone, president.

The school was initiated by Silverstone last January, and the training included selling and showmanship, at the home office, with Leslie Whelan acting as co-ordinating director; practical selling experience, at the exchanges, and a close study of the operations of Skouras Theatres, Movietone News, March of Time and the company's foreign versions dept.

Silverstone assigned the graduates, all of them former servicemen, as follows: Thomas Sibert, Mexico; Richard Fleming, Italy; John Finder, Switzerland; Oscar Lax, Belgium; Bertrand Obrentz, South Africa; William Lampros, India; Donald McAfee, France; Herbert Lightfoot, Argentina; Seymour Brown, Peru; Vincent Milligan, Brazil; Joel Hart, Chile; John Tassos, Colombia; Andrew Jaeger, Puerto Rico. Howard De Tamble and Jerome Weisfeldt previously were appointed to posts in the Dominican Republic and Panama, respectively, and Alan Silverbach was assigned as assistant to the supervisor of foreign sales at the home office. All students will be enroute to their territories within the next two weeks.

Du Mont Video Pact

Scripps-Howard Radio, Inc., has awarded to Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories, Inc. a contract for the installation of the equipment for Cleveland's first television station, it is announced by Leonard F. Cramer, Du Mont executive vice-president. More than a quarter million dollars will be invested in the equipment.

'IA' Takes Control Of St. Louis Local

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 2.—The IATSE international officers have taken over Stagehands Local No. Six here, suspending all rights and privileges of its officers.

The action was taken by president Richard F. Walsh following a hearing by Frank Stickling on a petition of union members that the local was in a state of turmoil because of a move by John P. Nick, ex-convict and former head of the union, to regain control.

Stickling will manage the union during the emergency, and officers will be asked to resign.

Walsh's announcement made no reference to complaints of members that they had been threatened unless they voted with Nick's faction, and that there had been brawls and fist fights at meetings, that police had to guard some of the meetings and that settlement of pending wage contracts had been interfered with.

Coast Strife To Be Weighed at AFL Meet

CHICAGO, Oct. 2.—Richard Walsh, IATSE president, is due to arrive here on Sunday for the two-week convention of the American Federation of Labor which will get underway Monday at the Morrison Hotel, here.

Six hundred and fifty delegates representing 5,000,000 AFL members will meet, with both Walsh and William Hutcheson, Carpenters Union head. It is expected they will both dump the Hollywood labor situation in the lap of president William Green during the convention. Gene Atkinson, Chicago movie operators' union business agent, is chairman of the entertainment committee.

Film Chiefs Accept UJA Show Posts

Barney Balaban, Nate J. Blumberg, Jack Cohn, N. Peter Rathvon and Albert Warner have accepted positions as honorary chairman on the producing committee of "Night of Stars," United Jewish Appeal benefit show, which will be held at Madison Square Garden here Nov. 12, it is announced by Marvin H. Schenck, chairman.

Others who will also serve on the producing committee include: co-chairmen Louis K. Sidney, Ed Sullivan and Robert M. Weitman; vice-chairmen Arthur Knorr, Lester B. Isaac, Jesse Kaye and Max Wolff.

Also, Milton Berger, F. William Boettcher, Ben Boyar, Leo Cohen, Alan Corelli, John Dugan, Ernest Emerling, Gus Eyssell, Henry Frankel, Moe Gale, John Goodson, Abel Green, Harry Kalcheim, Nat Kalcheim, Ben Kuchuk, Abe Lastfogel, Leon Loenidoff, Harry Levine, Harry Mayer, Charles Miller, Solly Pernick, Sidney H. Piermont, Larry Puck, Sam Raugh, Frank Roehrenbeck, Leonard Romm, Herbert I. Rosenthal, Harry Rubin, Manny Sacks, James E. Sauter, Robert K. Shapiro, John Shubert, Michael Todd, James J. Walker, Fred Waring, Arthur Weill and David A. Werblin.

Aaron Ends Two-Day Kansas City Meeting

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 2.—E. W. Aaron, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, today wound up three days of meetings at the Muehlbach Hotel with Rudy Berger, Southern sales manager; Burtus Bishop, Jr., district manager with headquarters in Dallas; Frank C. Hensler, district manager with headquarters in Detroit; Herbert Benin, acting office manager in St. Louis, and Herbert Nusbaum of the home office legal department.

Aaron and Nusbaum tonight left for Denver, where a two-day meeting will get under way tomorrow with district and branch managers for that area. Similar gatherings will be held in Seattle, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

No Action by UA on MPA and MPEA

The United Artists board of directors met here yesterday in a three-hour session extending through the lunch hour.

Edward C. Raftery, UA president, said following the meeting that neither the proposal for UA to rejoin the Motion Picture Association or to withdraw from the Motion Picture Export Association, had come before the board. It is understood that Mary Pickford was one of the speakers at the meeting.

Lachman Calls N. J. Allied Meet Oct. 8

A state-wide meeting of New Jersey Allied has been called for Oct. 8 at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton, to hear a report on the National Allied Boston convention by Edward Lachman, president of the unit. An exchange of information on new product and film buying also is on the program.

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER

THE BIG ADVENTURE "CLOAK AND DAGGER" COMES FROM WARNERS!
UNITED STATES PICTURES PROD.
THE BIG MYSTERY "THE BIG SLEEP" COMES FROM WARNERS!
THE BIG COMEDY "TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE" COMES FROM WARNERS!
THE BIG MUSICAL "NIGHT AND DAY" COMES FROM WARNERS!
IN TECHNICOLOR
THE BIG DRAMA "A STOLEN LIFE" COMES FROM WARNERS!

JACK L. WARNER, *Executive Producer*

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right
way!

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A CRIME TOO DARING TO HIDE!
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JOHN GARFIELD · GERALDINE FITZGERALD

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FROM WARNERS



WITH WALTER BRENNAN · FAYE EMERSON
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ORIGINAL SCREEN PLAY BY W. R. BURNETT · MUSIC BY ADOLPH DEUTSCH



TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF TALKING PICTURES
Warner

MGM Revitalizing Foreign Market

With 10 key home office officials at present abroad, or due to leave for overseas in the near future, Loew's International is preparing for intensive revitalization of its foreign film market.

Arthur M. Loew, president, will fly to Paris next Tuesday to investigate market conditions on the Continent and to coordinate international policy matters. Already in Europe are George Muchnic, vice-president, and David Lewis, regional director for Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Vladimir A. Pozner, general manager of M-G-M International, sailed for France Friday for a series of studio conferences in Paris, Rome and other points on the Continent.

Back at his desk Tuesday from a two-month tour of the European market, which took him to every major M-G-M office in Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, was Dave Blum, Loew's International director of advertising, publicity and exploitation.

Charles Goldsmith, coordinator for the British Empire, will fly to Hollywood Oct. 7 and from there to Australia on Oct. 11.

O'Connor on Tour

Eddie F. O'Connor, regional director for the Far East, is in the Philippines on the first leg of a six-months' tour of every office in his region. Maurice "Red" Silverstein, assistant director, recently returned from an extended tour through the same area.

Richard J. Brenner, assistant regional director for Latin America under Sam N. Burger, is on a six-month tour of his area.

Orton H. Hicks, director of the 16mm. department, is due to leave for Latin America at the end of the month. Seymour Mayer, sales manager of the 16mm. department, is in Europe, surveying results of the first year of 16mm. planning and operation. He is due back about the middle of November.

Rank's 'Magazine' Reel in Production

J. Arthur Rank will enter the "magazine" reel field with a monthly two-reel "review of world affairs," similar to "March of Time," titled "This Modern Age." Early productions include "Housing," "Post-war Crime," and "Air Transport."

Producer of the series is A. Nolbandov. Distribution, planned for a world-wide basis, does not as yet include U. S. release arrangements.

Denies Counsel Fees

Federal Judge Vincent L. Leibell yesterday denied the application of 20th Century-Fox for $30,000 counsel fees in the action brought by Maud Nugent Jerome in connection with the film "Sweet Rosie O'Grady." Costs of $212 had been awarded by the company which was successful in the action.

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UJA Wins Support Of Boston Trade

BOSTON, Oct. 2.—With Barney Balaban, Paramount president, and Louis Nizer, industry attorney, describing the work and needs of the United Jewish Appeal, more than $150,000 of the total goal of $250,000 for this city was subscribed at a dinner at the Hotel Bradford here last night attended by more than 300 exhibitors and distributors from this area.

Sam Pinanski, head of M & P Theatres, auctioned off a pair of World's Series tickets which were bid in for $1,000 by John Ford of Maine & New Hampshire Theatres. Ford previously had donated $1,000 to UJA.

More Publishers and Writers Join Ascap

ASCAP's board of directors has elected to membership the following music writers and publishers: In the popular field: writers Jack Brooks, Bill Carey, Murray Cutter, Kenneth Lorin, Alfonso D'Artega, Richard Du Page, Carl Fischer, Johnny Fortis, Ray Gilbert, Theodore R. (Ted) Klages, Lee Kuhn, Bissel B. Palmer, Reidy Reid, Joseph A. Ricciardello, Frank C. Skinner and Justin Stone; writers in the standard music field: Albert I. Elkus and Peter Mennin.

Publishers elected were: Caribbean Music, Farrow Music, Fowler Music, George Simon, Inc., and Spina-Green Music.

Hunt, Beneke in RCA Sales Manager Posts

CAMDEN, Oct. 2.—Robert H. Hunt has been named regional sales manager for RCA 16mm. equipment in the Chicago area, and Elmer H. Beneke has been given a similar position in the Atlanta region, by O. V. Swisher, manager of RCA 16mm. equipment.

Hunt will represent RCA in 12 Midwestern states, replacing H. E. Erickson, who has been promoted to assistant manager of the education and sales department at the Camden office. Beneke is replacing M. N. Heidenreich, who has been transferred to the Dallas regional office in the same capacity.

Only Six of 78 Video Licenses Operating

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Seventy-eight commercial television stations have been licensed by the Federal Communications Commission. But only six of these are operating; they are: Columbia Broadcasting, Allen B. Dumont, and National Broadcasting, New York City; General Electric, Schenectady; Philco Television, Philadelphia, and Balaban & Katz, Chicago.

An additional 31 have been granted construction permits and 14 applications have been designated for hearing and are awaiting decision.

McClafferty Delayed

Monsignor John J. McClafferty's announced departure for Rome has been postponed due to illness. According to his office, the executive secretary of the Legion of Decency hopes to leave within a week to attend the International Catholic Office of Cinema General Council.

Strike Orderly on 7th Day on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—A crowd numbering over 700 paraded once around the M-G-M studio this morning then left in orderly fashion while a legal number of pickets remained at the gates. Otherwise, the seventh day of the jurisdictional strike passed without incident.

Although Republic discharged all CSU carpenters and painters employed there when men refused work, no pickets appeared nor was there picketing at Roach and Goldwyn, despite previous layoffs of CSU members.

The Screen Actors Guild meeting Wednesday night, announced it would send a delegation of top stars to the AFL convention in Chicago next Monday, emissaries to include SAG president Robert Montgomery, Joan Crawford, Walter Pidgeon, Dick Powell and others. They will demand that AFL set up machinery for arbitration of all jurisdictional disputes. The Screen Writers Guild meeting Tuesday night, left crossing of picket lines to individual discretion.

Seek to Curb Saginaw Chidren Attendance

SAGINAW, Mich., Oct. 2.—Following a special meeting of the Saginaw Parent-Teachers Association, plans are underway to secure adoption of a municipal ordinance to prevent attendance of unescorted children at theatres and other amusement places at night.

Although the law would include all places of amusement, its primary objective would be to prevent children from attending films at night and remaining in the theatres until late hours, a spokesman said. Ellis L. Lerkley, Temple Theatre manager, is a member of the committee named to investigate the situation.

52 Films a Year from New Guardian Firm

ST. PAUL, Minn., Oct. 2.—Guardian Films, a Catholic motion picture company, has been organized to produce educational reels for school and parish halls, Fr. Louis A. Gales, director of the new enterprise, has announced.

Sponsored by the Catechetical Guild Educational Society, the new organization plans to produce 52 pictures a year. Distribution will be handled by commercial dealers.

RKO to Release Four Argosy Productions

Argosy Pictures Corp. has concluded a relasing deal with RKO Radio for four top-budget pictures, RKO announced yesterday. Filming of the first, "The Fugitive," based on Grahame Greene's novel "The Labyrinthine Ways," will start in November in Mexico. John Ford is chairman of the board, and Merian C. Cooper is president of Argosy.

Stone Ads to Buchanan

Buchanan and Co. has been appointed today to handle the advertising for Andrew Stone Enterprises, it is announced here by Don McElwaine, assistant to Stone. John Hertz, Jr., Buchanan chairman of the board, has appointed William Dasheff as accountant executive.

SIMPP Permanent Orchestra Formed

Hollywood, Oct. 2.—The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers is forming a permanent orchestra to supply background music in pictures made by its various member studios. Ted Cain, formerly Universal music head, has been signed as music coordinator by the SIMPP.

The society has been conducting contract negotiations with the American Federation of Musicians. AFM contracts signed with the major producers required them to hire orchestras on an annual basis.

British Kodak Put On 24-Hour Basis

ROCHESTER, Oct. 2.—Kodak, Ltd., British subsidiary of Eastman Kodak Company, is working 24 hours a day, seven days a week to meet the British demand for motion picture and other photographic goods, according to Donald McMaster, deputy chairman of the board of directors and joint European general manager, who is here for a few days.

McMaster predicts that it will be several years before production catches up with demand, despite the fact that production has broken all peacetime records. Kodak is definitely planning expansion of manufacturing facilities in Britain, but the program is being held up by shifting world conditions, he revealed.

100 Theatres Showing WB Cartoon Carnival

Growing popularity of Warners' Cartoon Carnival, special Saturday morning program of animated shorts for children, has reached the point where more than 100 theatres in the Warner Bros. circuit are now putting on these periodical performances, the home office announces.

The shows are given about every two months, with tickets sold in advance, and frequently the demand for seats is so great that two or three houses must be used to accommodate the juvenile turnout.

U.S. Planning Trailer On Veteran Benefits

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Plans are being made by the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion for a Government trailer entitled "Veterans' Benefits." The Government hopes to get exhibitor approval for the short from the MPTOA, Allied and the American Theatres Association.

SMPE to Hear Cillie

"Blueprinting the Classroom Film" is the title of a paper to be delivered by F. S. Cillie, associate director of research for Encyclopedia Britannica Films, at the first of the 1946-47 series of monthly meetings sponsored by the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Atlantic Coast section, of which Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres, is chairman. The opening session will take place on Oct. 16 at the Hotel Pennsylvania.

48 in Work Despite Coast Labor Strife

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—The Current jurisdictional dispute brought production to a standstill at some studios, but shooting continued at other studios. Seven pictures were completed, and one—the Bogeaus-Meredith production, "A Miracle Can Happen"—was temporarily suspended. Seven others were started, bringing the shooting index to 48; The production scene follows:

Columbia

Shooting: "Twin Sombreros," "Inside Story," "Cigarette Girl," "They Walk Alone," "Last of the Redmen," "The Guilt of Janet Ames."

Enterprise

Shooting: "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Green Dolphin Street," "The Yankee," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Merton of the Movies," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "This Time for Keeps," "Summer Holiday," 'Unfinished Dance."

Monogram

Started: "Cisco and the Angel," with Gilbert Roland, Teala Loring, Frank Yaconelli, Martin Garralaga.
Shooting: "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Paramount

Finished: "The Emperor Waltz."
Shooting: "The Big Haircut," "Dear Ruth," "Golden Earrings," "Desert Town" (Wallis); "Unconquered" (DeMille); "Adventure Island" (Pine-Thomas).

PRC

Finished: "Lighthouse."
Started: "Philo Vance's Gamble," with Alan Curtis, Sheila Ryan, Frank Jenks, Tala Birell.

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Banjo," "They Won't Believe Me," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Apache Rose."
Shooting: "Hit Parade."

Screen Guild

Finished: "Renegade Girl" (Affiliated); "Queen of the Amazons" (Screen Art).

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Bob, Son of Battle."
Shooting: "Boomerang," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "The Home Stretch," "Backlash" (Wurtzel).

United Artists

Started: "Hoppy's Holiday" (Hopalong Cassidy), with William Boyd, Andy Clyde, Rand Brooks, Mary Ware; "Red River" (Monterey), with John Wayne, Montgomery Clift, Walter Brennan, John Ireland, Margaret O'Sheridan.
Shooting: "New Orleans" (Levey), "Vendetta" (California), "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Universal-International

Shooting: "I'll Be Yours," "Slave Girl."

Warners

Started: "My Wild Irish Rose," with Dennis Morgan, Andrea King, Arlene Dahl; "The Woman in White," with Alexis Smith, Eleanor Parker, Sydney Greenstreet, Gig Young; "Deep Valley," with Wane Clark, Ida Pupino, Wayne Morris.

Shooting: "Night unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed," "Pursued" (U. S. Pictures).

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

With 100,000 American Legionnaires in town, parading for as long as 12 hours at a stretch, film business has begun to bog down. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2-5:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,160.

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $32,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio) — GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $14,000)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and MY PAL TRIGGER (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. Average: $23,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and A YANK IN LONDON (20th-Fox)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $1,800.

REBECCA (U reissue)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000)

TO EACH HIS OWN (Para.) and TRAFFIC IN CRIME (Rep.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,000)

ST. LOUIS

Baseball pennant fever, sweeping the city, has affected film grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) — AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and THE FRENCH KEY (Rep.) — FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M) and STRANGE VOYAGE (Mono.) — LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $9,000)

HEARTBEAT (RKO-Radio) and CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,500)

WELLS FARGO (Para. reissue) and LADY EVE (Para. reissue) — ST. LOUIS (4,000) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.) and DANGER WOMAN (U)—SHUBERT (1,900) (44c-55c-65c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

CLEVELAND

Against heavy competition from baseball, football, an ice show and rain, grosses dropped only slightly from recent highs. Honors went to "Three Little Girls in Blue." Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 1:

THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $23,800)

EASY TO WED (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE RENEGADES (Col.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,400)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,600)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,650)

OMAHA

Business is holding firm again this week. The weather is clearing after an unsettled period. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2-3:

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,600)

SWAMP FIRE (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (60c-80c) 7 days, with Count Basie's orchestra on stage. Gross: $20,100. (Average: $19,800)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANdays. Gross: $12,200. (Average: $11,000)

DEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,700)

PITTSBURGH

The power and trolley strikes combined to cut some downtown grosses 30 to 50 per cent. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 3:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) — FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c), 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $9,700)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

THREE WISE FOOLS — PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA (UA) — RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c). 2nd week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,500)

THE KILLERS (U) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). 3rd week on moveover from J. P. HARRIS. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO-Radio) — WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). 2nd week on moveover from Stanley. Gross: $5,500 (Average: $8,000)

Record-a-Month Plan

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Maurice M. Cohen's new Palladium Records Co. will release its first product about the first of the year. The firm plans a record subscription plan similar to that of the Book of the Month Club.

PUBLISHERS' STATEMENT ....
STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, published daily (except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays), at New York, New York, for October 1, 1946.

STATE OF NEW YORK }
COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss.:

Before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Theo. J. Sullivan, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933, embodied in section 537, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are: Publisher, and Editor-in-Chief, Martin Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Managing Editor, Sherwin Kane, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Business Manager, Theo. J. Sullivan, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

2. That the owner is: (if owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.): Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin J. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Gertrude S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City; Martin S. Quigley, 1270 Sixth Avenue, New York City.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of the total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiants' full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and that this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest, direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is 5,036. (This information is required from daily publications only.)

THEO. J. SULLIVAN,
Business Manager

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 26th day of September, 1946.

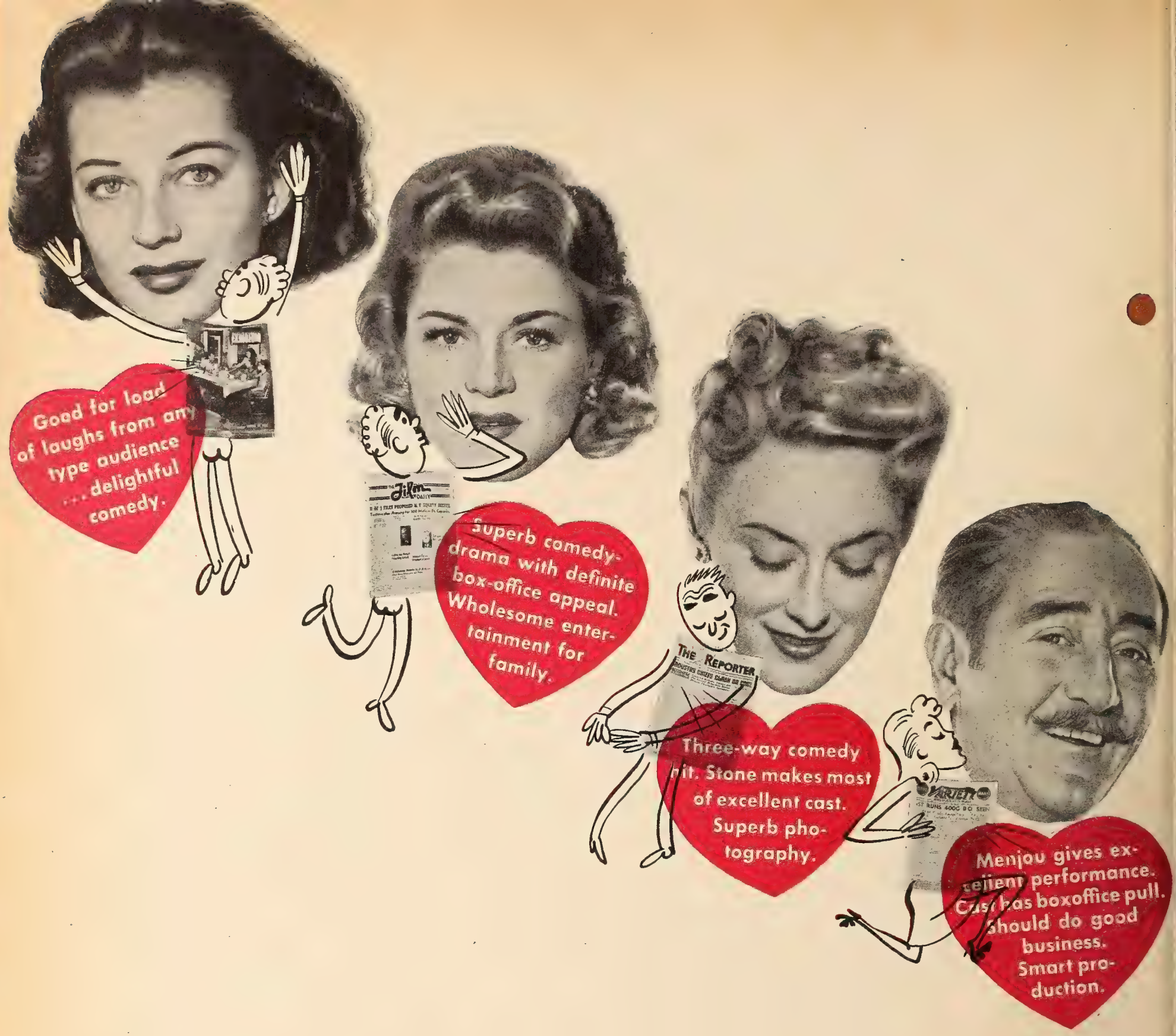
(SEAL) ROSE W. HORNSTEIN.

(My commission expires March 30, 1947.)

Film on Race Relations

An 18-minute color short, entitled "The Color of a Man," intended to promote better race relations, has been made under the auspices of the American Missionary Association of the Board of Home Missions of the Congregational-Christian Churches.

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KMTA; Strowig

(*Continued from page* 1)

the board several years, was a leader in regional organization work in former years. Elmer Bills of Salisbury was elected vice-president, C. E. Cook of Marysville, Mo., who was business manager of the Association from 1920 to 1927 was elected secretary, and Fred Meyn, Kansas City, was reelected treasurer.

Elect a Woman

For first time a woman was elected to the board of directors: Mrs. T. H. Slothower of Wichita. Other members are Dale Danielson, Elmer Rhoden, Tom Edwards, Dick Biechele, Ralph Larned, Jack Pennington, C. A. Schultz, J. A. Becker, Earl Jameson, Frank Plumlee, Herman Illmer, Frank Weary, George S. Bake.

Invited to today's session, the most largely attended of the convention, were all exhibitors of the area who had participated in war activities. Attendance included several hundred non-members of KMTA.

Discussion of audience collections resulted in a vote that the group favors only one audience collection a year. Resolutions commended and thanked J. T. Ghosen and Fox-Midwest for their stand on municipal taxes at Sedalia, and declared other theatres would follow the example.

General discussion included a report by O. L. Sullivan on suits in behalf of the Sullivan Independent Theatres, Wichita, by which he said he hopes the right of a theatre to control methods of checking and the ability of an exhibitor in the state to obtain service on distributor or producer may be established. Discussion on damaged prints produced recommendations that the exhibitor have an operator report on print conditions before running and that the report of bad condition be mailed to the exchange before running. It was also recommended that exhibitors take special care to avoid damage to prints. Suggestions for regional meetings were made and new president Strowig announced that several of these would be held, in each area.

CIEA Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

centage rates were also considered by the CIEA, which claims to represent exhibitors in 30 states and Alaska.

Abram F. Myers, counsel for the group, said that its proposals will be presented to Wright this Friday.

The delegation held a "cordial" conference with Wright today, when the problem of auction selling and other decree matters were discussed at length, Myers stated. He said that the CIEA does not want to make its ideas public until after they have been considered by the Attorney General.

A decision was made against maintaining a permanent chairman for CIEA. A rotating chairmanship was proposed and approved.

Nathan Yamins of Allied States was elected chairman for the next meeting, Myers announced.

No date was set for the next conference, the matter being left to the newly-elected chairman.

Dominated by Allied, the CIEA is believed to strongly favor complete theatre divorcement.

Wright assisted in formulating the CIEA recommendations, but was "not entirely in accord with some of the proposals," Myers concluded.

Review

"Trigger Fingers"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Oct. 2

THERE is little to distinguish this run-of-the-mill Western from its predecessors. Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Jennifer Holt, Riley Hill and Steve Clark head the cast. Lambert Hillyer directed, and Charles J. Bigelow supervised.

Hatton, in a more serious role than he is usually assigned, portrays a blacksmith blessed with an only son: a hot-headed youth who shoots a man in a dispute over a poker game. Hatton appeals to Brown (who is getting too corpulent, incidentally, to be convincing as a hard-living man of action) to help him clear the boy of a murder charge. In the succeeding course of events, the sheriff is killed, the sheriff's daughter shoots—though not fatally—the blacksmith's son, and Brown smokes out the miscreants responsible for all the crimes involved. The outlaw, supposedly killed by the blacksmith's son, turns up, very much alive, and everything ends happily.

Running time, 56 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Sept. 21.

THALIA BELL.

Judges Want

(*Continued from page* 1)

Department of Justice and the defendants would be able to move within 10 or 14 days after the entry of the court's final judgment to attack the judgment or seek modifications.

No Further Recourse

In substance, therefore, the parties to the action will have no further recourse to change the final judgment in the U. S. District Court after the entry of the final decree but will have to move to the U. S. Supreme Court. In the Schine case in Buffalo, several months were consumed in legal maneuvers after the entry of the final decree by U. S. District Judge John Knight, and, apparently anticipating a similar procedure in the New York case, Robert L. Wright, Government counsel had rushed through his own papers last June to cut the time down as much as possible.

Judge Bright is understood to have told the parties that they will not have two opportunities in the New York case to argue about the same final judgment. All arguments must be presented at the time of the court hearings starting in U. S. District Court here Oct. 22, it is said.

House Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

and probably will be asked to appear.

Today Representative Kefauver asked the anti-trust division of the Department of Justice for a report of its activities over the past eight years in carrying out its responsibilities.

In a questionnaire directed to Attorney General Tom Clark, the committee inquired into the scope and success of the anti-trust division's activities in such fields of price fixing, the misuse of patents (such as is alleged in the Scophony case) and the program of combating economic concentration in American industry.

Agencies Remiss

"There has been some criticism that the agencies responsible for safeguarding the competitive enterprise economy have not carried out fully their responsibilities under the law," Rep. Kefauver commented.

While hearings begin on Oct. 15, the film case will not be heard for several weeks thereafter. Investigator William Bennett is presently working to contact representatives of exhibitor groups for information.

Schine Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

for the court to hear arguments before January in the appeal of Schine Chain Theatres from the verdict of the U. S. District Court in Buffalo.

Schine counsel in the anti-trust suit brought by the Department of Justice, last week completed arrangements for the appeal by having U. S. District Court records shipped to Washington for docketing by the Supreme Court. The docket date for the appeal is Oct. 5.

As previously indicated, Schine counsel are making two separate appeals, one on the basis of the decision and the other on the basis of the circuit reorganization directed by Federal Judge John Knight. It is possible that both appeals might be consolidated later.

Expect Prefect Case Action in November

Argument will probably be heard by the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals here in November or December on the appeal being brought by Prefect Theatres of Greenwich, Conn., from the judgment of the U. S. District Court in New Haven in the anti-trust suit against the distributors and others brought by Prefect.

Prefect, operator of the Pickwick Theatre, Greenwich, is seeking treble damages of $5,452,575. Judge Carroll C. Hincks dismissed the action in District Court in New Haven in April, 1944.

Gamble Warns

(*Continued from page* 1)

suit approaches present language or the court decision. "Unless exhibitors work together now in getting an acceptable court order they will have to work together later to get Congress to untangle the snarl," he said. "If ATA intervention is denied and exhibitors cannot get provisions affecting business existence corrected, the greatest gathering of exhibitors in history will be in Washington demanding Congress superimpose regulations on the decree protecting interests if the final decision is substantially same as the court opinion."

Newins Buys St. Cloud

Harvey B. Newins' Intercounty Circuit has bought out the St. Cloud Amusement Corp. of Washington, N. J., operators of 15 theatres in Sussex, Warren and Hunterdon counties, N. J.

Decree, Berge

(*Continued from page* 1)

intervention in a letter sent to Judges Augustus N. Hand, John Bright and Henry Goddard indicating that if ATA wants to be heard in the case, it can petition as a "friend of the court," rather than as an intervenor.

No one group of exhibitors has the right to come in as an intervenor, Berge indicates in his letter, declaring that the rights of both individual exhibitors and the public are being protected by the Department of Justice.

Answering the suggestion that ATA intervenors would be affected by the decision as far as auction selling is concerned, although they are not yet parties to the case, Berge points out that the situation is not an unusual one where individuals who are not parties to a court action are affected by a decision.

Confederacy Petition

Berge's letter was sent in opposition to the ATA's pending petition. Since ATA's attempt at intervention was made, the Confederacy of Southern Associations has filed a similar petition, with the result that Berge's views can be assumed to apply to the CSA petition as well, according to legal authorities here.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, and Government counsel in the New York anti-trust suit, will probably argue against both the ATA and CSA motions when they come before the three-judge court here on Oct. 21.

Placing of the petitions before the three judges here is understood to have been facilitated by the five theatre-owning defendants in the case. The ATA and CSA motions to be heard on intervention petitions were returnable before U. S. District Judge Francis G. Caffey here yesterday, but arrangements were made to have the three judges hear arguments on Oct. 21.

Columbia Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

$1,945,167.

Net for the fiscal year just ended was equivalent to $5.25 per share on the 610,349 shares of common stock outstanding, compared with $2.85 per share for the preceding year, computed on the basis of the same number of shares.

Columbia's balance sheet shows current assets of $32,776,000 and current liabilities of $7,231,000, leaving working capital of approximately $25,545,000, according to the company's statement.

Johnston Trip

(*Continued from page* 1)

Johnston may intervene.

The MPA president is presently awaiting news of the success of Walsh on his mission. Walsh called on Johnston before leaving for the Coast this past weekend.

Glazer-Finston Firm

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 2.—Benjamin Glazer and Nat Finston have formed Symphony Films, here. Initial production will be "Tragic Symphony," based on Tchaikowsky's biography, for Monogram release.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 7		(Block 17) THREE WISE FOOLS Margaret O'Brien Lionel Barrymore Edward Arnold C—90 mins. (628) (Rev. 6/13/46)	HIGH SCHOOL HERO Fred Stewart June Preisser C—69 mins. (517) (Rev. 9/3/46)	(Re-issues) THE PLAINSMAN O—113 mins. (Rev. 11/23/36) JUNGLE PRINCESS D—84 mins. (Rev. 11/18/36)	STRANGE HOLIDAY Claude Rains D (Rev. 10/30/45)	OUT CALIFORNIA WAY (Color) O Monte Hale Adrian Booth MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE D William Henry	(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46)	(September Releases) BLACK BEAUTY Mona Freeman Richard Denning O—76 mins. (636) (Rev. 7/17/46) CLAUDIA AND DAVID Dorothy McGuire Robert Young C—78 mins. (637) (Rev. 7/24/46) IF I'M LUCKY Vivian Blaine Perry Como Carmen Miranda M—(638) (Rev. 8/28/46)	THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS Gail Russell Ann Dvorak Adolphe Menjou C—88 mins. (Rev. 9/10/46)		THE BIG SLEEP Lauren Bacall Humphrey Bogart D—114 mins. (Rev. 8/13/46)
Sept. 14	IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG C—(1038) SINGING ON THE TRAIL O		DECOY Edward Norris Jean Gillie D—76 mins. (Rev. 9/17/46)								
Sept. 21	GALLANT JOURNEY Glenn Ford Janet Blair Charles Ruggles D—86 mins. (2004) (Rev. 9/5/46)		TRIGGER FINGERS Johnny Mack Brown O	(Block 6) (Special) MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE Bob Hope C—93 mins. (Rev. 5/13/46)	OUTLAWS OF THE PLAINS O—56 mins. HER SISTER'S SECRET D—85 mins. (Rev. 9/12/46)	RIO GRANDE RAIDERS O—56 mins. (558) ROLL ON TEXAS MOON O—68 mins. (542) (Rev. 9/13/46)			ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER Paul Muni Anne Baxter Claude Rains D—101 mins. (Rev. 9/16/46)	THEY WERE SISTERS Phyllis Calvert James Mason D—115 mins. (Rev. 5/15/45)	SHADOW OF A WOMAN Helmut Dantine Andrea King D—78 mins. (602) (Rev. 8/14/46)
Sept. 28	SHADOWED Anita Louise Michael Dunne D		GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D—72 mins. (607) (Rev. 9/24/46)	(Block 6) SWAMP FIRE Johnny Weissmuller Buster Crabbe D—69 mins. (Rev. 5/16/46)	ACCOMPLICE Richard Arlen Vida Ann Borg D—66 mins. (Rev. 9/24/46)						
Oct. 5	THE THRILL OF BRAZIL Evelyn Keyes Keenan Wynn Ann. Miller M—91 mins. (9006) (Rev. 9/9/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE Frank Morgan Keenan Wynn C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46)	DANGEROUS MONEY Sydney Toler D	(Block 6) STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS Barbara Stanwyck Van Heflin D—114 mins. (Rev. 3/14/46)	DRIFTIN' RIVER O BRUTE MAN Tom Neal Jane Adams		(Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(Re-release) SUN VALLEY SERENADE John Paine Sonja Henie M—86 mins. (Rev. 7/28/41)		(October Releases) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	CLOAK AND DAGGER Gary Cooper Robert Alda Lilli Palmer D—106 mins. (603) (Rev. 9/9/46)
Oct. 12		NO LEAVE, NO LOVE Van Johnson Keenan Wynn C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46)	WIFE WANTED Kay Francis D		GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D		(Block 2) SINBAD, THE SAILOR (Color) D. Fairbanks, Jr. Maureen O'Hara D	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46)	LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)	TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent Charles Korvin Paul Lucas	
Oct. 19	LAND RUSH Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnette O—54 mins. (Rev. 9/17/46)	(Re-issue) RAGE IN HEAVEN Ingrid Bergman Robt. Montgomery D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	CISCO KID No. 5 Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby		WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D	HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46)			NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		BRINGING UP FATHER Joe Yule Renie Riano C		TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean	LAST FRONTIER UPRISING Monte Hale Adrian Booth O	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)	STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46)	STRANGE WOMAN (Stromberg) Hedy Lamarr George Sanders Louis Hayward		
Nov. 2			SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O				CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D	(Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)		Nov. Release) NOTORIOUS GENTLEMEN Rex Harrison Lillie Palmer	
Nov. 9			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D				CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)				NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C
Nov. 16						LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang					

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*



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DENVER	DENVER
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PARAMOUNT	ST. PAUL
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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK,
N. Y. (3 COPIES)

VOL. 60. NO. 68 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4, 1946 TEN CENTS

Field Grosses Rise Slightly At Key Runs

Key-City Average Also Is Up Over Last Year

Boosted by the Labor-Day weekend, cooler weather, the return of vacationists and a dwindling of the polio epidemic, key city grosses during last month maintained an average exceeding that of August, according to a tabulation of reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents covering some 170 situations throughout the country. The weekly average per theatre last month stood at $18,038, compared with $17,959 for the month preceding.

September's average also is slightly better than that of Sept., 1945, which stood at $17,890. While the first fall figures this year have climbed a little beyond those registered at the end of the summer, the trend last year was downward—Aug., 1945, having averaged $18,432.

"Notorious" appeared most often

(*Continued on page 7*)

Delay of Johnston Visit Irks British

LONDON, Oct. 3.—Indefinite postponement by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, of his projected visit to Britain has created a bad impression in industry circles here, despite general appreciation that the Hollywood strike would have made it difficult for the MPA chief to leave the U. S. yesterday as scheduled.

Arrangements had been made for a luncheon next Wednesday, when the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Republic Scene of Mass Picketing

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 3.—Republic, hitherto unmolested, was the scene of mass picketing today as several hundred strikers, some wearing uniforms, paraded around the studio. Strike strategy head James Skelton described the move as the first of the projected "commando tactics."

The Conference of Studio Unions reiterated demands on reemployment

(*Continued on page 3*)

Dennis F. O'Brien Film Officer and Attorney, Succumbs

Dennis Francis O'Brien, veteran industry attorney and a participant in the founding of United Artists, died at his home in Yonkers, N. Y., late Wednesday night following an illness of a year and a half. He was 70 years old.



Dennis F. O'Brien

For many years he was general counsel, a vice-president and director United Artists Corp. and held posts in numerous other film and theatre corporations, in addition to being senior partner in the O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery law firm.

A funeral Mass will be held for the deceased at 11 A. M. tomorrow at St. Denis Church, Yonkers. Burial will follow in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, near Mt. Kisco.

Honorary pallbearers will be Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president and a law partner of

(*Continued on page 6*)

N.Y. Chief Censor's Post Is Still Open

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 3.—Dr. Francis T. Spalding, new state Commissioner of Education, has requested J. Edward Conway, president of the Civil Service Commission, to give him a little more time to look into the question of the examination for the position of director in the motion picture division. The Department and the Civil Service Commission have been deadlocked on this for more than a year, the department holding out for

(*Continued on page 7*)

Para. to Increase Promotional Outlay

Streamlining of Paramount's promotional machinery to meet the requirements of the new method of merchandising product will entail a heavy increase in the company's exploitation budget, with a better break expected for exhibitors, it was disclosed here yesterday by Sid Mesibov, assistant exploitation manager, at the final ses-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Demand Up to $2.75 Hourly Scale for Theatre Workers

CHICAGO, Oct. 3.—A minimum wage scale ranging from 65 cents per hour for candy girls to $2.75 for cashiers will be demanded here by the new Theatrical White Collar Workers Union, IATSE, according to Eugene J. Atkinson, business manager of the local "IA" projectionists' union who is in charge of the fledgling group during its organization period. If the demands are not met, projectionists will be pulled from Chicago's theatres, Atkinson indicated.

As many as 200 theatre managers are expected to affiliate with the union, which has enrolled 75 per cent of a potential 2,000 members, Atkinson said, pointing out that, although managers were classed as executives and ruled ineligible at the last "IA" convention, they are included here because, "for the most part, they carry out orders from home offices."

Hourly wage demands of the white-collar group are: candy girls, 65 cents to $1; cashiers, $1.75 to $2.75, and doormen, $1.50 to $2.50, with the lower figures to be sought at small, outlying houses, and the top ones at first-runs in the Loop. Although on specific figures yet have been set for ushers, Atkinson said they will be expected to

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sign SOPEG Pact; $200,000 Back Pay

Payment on Oct. 28 of an estimated $200,000 in retroactive salary to nearly 3,000 New York home office workers was assured yesterday with the signing of new contracts between eight companies and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild. The pacts are retroactive to April 1 at United Artists and to July 29 at Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Republic, Loew's M-G-M, RKO Radio and National Screen Service. They

(*Continued on page 7*)

Loew's Will Build Amsterdam House

By PHILIP DE SCHAAP

AMSTERDAM, Oct. 1 (By airmail).—Following consummation, recently, of the agreement permitting American-made pictures to again appear on screens in Holland, Loew's, will build a theatre in Amsterdam, the Dutch capital.

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPTOA Hits Auction Sales In Proposals

Seven Points Covered In Letter to D. of J.

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 3.—Auction film buying should not be the sole alternative to theatre divorcement, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America contends in a preliminary statement on the impending New York Federal Court decree which has been sent to the Department of Justice by Herman Levy of this city, MPTOA general counsel, on behalf of the organization's unaffiliated theatre membership.

The preliminary statement covers seven points. MPTOA will prepare its final statement for filing with the Department of Justice, the Federal Court and defendants in the Government's anti-trust suit following the organization's Washington meeting next Tuesday and Wednesday, and

(*Continued on page 7*)

CIEA Decree Ideas Too Late For Draft

WASHINGTON, Oct. 3.—Proposals to be submitted to the Justice Department by the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations tomorrow will not be received in time for possible inclusion in the Government's proposed decree scheduled to be submitted to the New York District Court on Monday.

However, the CIEA proposals may be considered for inclusion in the De-

(*Continued on page 6*)

'IA' Says Charter Excludes Managers

The IATSE has not reversed its stand on granting charters to theatre manager's unions, an official of the "IA" reports here, reacting to the reported action of the Chicago "IA" motion picture projectionists' local in attempting such organization.

According to the IATSE official, the action of the recent "IA" convention in Chicago paved the way for the American Federation of Labor — with which the IATSE is

(*Continued on page 6*)

Coming Events

Oct. 7—Buffalo Motion Picture Theatre Owners meeting, Buffalo, N. Y.
Oct. 7—National Television Week begins.
Oct. 8-9—Meeting of MPTOA officers, directors and heads of state and regional units, Hotel Willard, Washington.
Oct. 8—New Jersey Allied meeting, Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton.
Oct. 11—Screen Guild Productions board meeting, Chicago.
Oct. 16—Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Atlantic Coast section, meeting at the Hotel Pennsylvania, New York.
Oct. 21—Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention, West Coast section, Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood.
Oct. 28-29—Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska meeting, Des Moines.
Nov. 4—Allied of Western Pennsylvania meeting, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.

Allied Film Plan Before N.J. Unit

Prospects of Allied States' participation in an independent production venture will be reported upon by Irving Dollinger, Allied Eastern regional vice-president, at the meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey, to be held at the Stacy Trent Hotel, Trenton, next Tuesday.

Other subjects before the meeting will be threats of state censorship in consequence of exhibition of "The Outlaw" in New Jersey; state and local taxation problems; picture allocations, product shortage, percentage terms on reissues and other current film buying problems.

Zukor, Ginsberg to Confer With Rank

LONDON, Oct. 3.—Adolph Zukor, Paramount board chairman, and Henry Ginsberg, studio chief, are scheduled to arrive here about Oct. 29 from New York to discuss with J. Arthur Rank Paramount's British production plans, it is understood.

Their trip is ostensibly concerned with a motion picture Royal Command performance at Metro's Empire Theatre.

Du Pont Promotes Frederick Sackett

WILMINGTON, Oct. 3.—The appointment of Frederick B. Sackett of Parlin, N. J., as manager of the Defender plant of the Du Pont photo products department in Rochester was announced here today by James S. Denham, general manager of the department. Sackett succeeds L. Dudley Field, who will become the department's adviser on paper products.

Personal Mention

STEVE BRODIY, president of Monogram; HOWARD STUBBINS, Pacific Coast franchise holder, and GEORGE BURROWS, executive vice-president and treasurer, have returned to Hollywood from Chicago.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is back in New York from Kansas City. Coming up is a trip to Des Moines where he will address the Iowa-Nebraska Allied Independent Theatre Owners meeeting Oct. 28-29.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's reprints and importations, has left here for a tour of the Seattle, Portland, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Denver and Omaha exchanges.

•

ALFRED CROWN, foreign sales director for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will leave here Monday for Paris to make a two-month tour of England and Connecticut.

•

RICHARD BROWN, formerly of the Warner exchange in Philadelphia, has become chief of the motion picture division of the Veterans Administration there.

•

J. O. GUTHRIE, owner of the Karolyn Theatre, New London, Conn., and MRS. GUTHRIE have gone to Santa Barbara, Cal., for three weeks.

•

WALTER TITUS, branch operations chief for Republic, will be in Charlotte Monday to confer with branch manager CY DILLON.

•

TOM CONNORS, vice-president in charge of distribution of 20th Century-Fox, left New York for the Coast yesterday.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, Eastern studio representative of Universal International, is expected in New York from London today.

•

CARROLL TROWBRIDGE, United Artists manager in Salt Lake City, is back at his desk after a trip to Las Vegas.

•

MAURICE DRUKER, recently discharged from the Army, is back at the Valencia Theatre, Baltimore.

•

FRED MOON, motion picture editor of the Atlanta *Journal,* is a guest of WALT DISNEY at the studios.

•

WILLIAM COLLINS, former owner of the Collins Circuit, Georgia, is visiting friends in Atlanta.

•

LARRY MACKAY, manager of the Arcadia Theatre, Philadelphia, is vacationing in Texas.

•

ROBERT MANN, 20th Century-Fox salesman, is now handling the Arkansas area.

•

JACKIE COOGAN and ANN MCCORMICK, singer, are engaged to be married.

•

ERIC LIFNER is here from the Walt Disney studios.

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, and his assistant, LEM JONES, left here yesterday for the Coast. SKOURAS will return next week.

•

WELDEN WATERS, 20th Century-Fox manager in Albany, has been appointed chairman of the amusements committee for the Community Chest Drive there.

•

PHIL LONGDON, 20th Century-Fox Southwest district manager, and H. B. BALLANCE, Southern division manager, were Memphis visitors this week.

•

JEFFREY LYNN, Warner star, and ROBIN CHANDLER, fashion editor of the New York *Journal-American,* are to be married here tomorrow.

•

DONALD V. MCLUCAS, United Artists branch manager in Omaha, and ELEANOR STEWART, of that city, are to be married Oct. 11.

•

WILLIAM G. BRENNER, head of M-G-M's field auditing department, has returned here from Kansas City and Chicago.

•

JAMES PRITCHARD will take over his new duties, Dallas branch manager for Universal Oct. 13. He is now in Memphis.

•

CHARLES SEGALL, owner of the Apollo Theatre, Philadelphia, is recuperating after an appendectomy.

•

HAL HORNE, Story Productions board chairman, will leave New York over the weekend for Hollywood.

•

PANDRO BERMAN, M-G-M producer, will arrive on the Coast today after a two-week visit to New York.

•

JOHNNY MACK BROWN, Monogram Western star, will leave Hollywood tomorrow for Portland, Ore.

•

GROVER PARSONS, PRC Southern division manager, is back at his desk after a tour of his territory.

•

GEORGES ROUVIEW, United Artists managing director in France, is due here tomorrow from Paris.

•

JOHN E. FLYNN, Mid-Western M-G-M sales manager, is due here from Chicago on Oct. 10.

•

JOSEPH JACOBS, Columbia branch manager in Omaha, is in Los Angeles visiting his father.

•

EUGENE ZUKOR, Paramount producer, will leave the Coast tomorrow for New York.

•

OLLIE WILLIAMSON, Warner district manager, is back in Atlanta from Birmingham.

•

GEORGE K. SIDNEY, M-G-M director, has left Chicago for the Coast.

•

JOSEPH WEISS has become a Warner booker in Omaha.

•

PAUL MUNI will leave here tomorrow for the Coast.

AVC Group to Vote For New Officers

Election of officers to serve for one year in the motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee will be held at the organization's Nov. 13 meeting, Walter T. Brown, chairman, announces. Nominations for officers will be made at a meeting on Oct. 16.

At the last meeting, on Wednesday, the chapter issued a statement of appreciation to the industry for its support. Monroe Goodman, vice chairman, presided then in the absence of Brown.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Cary GRANT • Ingrid BERGMAN
In Alfred Hitchcock's "NOTORIOUS"
with CLAUDE RAINS
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL &
ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45 ST.
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL
'HOLIDAY in MEXICO'
IN PERSON
COZY COLE
BOB GRAHAM

BOB HOPE
and Joan Caulfield in
"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE"
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK AND BAND
BOB EVANS JOHN and RENE ARNAUT
EXTRA! PEGGY LEE
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

20th Century-Fox Presents
"THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE"
In Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE — BEATRICE KAY
MARY RAYE & NALDI
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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CBS Asks FCC for Color Video Meeting

Columbia Broadcasting has petitioned the Federal Communications Commission to adopt standards for and to authorize commercial operation of color television stations in the ultra-high frequencies and to conduct a hearing at which CBS and others may testify on such proposals.

The petition referred to the Commission's statement in May, 1945, that a "truly nationwide and competitive television system . . . must find its lodging higher up in the spectrum where more space exists and where color pictures and superior monochrome pictures can be developed through the use of wider channels."

"So long as color television continues in an experimental status, the entire industry will be subject to uncertainty, and the investment of the public and broadcaster in low-frequency black-and-white television may be in jeopardy. The public is entitled to enjoy, at the earliest possible date, the inherently greater beauty and interest of color television pictures," Frank Stanton, CBS president, declared in his statement accompanying the petition to the FCC.

Republic, Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

of all discharged employees, in acceptance of the Aug. 16 "clarification" of the AFL directive, and immediate signing of new contracts, in a wire to producers. Copy of the wire went also to U. S. Concilator Edgar Warren in Washington. CSU urged that Warren "use maximum governmental power to prevent further unprovoked attacks upon locked-out workers, and achieve equitable settlement based on demands outlined."

Commenting today on the strike, MPA's Byron Price stated: "The past few days' developments furnish the nation's number one example of the tragic, disgraceful lengths to which jurisdictional squabbling can go. It is great pity that factions striking against their sister AFL unions has involved some war veterans in its savage use of physical force against brother unionists and law officers. The public should know that 4,031 veterans are still working to help keep the studios open and protect their jobs."

The Screen Actors Guild, meeting last night, voted against observing picket lines.

Television for Detroit

DETROIT, Oct. 3.—"ABC will be producing 'live' television shows over its Detroit outlet next June," Paul Mowrey, ABC's national director of television announces. "We expect to be the first viedo broadcaster on the air in this area," he added. The Federal Communications Commission already has issued a construction permit for an ABC television station here. The company's plans call for two large downtown studios.

'Mast' Screenings Oct. 8

Paramount's "Two Years Before the Mast" will be tradeshown Oct. 8 at all of the company's exchanges except New York, where it already has been shown.

Reviews

"Driftin' River"

(PRC)

EDDIE DEAN has a new horse, Flash, and a new girl, Shirley Patterson, and two new songs. Flash is superb in a cast of magnificent horses, and Miss Patterson has a talent and the eyes that should take her far.

Dean and his comedy relief, Roscoe Ates, are sent on an assignment by an 1880's Army post commander to inspect a herd of 300 horses offered for sale as cavalry remounts. The herd owner is Miss Patterson, running her recently-deceased father's ranch, with the help of foreman William Fawcett. The girl is having a tough time of it, what with being within shootin' distance virtually of a frontier town loaded with horse thieves, and, to make matters worse, one of her own trusted ranch hands, Lee Bennett, is a bank robber from 'way back; he is also contact man for the gang.

The action, after a slow start, is livened with erratic menace, any number of personal and group rugged fights and shootings, all of which are polished off with a really thrilling stampede of horses through town in the midst of the big battle at the end. Following which, law and order having been restored, and the bad men having come to their just deserts, the horses are rounded up, and, to the accompaniment of Dean's singing of "Driftin' River," the horses are led down the trail.

The players do the best they can in a weakly-motivated story by Frances Kavanaugh, further bogged by trite lines. Producer Robert Emmett Tansey's direction is passable; so are the camera work and songs.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

BILL COPE

"Outlaw of the Plains"

(PRC')

A CERTAIN segment of the film market has long since made it clear what sells, and Buster Crabbe and Al St. John continue to appeal to the particular group. Rate this one as average for the series.

Fuzzy, a "fall guy," allows himself to believe he has suddenly become endowed with psychic powers. But the "spiritual voice" he hears is actually that of one of the local badmen who has Fuzzy, with his newly gained reputation as a soothsayer, induce the townsfolk to invest in a non-existent gold mine. Crabbe comes on the scene and after inevstigation, and a few scraps, exposes the ruse.

Sigmund Neufeld produced and Sam Newfield directed. A Frederic Evans' screenplay was based on an original story by Elmer Clifton. Others in the cast are Patti McCarthy, Charles King, Jr., Karl Hackett, Jack O'Shea, Bud Osborne, Budd Buster, Roy Brent and Slim Whitaker.

Running time, 56 minutes. General classification. Release date, Sept. 22.

GENE ARNEEL

"This Man Is Mine"

(Columbia)

London, Oct. 1 (By Airmail)

MARCEL VARNEL, producer and director, and an assortment of fairly competent performers fall a little short in their collective effort to bring this British domestic comedy above the average. It has some bright moments but the picture as a whole is long and loosely put together.

Tom Walls, Jeanne de Casalis, Nova Pilbeam, Rosalyn Boulter, Glynis Johns and Hugh McDermott lend their talents to the screenplay which seems to concentrate on comedy situations more than on story line. It deals with a typical English family, the Fergusons, and the light-hearted romantic entanglements in which they become enmeshed when a handsome soldier pays a Christmas call. Two members of the household have designs on soldier McDermott who in turn becomes involved in a mail robbery, which he eventually solves.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, not set.

Another RKO Sales Meet Set for N. Y.

RKO Radio's East-Central and Prairie districts will be represented at the fourth of a series of home office discussions called by Robert Mochrie, vice president in charge of domestic distribution. Arriving Monday for the two-day conclave will be Ray V. Nolan, Prairie district manager; James Lewis, Kansas City; N. M. Rosenblatt, Des Moines; T. B. Williamson, St. Louis; A. A. Renfro, Omaha; Milton Cohen, East-Central district manager; Hatton Taylor, Detroit; Al Kolitz, Cleveland; S. C. Jacques, Cincinnati; Russ L. Brentlinger, Indianapolis.

Film Building Sold

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 3.—The Kilfeather Building, headquarters of the film industry of this city, has been sold by Martin's, Inc., to Film Estates, Inc., of New York for $280,000.

deRochemont at Forum

Film Forum, new organization of industry people here, will hold its first of a series of sessions at the Barbizon-Plaza Oct. 8, with Louis deRochemont and Elia Kazan as guest speakers. "The House on 92nd Street," which deRochemont produced, will be screened.

Toll Quits Film Paper

Lionel J. Toll, vice-president and editor of *The Independent Film Journal* since its inception, has relinquished his interest in the publication and has resigned, effective Dec 10.

Takes 'Seville' Rights

Excelsior Pictures has acquired the domestic distribution rights to the motion picture of the opera "The Barber of Seville," it was announced here yesterday by Walter Bibo, president. The film was produced in Italy.

'Polio' Cost Mindako 20% of Its Grosses

Minneapolis, Oct. 3.—Theatre grosses in Minnesota Amusement's Mindako houses are almost back to normal on the basis of receipts during the comparable period last year, after showing a drop of 20 per cent in the overall picture at the height of the polio epidemic, according to a circuit spokesman.

Low point in gross receipts of the circuit were reached during the first two weeks in Sept., prior to lifting of the ban Sept. 13 on children under 15 in Minneapolis, and the improvement has been steady since that time, it was disclosed.

China's Audiences Increase 300%

Attendance in China's theatres has increased more than 300 per cent over pre-war figures, reports Floyd Crowder, franchise holder for International Film Classics, in New York this week. The rapidly becoming film-conscious Chinese prefer American-made action and musical films with name stars and in color, said Crowder, who, prior to the war, was general manager for RKO Radio in Shanghai and North China.

Crowder attributes China's growing audiences to the influx of U. S. pictures during the past year. He explained that many previously classed second and third-run houses, because of the availability of pictures, are now first-runs. He pointed out that during the past year approximately 350 American features have been distributed in China. China's own output of around 40 pictures a year are not well received there, he added.

Crowder sees vast possibilities for 16mm. development in China, due to the numerous communities of up to 100,000 population without any theatres. China's monetary inflation has not spiraled admission prices, he said.

WEAF to Become WNBC

New York NBC key station's WEAF call letters will be changed on Nov. 1 to WNBC. Also officially approved by the FCC for call-letter changeover at the same time is WEAF's frequency modulation station WEAF-FM, which will adopt the letters WNBC-FM.

Split Policy at Albee

CINCINNATI, Oct. 3. — The 3,300-seat RKO Albee, which discontinued stage shows a few years ago in favor of straight pictures, will revert to a stage show and picture policy on Oct. 17, with "The Three Stooges" headlining the initial bill. Arthur Frudenfeld is RKO's division manager here.

20th Rummy Tourney

The 20th Century-Fox Family Club's final gin-rummy tournament of the year will be held next Tuesday night in the Henry Hudson Hotel. Leo Israel is in charge.

Start Cheering... it's the BEST thing that ever happened...



You'll have the time of your life watching Myrna Loy and Fredric March fall in love all over again, and Dana Andrews and Teresa Wright fall in love at first sight. It's a gay and heart warming story with Virginia Mayo and Hoagy Carmichael (who thrills you at the piano), and you'll meet Cathy O'Donnell, a new personality you'll love ... all in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives"

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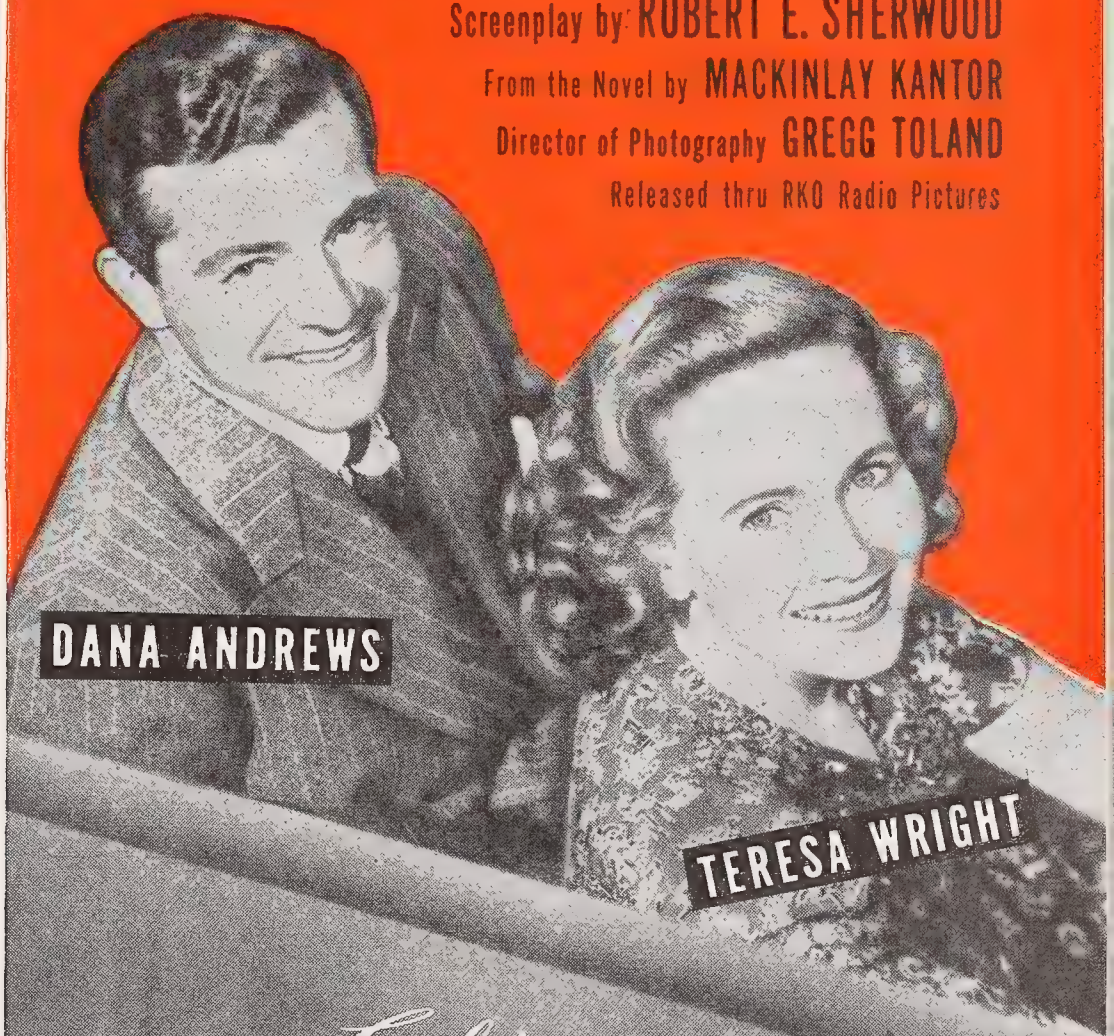
HERE'S WHERE
IT HAPPENS!

and it happens to you in

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES"

a truly great motion picture

Produced by SAMUEL GOLDWYN
Directed by WILLIAM WYLER
Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD
From the Novel by MACKINLAY KANTOR
Director of Photography GREGG TOLAND
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures



IN THE *Goldwyn* MANNER!

Managers Excluded

(*Continued from page* 1)

affiliated—to issue charters to theatre managers' unions. The Chicago operators local is authorized in its charter from the "IA" to organize all "front-of-the-house" help from assistant managers down to candy girls but not managers, this official indicated.

While the IATSE apparently will not attempt to offer any objection to the organizing efforts of the Chicago local among theatre help in Chicago, it is believed that if managers are organized in the Chicago drive, they would have to be set up in a separate unit and apply for an AFL charter, rather than come under the "IA" charter which has been issued.

Loew's in Holland

(*Continued from page* 1)

Theatres showing American products prior to the conflict with the Nederlandsche Bioscoop Bond (Dutch Motion Picture Federation), and which were not members of the Bond, are now recognized as members and are permitted to show U. S. films. Also, American companies will again be represented on the executive board of the Bond.

The recent annual meeting of the Bond, held here, brought to an end the negotiations lasting a year which halted American pictures in the Dutch market. The settlement provides for acceptance of membership of U. S. companies in Dutch trade organizations. Temporarily, American firms are represented by their Motion Picture Export Association.

Schwartz, Hilberman Form Cartoon Firm

Zack Schwartz and David Hilberman have formed Tempo Films, to produce animated cartoons and slide films in New York for the theatrical, non-theatrical, advertising and educational fields. In addition, Tempo will also establish a new film consultant service for sponsors, advertising agencies and other producers of animated cartoons.

Schwartz and Hilberman were formerly president and vice-president, respectively, of United Productions of America which they founded, and prior to that held positions as production designers for Walt Disney, Warners and Columbia.

Loew's "Samba" Contest

Loew's Theatres in New York is promoting "Easy to Wed" with a "samba" contest to be held on the stage of each of the circuit's vaudeville houses. Arthur Murray, dance instructor, is participating in the promotion which includes tie-ins with local merchants.

Ascap Meet Oct. 10

The general semi-annual meeting of Ascap will be held on Thursday, Oct. 10, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel here.

THEY'RE ALL DOING IT WITH
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Dennis F. O'Brien Succumbs

(*Continued from page* 1)

O'Brien's; Arthur F. Driscoll, also a law partner of the deceased and attorney for many leading theatrical figures; Charles Coburn, Arthur Hopkins, Jack Dempsey, T. Newman Lawler, also a law partner of O'Brien's; Benjamin Moore, Owen Davis, George Keegan, John S. Burke, Dr. John E. Ruise, Harry Farrell, Frank Xavier, John Rafter, Merriall B. Sands, Dr. James Morrissey, John P. O'Brien, Edmund Grainger of Shea Theatres, Irving Berlin, James A. Mulvey of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., Austin Keough, Paramount general counsel; Robert Perkins, Warners' general counsel; William Phillips of United Artists Theatre Circuit; Joseph M. Schenck, 20th Century-Fox production executive; Sid Silverman, Bertram Nayfack, Walter J. Brennan and Cornelius McGillicuddy (Connie Mack).

The pallbearers, all sons of close friends of the deceased, will be Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., George M. Cohan, Jr., Thomas E. Shea, George E. Cullinan, Jr., Frank E. Casey, Fred Niblo, Jr., Jack Walsh and Alfred W. McCann, Jr.

Born on Jan. 20, 1876, at North Brookfield, Mass., O'Brien was graduated from Brown University in 1896 and obtained his law degree at Georgetown University in 1901. He was admitted to the bar in the District of Columbia in the same year and began the practice of law at Providence, R. I., the following year.

In 1910, he formed the New York law firm of O'Brien and Malevinsky, which subsequently became O'Brien, Malevinsky and Driscoll and, in 1933, O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery. From the outset, the firm was prominent in the amusement field, numbering many outstanding stage, film and sports luminaries and corporations among its clients. It was counsel for United Artists at its founding in 1919, under the direction of William G. McAdoo, who had been Secretary of the Treasury under President Wilson, and in association with Mary Pickford, Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Charles Chaplin and other founders of United Artists.

Until the death of Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., O'Brien was general counsel and vice-president of Douglas Fairbanks Pictures Corp. and Fairbanks's Elton Corp. He was general counsel and vice-president of the Pickford Corp., Mary Pickford Co., George M. Cohan Prod., Sam H. Harris Theatrical Enterprises and United Artists Theatre Circuit, Inc. For many years he was a director and member of the executive committee of United Artists Corp. and United Artists Theatre Circuit.

Survivors include three sons, Paul D., member of the law firm and assistant secretary of United Artists; Kenneth A. and Robert D., and one daughter, Mrs. Denise Shay, six grandchildren and two sisters, Mrs. Mary Raftery and Miss Elizabeth G. O'Brien. Mrs. O'Brien, the former Mary Rita Brennan, whom he married in 1904, died in 1937.

New York State Incorporates 3

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 3.—International Therafilm Corp. has been incorporated to carry on a theatrical business; incorporators are: William Henry, St. George, S. I., and Wladimar Lubarsky and George Ginsburg, New York. Ginsburg was attorney.

Cinavision, Inc. has been incorporated to conduct a motion picture business; incorporators are: Harold C. Breueul, Virginia Hughes and Ethel Oster, New York. Alger, Peck, Andrew and Rohlfs, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Ludar Films International Corp. has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures; incorporators were: Hiram G. Shields, George Mandelbaum and Harold W. Grubart, New York. Hiram G. Shields was incorporating attorney.

Pitkinson Theatre Corp. has been incorporated to deal in plays, scores, etc. Incorporators are: Michael Hyams, Joseph Green and Harry G. Kosch, New York.

Royalty to See 'Years'

"The Green Years" will be shown aboard the reconverted Queen Elizabeth in its trial run in the River Clyde and nearby Atlantic waters October 5 to 11. King George, Queen Elizabeth and other members and friends of the royal family will view the film, according to the M-G-M home office.

Honor Bergin, Korson

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 3.—The Motion Picture Associates, here, will honor J. J. Bergin, Paramount sales manager, and Dave Korson, Columbia sales manager, at a luncheon in the Ritz-Carlton Hotel on Oct. 7.

Legion of Decency Approves 10 Films

The National Legion of Decency currently rates four films as acceptable for all patrons, and classifies six as unobjectionable for adults.

The classifications follow: Class A-1: "Gallant Journey," Columbia; "Outlaw of the Plains," PRC; "Spook Busters," Monogram; "Three Little Girls in Blue," 20th Century-Fox. Class A-2: "Accomplice," PRC; "Child of Divorce," RKO Radio; "The Dark Mirror" and "White Tie and Tails," Universal-International, and "High School Hero," Monogram, and "The Perfect Marriage," Paramount.

NBC and Philco to Exchange Television

An agreement providing for the exchange of commercial and sustaining television programs between station WPTZ, Philadelphia, and station WNBT, New York—said to be the first of its kind in the history of television—has been signed between Philco Corp. and the National Broadcasting, it was announced here yesterday by E. B. Loveman, vice-president in charge of television broadcasting for Philco, and John F. Royal, NBC vice-president in charge of television.

Delay Arthritis Dinner

The inaugural dinner of the National Arthritis Research Foundation has been postponed one week, to Oct. 14, so that Bob Hope may act as toastmaster. The dinner, which will be held at the Hotel Astor, will open the foundation's campaign for $2,500,000. Spyros P. Skouras is chairman.

CIEA Decree Ideas

(*Continued from page* 1)

partment's final documents for the court, which will be presented before Oct. 21.

Robert Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, is presently drawing up the decree. Proposals from the CIEA will be given to Wright by Abram Myers, Allied States counsel, tomorrow afternoon.

Wright indicated that the exhibitor recommendations will be received "with interest" by the Department.

Thus far, no complete draft has been received by Wright from the five theatre-owning defendants, he said.

Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

entire industry was to honor Johnston, with Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the British Board of Trade, preparing to make the principal address. Visits by Johnston to Cripps and Herbert Morrison, leading member of the Government, had been scheduled.

The officials are said to be disturbed at having their engagements upset, and film men are faced with cancelling reservations for miles of travel to attend the luncheon. The lay press has been critical of Johnston's decision.

Gamble Will Return For Court Decision

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 3.—American Theatre Association's Ted R. Gamble left here today for Portland, Ore., and will leave there early next week for New York, where he will remain until the final phase of the anti-trust decree case is terminated.

Interviewed before his departure, Gamble declined to comment on RKO Radio's leaving the ATA, asserting that expression is not advisable now. He indicated, however, that he would have something to say on that matter later.

New Eastman Kodak Vacation Program

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 3.—An extension of present plans for yearly vavations with pay will take effect on Jan. 1 for all Eastman Kodak employes in the United States, wherein, after a year of service, all Kodak people who are on an hourly basis will receive two weeks' vacation instead of one; after 15 years, all will qualify for three weeks' vacation, while employes between five and 15 years of service will receive two weeks, plus, based on length of service.

Roach Awaits Ruling

Judge Francis G. Caffey in U. S. District Court here has reserved decision on the motion of Hal Roach to enjoin Film Classics from proceeding with arbitration instituted last year until a decision is reached in the action brought by Roach against Film Classics and Edward Peskay. The Roach action is for breach of contract and seeks $55,000.

ABC to Fete Breneman

The American Broadcasting Co. will be host to Tom Breneman of "Breakfast in Hollywood" at a reception at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria here next Wednesday. He has arrived from the Coast.

Para. Promotionals

(*Continued from page* 1)

sion of the conference of Paramount field representatives and home-office and studio department heads which opened at the Hotel Warwick on Monday.

He said that Paramount, in exploiting its product, henceforth will recognize the greater importance placed on showmanship by the new system of selling, with "Two Years Before the Mast," and Irving Berlin's "Blue Skies," the first two releases of the new selling season, chosen for a test of the new publicity-advertising exploitation plans discussed at the four-day conference. Emphasis at the meeting was placed on the best possible means of selling the two films to exhibitor and public alike under the new selling procedure, the exploitation program for the two being expected to set the pattern for campaigns on all other Paramount product to come.

Paramount's Plans

The importance of pre-selling of pictures under the new method of selling will be taken cognizance of by Paramount in all the company's future promotional plans, it was said by Mesibov. Flexibility to meet the needs of an individual situation will be the rule in the future in matters of co-operative advertising campaigns and exploitation expenditures, he asserted. He added that the field men would be granted greater leeway in arranging co-operative deals in keeping with the company's policy of allowing more independence in deciding on exploitation problems, particularly in the local application of national tie-ups.

The further disclosure was made by Mesibov that Paramount had prepared a list of 114 cities where the company's pictures would come in for concentrated exploitation efforts. Forty-one of the communities are in the Eastern and Southern division, 20 in the Central division, 28 in the Mid-Eastern division, and 25 in the Western divisoin. He said that the list was subject to changes, depending upon results of the company's exploitation campaigns there.

Mesibov informed the field men that the increased flow of motor traffic has caused the company to go in for billposting. He said that it was expected by Paramount that longer engagements of its pictures would be encouraged by its plan of selecting 114 cities for the expenditure of special promotional effort.

Curtis Mitchell, Paramount's national director of publicity and advertising, who presided at the meeting, pointed out that the new method of selling would give more importance to the work of field representatives. The latter will leave for their respective territories tonight.

Demand $2.75

(*Continued from page* 1)

receive a minimum of $1.

Also demanded, in a formula following that of the projectionists' contracts, will be a six-day week, a guarantee of a 40-hour week, time and one-half for overtime and double time after midnight.

Atkinson accused the large theatre owners here of attempting to prevent unionization of theatre employes, claiming that since formation of the new union had been announced, assistant managers have been given a 10 per cent increase in pay and managers a straight $10 per week boost, while raises for cashiers have ranged between 7½ and 15 cents per hour.

First general meeting of the union will be held within 30 days, Atkinson said, followed by appointment of a business agent and election of officers. A membership application fee of $3 and annual dues of $12 have been set.

Field Grosses Show Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

during September as the leading box-office attraction in the correspondents' reports, followed closely by "Monsieur Beaucaire." Other films coming through as leaders in one or more instances were: "Anna and the King of Siam," "A Stolen Life," "Bedlam," "Caesar and Cleopatra," "Canyon Passage," "Claudia and David," "Black Beauty," "The Gentleman Misbehaves," "Easy to Wed," "Gallant Journey," "If I'm Lucky," "I've Always Loved You," "Holiday in Mexico," "The Kid from Brooklyn," "O.S.S.," "Mr. Ace," "Make Mine Music," "The Strange Love of Martha Ivers," "Rendezvous with Annie," "Three Wise Fools," "Till the End of Time," "The Killers," "The Big Sleep" and "The Wife of Monte Cristo."

Composite key-city box-office reports for 1946, compared with the corresponding weeks of 1945, follow:

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,777,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
March 1-2	164	3,106,000	18,939
March 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
March 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
March 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
March 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1	130	2,058,200	15,855
June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 28-29	159	2,559,000	16,094
July 5-6	167	2,737,500	16,392
July 12-13	154	2,944,200	19,112
July 19-20	163	2,599,300	15,928
July 26-27	157	2,702,700	17,215
Aug. 2-3	165	2,856,600	17,193
Aug. 9-10	162	2,919,700	18,023
Aug. 16-17	157	2,852,000	18,165
Aug. 23-24	167	3,078,800	18,435
Aug. 30-31	166	2,984,500	17,979
Sept. 6-7	171	3,469,600	20,290
Sept. 13-14	170	3,015,600	17,739
Sept. 20-21	169	2,944,800	17,425
Sept. 27-28	168	2,804,900	16,696

1945 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 5-6	136	$2,828,300	$20,796
Jan. 12-13	133	2,393,400	17,995
Jan. 19-20	136	2,289,400	16,826
Jan. 26-27	149	2,543,400	17,069
Feb. 2-3	148	2,534,300	17,123
Feb. 9-10	144	2,506,700	17,407
Feb. 16-17	141	2,491,800	17,672
Feb. 23-24	143	2,448,000	17,118
March 2-3	134	2,462,100	18,373
March 9-10	144	2,448,700	17,000
March 16-17	152	2,530,500	16,648
March 23-24	144	2,248,900	16,687
March 30-31	137	2,123,100	15,446
April 6-7	129	2,293,900	17,872
April 13-14	138	2,268,600	16,349
April 20-21	123	1,893,700	15,395
April 27-28	137	2,179,500	15,908
May 4-5	132	2,141,000	16,219
May 11-12	123	2,166,400	17,613
May 18-19	141	2,390,000	16,950
May 25-26	127	2,052,800	16,153
June 1-2	119	1,902,700	15,989
June 8-9	128	2,020,800	15,788
June 15-16	136	2,266,600	16,666
June 22-23	125	1,903,400	15,227
June 29-30	119	1,952,800	16,410
July 6-7	132	2,248,900	17,371
July 13-14	143	2,586,800	18,089
July 20-21	131	2,271,300	17,384
July 27-28	123	2,156,100	17,529
Aug. 3-4	136	2,395,400	17,613
Aug. 10-11	120	2,316,100	19,300
Aug. 17-18	129	2,367,500	18,352
Aug. 24-25	147	2,699,200	18,362
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	146	2,676,100	18,334
Sept. 7-8	139	2,689,600	19,350
Sept. 14-15	141	2,484,600	17,621
Sept. 21-22	143	2,535,700	17,732
Sept. 28-29	140	2,360,100	16,858

SOPEG Pact—$200,000

(*Continued from page* 1)

provide each employee with a raise of $6 per week or 15 per cent, whichever is the greater.

Yesterday's signing took place at a meeting in the office of Maj. Leslie E. Thompson of RKO, with Jack Lang of 20th-Fox serving as chairman. The companies now are in the process of choosing members and alternates for an industry committee of arbitrators to rule on any disputes arising under the contracts, which will run for two years with reopening possible at the end of one year.

Signing of new contracts with the Screen Publicists Guild has been held up temporarily by discussion of several questions that have arisen, according to an SPG spokesman. A meeting to iron out the difficulty was held yesterday.

Scheduled for this morning is a session between SOPEG and representatives of the Columbia, UA, 20th-Fox, and M-G-M exchanges, where workers have rejected the contract terms offered them and have authorized a strike call.

Salary increases under the new SOPEG home office contracts will go into effect Oct. 7, while the maximum work week will be reduced from 40 to 37½ hours beginning Monday morning. Starting today, three out of every four new employes hired must be members of the union.

N. Y. Censor Post

(*Continued from page* 1)

a promotion test and the Civil Service Commission for an open competitive examination. Dr. George D. Stoddard left the matter in the lap of Dr. Spalding, when the former resigned last June to become president of the University of Illinois. Dr. Spalding's action and the long process of steps in arranging for an examination are believed to make it unlikely a test will be held before Feb. 1.

Dr. Stoddard on at least one occasion went to the Civil Service Commission himself to argue the Education Department's viewpoint. The commission voted to table the matter last spring, after it had prepared a tentative draft of an examination announcement. The latter is the usual procedure, the appointing officer being given the privilege of suggesting revisions.

MPTOA Hits

(*Continued from page* 1)

after final defense proposals have been filed.

The points covered in the preliminary statement were submitted as "objections and suggestions." They are:

1) That an appeal to the Supreme Court by the Government from the final decree be "all-embracing," not, as is generally believed, that it be limited to the New York court's refusal to order theatre divorcement. The statement adds here: "This is not to be considered directly or indirectly an endorsement of the principle of divorcement."

2) Unequivocal opposition to auction bidding on the grounds that it would penalize the average exhibitor severely and would result in increased costs to the public in the form of higher admission prices for higher film costs.

In this section the question is asked: "Why does it have to be either the system of competitive bidding outlined by the court, or divorcement? Why may it not be the alternative of enjoining the defendants from indulging in any of the practices complained of by the Government (and found by the court to be unlawful) and permitting negotiations for film to go on in a free and open market without compulsory competitive bidding? It was not so much that the defendants in this suit operated theatres that prompted the litigation by the Government. It was, rather, the indulgence by the defendants in the unlawful practices referred to. Once those practices have been eliminated, why should not this industry, as any other, be permitted to go forward on a competitive basis?"

3) An express provision against overbuying, which does not appear to be contemplated by the court, should be included in a decree and in any arbitration system which may be adopted.

4) A guarantee of "some run," lacking now in the court's opinion, should be included in the decree.

5) Men experienced in the industry should be selected as arbitrators of its disputes, not merely men experienced in industry arbitration.

6) A 20 per cent cancellation should be granted and rejections should be exercisable within 10 days from the time a picture has been made available for booking, rather than from the time of its trade showing.

7) If auction bidding is finally ordered, the highest bid should be open to inspection by all exhibitors in a competitive area who bid for it, and that the standing of the exhibitor and the theatre and the rights of an established customer be taken into consideration in deciding a successful bidder.

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VOL. 69. NO. 69 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 7, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK 18,
N. Y. (2 COPIES)

93% Opposed To Auctions As Poll Ends

63% Favor Divorcement Instead, MPTOA Finds

The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America at the weekend computed final results in its three-month poll of exhibitor opinion on the New York Federal District Court's plan for settling the aged dispute over an alleged monopoly in the distribution and showing of films, and the formula set up by the Federal judges—auction selling—was found to be opposed by 93 per cent of the operators of 961 theatres in 43 states.

A less substantial majority, 63 per cent, are down on the MPTOA's final record as favoring the solution pro-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Alien Property for US Nationals Only

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. — Alien property custodian James E. Markham today issued a general order prohibiting any interest in stock in designated key corporations, including motion picture interests of alien origin, seized by the APC, from being transferred to or acquired by any person not an American national.

In issuing the order, Markham explained that in many instances shares of stock in domestic corporations seized by the alien property custodian during the first World War and, subsequently sold by him to Americans, were found at the time of World War

(*Continued on page 6*)

Meet Oct. 15 to Plan Dinner for Balaban

Plans for a testimonial dinner in honor of Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, on behalf of the Joint Defense Appeal's 1946 motion picture and entertainment industries drive, will be mapped at a luncheon at the Hotel Astor here on Tuesday, Oct. 18.

Industry leaders have been invited to the luncheon by Jack Cohn, Columbia Pictures vice-president; Leonard Goldenson, Paramount vice-president, and Sam Rinzler, Rand-

(*Continued on page 6*)

File Decree Drafts Today

The five theare-owning defendants in the New York anti-trust suit today plan to submit their proposed decree to the three-judge statutory court in U. S. District Court here and submit them also to the Department of Justice. Robert L. Wright, Government counsel, has indicated that he, too, will submit his proposed decree to the court today.

Both defendants and the Department of Justice were informed last week that Judge Augustus N. Hand, presiding justice in the New York film case, is scheduled to sit on the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals bench here between Oct. 14 and 18 and that he required an opportunity to study the proposed decrees this week before he moves to the Circuit Court bench next week. Hearings on the proposed decrees are scheduled to start Oct. 22, the day after the American Theatres Association, the Confederacy of Southern Association, and Lust Theatres of Washington are to be heard in court on the decision.

Mono. Stock Meeting On Coast, Nov. 13

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — Monogram will hold a stockholders' meeting here on Nov. 13. President Steve Broidy will preside.

One Decree Draft, Individual Findings

While the five distributor-defendants in the New York anti-trust suit will probably submit one proposed decree on behalf of all five to the U. S. District Court, here, today, each of the five is expected to submit its own proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law.

In the proposed findings, the individual defendants will be able to treat with conditions and situations which affect them individually.

OPA Ceilings Off on Equipment Exports

WASHINGTON, Oct. 6. — Motion picture equipment imported to the United States has been suspended from price control, the Office of Price Administration has announced.

Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Commerce Department film consultant, has expressed the belief that many pieces of film equipment will be imported here from Europe during the coming year. The OPA move decontrolling these items will insure a greater number of cameras and other equipment, but high prices will be asked for the equipment, an OPA price expert said.

Decree Decision Prompts Many Exhibitor Meetings

The calendar of coming industry events continues crowded with additional exhibitor organization meetings all over the country, all of which, of course, are primarily concerned with the Government's New York anti-trust case and its possible effects on trade practices.

A meeting of the Buffalo Motion Picture Theatre Owners is scheduled there today with possible affiliation with the American Thatre Association also on the agenda.

Opening tomorrow at the Hotel Willard, Washington, will be a two-day conference of the national MPTOA officers and directors, and heads of regional and state units. The organization's final position in regard to the New York decision will be determined.

Also scheduled tomorrow is a statewide meeting of New Jersey Allied, at the Stacy-Trent Hotel, Trenton, to take up Allied's possible entry into production, film buying, censorship and other trade practices. Additionally, Edward Lachman, president of the unit, will give a report on National Allied's recent convention in Boston.

Other sessions coming up include Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, in Dallas, Oct. 28-29; Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, Hotel Ft. Des Moines, Des Moines, Oct. 28-29; Allied Theatres of Michigan, Detroit, Nov. 11-13; Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, Indianapolis, Nov. 19-20.

Also, the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, at the Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee, Nov. 22-23, and the Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh, Nov. 25-26.

Walsh Reports 'IA' Might Leave the AFL

Would Organize 200,000 In Amusement Industry

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—The possibility of the IATSE withdrawing from the American Federation of Labor has been expressed here by Richard F. Walsh, 'IA' president, as a result of the present studio labor jurisdictional dispute between several AFL unions and the 'IA.'

"We like the AFL," Walsh declares, "but no one is going to cut us up, not the Carpenters, or not the AFL. If forced to leave the AFL we will organize 200,000 members in the amusement industry." Walsh added, however, that he did not believe the AFL would force such a step.

(The IATSE presently has an es-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Shorter Work Hours For Four Companies

Beginning today, home office employes of M-G-M, United Artists, Columbia and Republic will start working 37½ hours per week instead of 40, as in the past, the cut being made under terms of new contracts signed on Thursday with the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild.

These companies will meet the new time limit by establishing a working day that runs from nine A.M. until 5:30 P.M., with an hour for lunch. M-G-M and UA have been keeping open until 5:45 and holding the lunch

(*Continued on page 6*)

Warners Sues CSU For $3,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6.—Warner Brothers filed suit in Superior Court here on Friday against the Conference of Studio Unions, Herbert Sorrell and other CSU officials and agents for $3,000,000, charging "illegal picketing, violence, using of physical force to prevent WB employees from entering the studio, and acting in concert to destroy Warners."

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew vice-president and treasurer, left New York over the weekend for California.

•

WALTER BROOKS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, has returned to New York from Kansas City. He next plans trips to Oklahoma City, on Oct. 28-29, and to Pittsburgh, Nov. 4-5.

•

CHARLES C. MIZELLE, traveling auditor for the Wilby-Kincey circuit, and ANNE MAE WATSON, of Knoxville, Tenn., were married yesterday.

•

AL SINDLINGER, who recently resigned from Audience Research, left New York at the weekend for California.

•

HARRY D. BUCKLEY, United Artists home office representative, spent a few days in Atlanta last week inspecting the company's new office.

•

MARY PICKFORD and LESTER COWAN, who recently formed a new production company, plan to leave New York this week for the West Coast.

•

NORMAN MORAY, Warner short subject sales manager, will arrive at the company's Burbank studios today from New York.

•

JOHN MURPHY, in charge of Loew's out-of-town theatre operations, is due in New York today from a visit to several Pennsylvania towns.

•

JOHN E. FLYNN, M-G-M Midwestern sales manager, is due in New York Thursday from Chicago, returning there on Oct. 15.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, is in Seattle for several days and will be in San Francisco on Wednesday.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M's Southern sales manager, has returned to his New Orleans headquarters after spending several days in the field.

•

DANIEL T. O'SHEA, president of Vanguard Films, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

JOHN HERTZ, JR., chairman of the board of Buchanan and Co., has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

MARGUERITE BLYDENBURTH of the IATSE staff in New York, is in Florida on a two-week vacation.

•

FRANK N. PHELPS, Warner Theatres executive, will be in Cleveland this week.

Up-State Blue Law Out

ALBANY, N. Y. Oct. 6.—Theatres will be open Sundays in Bethlehem, an Albany suburb, as a result of the town's voting to repeal its 1935 blue laws ordinance. The referendum vote was 738 in favor of repeal, 453 against it.

Large Attendance At O'Brien Rites

The many friends of Dennis Francis O'Brien, prominent motion picture attorney and executive, who died Wednesday, attended the last rites and funeral Saturday. Following Solemn High Mass at St. Denis' Church, in Yonkers, burial services were held in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, near Mt. Kisco.

The Mass was celebrated by the Rev. George B. Ford, assisted by the Rev. Thomas Kane and Rev. Jeremiah Quill. Honorary pallbearers included some of filmdom's leaders as well as others high in legal, theatrical and civic affairs, as listed in Friday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Oulahan Heads Four Rank Territories

J. J. Oulahan has been added to the special field sales staff of the J. Arthur Rank (U. S.) Organization, by William J. Heineman, general sales manager. Oulahan will supervize the Washington, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati territories, with temporary headquarters at the UI exchange in Philadelphia.

Oulahan extered the business in 1920 as salesman for Pioneer Films in their Washington exchange and three years later joined Paramount. He was promoted to branch manager of Paramount's Cincinnati exchange which post he leaves to join the Rank Organization.

Slate and Brody To PRC Publicity

Marie Slate and Leo Brody have been added to the home office publicity staff at the PRC Pictures, to work under publicity manager George Fraser, it was announced by Arnold Stoltz, national director of publicity-advertising.

Miss Slate, formerly at Universal and 20th Century-Fox, will write newspaper and syndicate features and handle syndicate contacts, while Brody, for five years with Paramount, will be assigned to fan magazine coverage.

Marriott Is Named Universal Manager

L. W. Marriott, formerly with Republic Pictures, has been appointed Universal branch manager in Los Angeles by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general manager of Universal-International Pictures.

Marriott succeeds Foster Blake who recently was promoted to district manager.

Promote Ted Galanter

Ted Galanter, M-G-M exploiteer handling Seattle and Portland, Ore., territories under William R. Ferguson, exploitation head, has been promoted to field representative for the San Francisco area, succeeding William Newberry, resigned. Prior to moving to Seattle, Galanter was a member of the company's Chicago exploitation staff.

Warner Stock Split Reported at Phila.

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 6.—A splitup in Warner Brothers stock reported by the Securities Exchange Commission this month highlighted activities in film security transactions.

Albert Warner, vice-president, acquired 214,500 shares $5 par common bringing his holdings to 429,000; Albert Warner Trust acquired 6,000 $5 par common shares, bringing holdings to 12,000; Harry M. Warner acquired 150,000 $5 common, now holding 300,000; Harry M. Warner Trust acquired 6,700 $5 par common, holding 13,400; Jack L. Warner acquired 215,000 $5 par common, holding 430,000; Jack L. Warner Trust acquired 6,000 $5 par common, holding 12,000; Samuel Carlisle acquired 100 $5 par common, holding 12,000; S. P. Friedman acquired 600 $5 par common, holding 1,200; Chas. S. Guggenheimer acquired 100 $5 par common, holding 200.

Columbia, Others

At Columbia Pictures, Harry Cohn sold 10,000 common, having held 135,934; Abraham Schneider held 2,216 common, sold 1,400 common warrants, held 11,018 common warrants.

At Leow's, Inc., J. Robert Rubin sold 100 common, held 6,040; Nicholas M. Schenck sold 1,300 common, held 22,439.

At Monogram Pictures, George D. Burrow, exercising a July option, acquired 4,500 $1 par common, sold 4,500 common, held 3,000.

At Paramount Pictures, in a stock splitup A. C. Goodyear acquired 4,100 $1 par common, now holding 8,200; A. C. Goodyear Trust acquired 2,100 $1 par common, holding 4,200; Duncan G. Harris acquired 1,180 $1 par common, holding 2,360.

At Republic Pictures, Arthur J. Miller acquired 100 50 cent par common; Herbert J. Yates reported acquiring 5,000 50 cent par common, holding 8,000. Onsrud, Inc. acquired 5,000 50 cent par common, holding 91,950; Antonsen Realty Co. holds 14,685 50 cent par common and 12,300 $1 cumulative preferred.

Carver Heads U. S. Pictures in N. Y.

Elizabeth Carver, formerly with the David O. Selznick organization, has been appointed head of the New York office of United States Pictures, the Milton Sperling unit producing for Warner Bros. release.

Miss Carver will concentrate on stories and acting talent, with a staff of readers already set up.

Cassidy Honored on 25th Anniversary

John A. Cassidy, of RKO Theatres' home office publicity department, was given a luncheon yesterday, at the weekend, at the Russian Tea Room here, by members of the publicity department on the occasion of his 25th anniversary with the company. Cassidy joined the company in Oct., 1921, to work with Mark A. Luescher who publicized the company's "Third of a Century" celebration.

Newsreel Parade

"THE TURTLE" in new non-stop world's record flight, and the Greek King's return to his throne appear currently in all newsreels. The Navy's explosion of 500,000 pounds of TNT, and the American Legion convention are also featured. A variety of human-interest items round out the reels. Complete contents follow.

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 11 — Navy plane breaks world's non-stop distance record. Greece gives King George ovation upon his return from exile. U. S. Navy explodes 500,000 pounds of TNT in Idaho test. Barney Balaban honored for charity work. Australian wool auction provides some wild bidding. Women's amateur golf and roller skating spectacle.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 209—At Legion convention FBI chief warns of foes within the U. S. Navy plane's 11,000-mile hop sets a new world's record. Greeks welcome monarch's recall to throne. 500,000 pounds of TNT exploded. Auto race thriller.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 12 — Greek King in Athens. Headlines: U. S.-British beauty swap, Eisenhower back in Europe, Humanitarian Award. "The Turtle" Navy plane, spans half the globe.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 14—American Legion in San Francisco parade. Greeks hail return of king. 500,000 pounds of TNT in blast. Missionaries set sail for China. Truman asks aid for charities. Navy's "Turtle" sets non-stop record.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 543—New air distance mark set. Greek King ends exile. Pittsburgh paralyzed by strikes. Averill Harriman here for new post. San Marino decorates U. S. Admiral. 28th Legion convention. 500,000 TNT blast.

Republic 13-Week Net Is $444,949

For the 13 weeks ended July 27, Republic Pictures and its subsiidaries netted $717,659, before Federal tax provisions. Estimated Federal normal and surtaxes of $272,710 leave a net of $444,949.

A comparison with earnings of last year is precluded by the fact that in the same period of 1945 Republic was an affiliate of Setay Co. and Consolidated Film Industries, all of which have since merged into the one company.

Glazer and Finston Head New Company

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — Benjamin Glazer and Nat W. Finston have organized their own producing company, Symphony Films, and announced here yesterday that "The Tragic Symphony," based on the life of Tchaikowsky, will be their initial production. Negotiations for the making and release of the picture were started by Glazer and Finston with the late Trem Carr. The deal was concluded yesterday when Steve Broidy, president of Monogram, signed the contract.

Promotion by Radio

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 6.—Newspaper advertising being ruled out by a strike at the four daily papers here, theatremen are promoting their product by way of local radio stations, which have re-arranged their schedules to meet the emergency. Additionally, the Holyoke *Transcript-Telegram* has added a Springfield page.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

RKO RADIO PICTURES

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING

60

GEORGE RAFT
LYNN BARI
IN
NOCTURNE

VIRGINIA HUSTON • JOSEPH PEVNEY
MYRNA DELL
Produced by JOAN HARRISON
Directed By EDWIN L. MARIN
Screen Play by JONATHAN LATIMER



NORMANDIE THEATRE
51 East 53rd St., at Park Ave.
New York, N. Y.

•

MONDAY,
OCTOBER 14,
at 10:30 A.M.
SHARP

"FILM MAKING

Magnificent! Inspiri



AT ITS FINEST!

! Truly Memorable!"

says Rose Pelswick, N. Y. Journal-American

"Excellent! A motion picture of great emotional appeal! Both entertaining and significant!"

—Archer Winsten, N. Y. Post

"Sheer entertainment...well worth seeing. Excellent drama. By far Miss Russell's best screen portrayal!"

—Eileen Creelman, N. Y. Sun

"An enlightening and heart-warming experience! Miss Russell's performance astonishingly honest and genuine!"

—Cecelia Ager, PM

"An exciting event! Stupendous! One of the most important films of our time!" *—Lee Mortimer, N. Y. Mirror*

"Absorbing and moving! Superbly entertaining! Emerges with tremendous force and feeling!"

—Howard Barnes, N. Y. Herald-Tribune

"Rich and inspiring! Miss Russell plays with tremendous vitality and warmth! Inspirational entertainment in the high-powered class!" *—Bosley Crowther, N. Y. Times*

"An important picture as well as touching drama! Miss Russell is tender, radiant!"

—Wanda Hale, N. Y. Daily News

MPTOA Poll

(*Continued from page* 1)

posed by the Department of Justice and rejected by the court: complete divorcement of the distribution and exhibition of pictures.

Presumably reflecting one of the most frequently voiced objections to auction selling—that it would be difficult to determine what theatres are properly equipped and located to have their bids accepted in competitive situations—76 per cent of the exhibitors opposed the court's proposal for arbitration covering those points.

Even more of the theatre operators, 86 per cent, opposed the suggestion, first put forward by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, that arbitrators be chosen from outside the industry.

The final returns follow:

"Do you approve of the method of competitive bidding proposed by the court whereby pictures are to be sold theatre by theatre, picture by picture, to the highest responsible bidder having a theatre the size and equipment adequate to show the pictures upon the terms offered by the distributors?" "Yes" answers, 20; "no" answers, 276; not answering, 0.

"Do you approve of the court's recommendation for arbitration covering disputes as to bids, clearances, runs, whether the bidder has a theatre adequate for the run for which he bids, and similar matters?" "Yes" answers, 66; "no" answers, 217; not answering, 14.

"Do you approve of non-industry arbitrators?" "Yes" answers, 40; "no" answers, 250; not answering, 8.

"Are you in favor of the distributors being completely divorced from their theatre holdings? "Yes" answers, 185; "no" answers, 108; not answering, 9.

Warners Sues CSU

(*Continued from page* 1)

Only the legal number of pickets appeared at Warners today, but Republic was subject to mass picketing as 300 CSU members milled around the gates at dawn. By nine o'clock, however, they had disbanded, and production was resumed. Some 100 persons picketed the Goldwyn studios during the forenoon. But, since no pictures are shooting there, work was unimpeded.

UA, Columbia Close With Ohio Combine

CLEVELAND, Oct. 6. — Milton A. Mooney, head of Co-operative Theatres of Ohio, buying-booking combine for over 100 theatres in the Cleveland area, has closed new season product deals with United Artists and Columbia. Representing United Artists in the negotiations were Moe Dudelson, district manager and William S. Shartin, branch manager; Sam Galanty, district manager, Lester Zucker, branch manager and Louis Aster, negotiated for Columbia.

HAVE YOU BOOKED
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Urges Film Men to Visit Video Exhibit

Motion picture men are urged by Ralph Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., to attend the first postwar conference and exhibition of the Television Broadcasters Association at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here on Thursday and Friday, in order to "properly evaluate this new industry."

"In motion picture circles," Austrian said, "there has been a great deal of conversation about television. A great many have seen the small prewar television image, but they should not condition their postwar thinking by that.

"The new sets which will be on display provide images many strides closer to motion picture standards. Everyone in the motion picture industry owes it to himself and his company to see the exhibit and attend the conferences. They will have a golden opportunity to learn what television has accomplished in the past several years and what it proposes to do in the immediate future," Austrian said.

Walsh and 'IA'

(*Continued from page* 1)

timated membership of 55,000 in production, distribution and exhibition, and it is assumed that the bulk of the additional membership would come from the nation's theatres.)

Walsh also attacks the AFL executive council which recently handed down a "clarification" of its original directive of last December which was to have settled the studio jurisdictional disputes. He criticized William Hutcheson, president of the Carpenters.

Walsh said he was in accord with the Screen Actors Guild's arbitration plan, but declared that he would not arbitrate last year's directive. "We will not arbitrate an arbitration," he declared.

'IA's' Brewer Doubts Split with AFL

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 6. — IATSE's Richard Walsh and IATSE's William Brewer, CSU's Sorrell, the Carpenters' James Skelton, and International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers' Roy Rindall, left here at the weekend for the AFL convention in Chicago. Prior to his departure, Brewer said there was only a "remote possibility" of the "IA's" leaving the AFL, and that the question probably would not arise at the convention.

Johnston Back to DC

Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, returned to Washington at the weekend after a short visit here. His immediate plans do not include a trip to Hollywood on studio labor matters, as had been expected.

Fire Prevention Reel

CHICAGO, Oct. 6.—All circuit houses here and most independent theatres are showing a special one-minute reel produced by the Underwriters Laboratories, Chicago, on fire prevention this week, officially designated as "Fire Prevention Week." Prints of the reel are being distributed by the Filmack Corporation, Chicago.

Shorter Work Hours

(*Continued from page* 1)

period to 45 minutes. Republic and Columbia have been closing at six o'clock.

The new schedule has been in effect at Paramount, RKO Radio and National Screen Service, likewise signatories to the SOPEG pact, Twentieth Century-Fox, another signer, will continue on a 35-hour week, running from nine A.M. to five P.M. in most departments, 9:30 to 5:30 in a few. Warner Bros., of which the employes are not affiliated with SOPEG, has been operating on the nine-to-5:30 schedule.

The 37½-hour week likewise is being written into contracts between the home offices and the Screen Publicists Guild. Signing of them has been deferred until after Oct. 14, when Maj. Leslie E. Thompson of RKO Radio is due back from a trip to the Midwest. A few minor points remain to be ironed out, according to an SPG spokesman.

Contract negotiations between SOP EG and the Columbia, UA, 20th-Fox and M-G-M exchanges will be resumed Wednesday morning. A meeting scheduled for Friday was postponed because Clarence Hill, 20th-Fox representative, was out of town.

'U' Again Wins Award For Annual Report

The annual report of stockholders and employes of Universal for 1945, was awarded the "Oscar-of-Industry" trophy at the annual report awards banquet in the Waldorf Astoria, here, on Friday. The Universal report was voted "best" in the motion picture industry for the third successive year by a board of judges headed by Dr. Lewis Haney, Professor of Economics at New York University. Raymond M. Miles, assistant comptroller of Universal, accepted the trophy on behalf of his company.

The report won praise for its original four-color cover and the way in which J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board, and Nate J. Blumberg, president, depicted through charts, the progress of the company's business and earnings. The report also featured pictures of Universal stars and productions.

Brown Heads Group Back to the Coast

George Brown, Paramount's Coast publicity director is en route back to Coast headquarters. He headed a group from the studio that joined field men and home office department heads at conferences here last week at which the company's promotional machinery was "streamlined" to meet the demands of the new method of selling.

Others heading westward are Teet Carle and Martin Lewis, members of his staff. Rufus Blair has gone to Boston on a swing across the country, while James Sarno will remain in New York another week before heading coastward.

Various Devices in 'Killers' Promotion

Universal-International's promotion campaign for "The Killers" at the Winter Garden Theatre, here, will vary with each week of the run, with fresh selling approaches, according to Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity director of the company.

Most Conditions Are Good, Says Haines

Roy Haines, Western and Southern sales manager for Warner Brothers reports that he found general business conditions "very good" in his latest swing around the territory.

He said the only part of the country where he found business off was in the Northwest.

Haines returned to New York at the weekend from a four-week tour of his territory.

Dinner for Balaban

(*Continued from page* 1)

force Theatres head, who are co-chairmen of the drive in the entertainment field. The JDA aids the work of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee in fighting anti-Semitism.

The steering committee for the JDA drive in the motion picture and entertainment industries includes Max A. Cohen, Lou Levy, William Brandt, Robert W. Weitman and Abe Schneider.

Alien Property

(*Continued from page* 1)

II to have again come under enemy ownership and control as the result of intermediate sales or transfers.

In general terms, the new order defines "American national" as the United States or any subdivision or agency thereof, any individual who is a citizen of and resident in the U. S., any partnership or corporation having its principal place of business in the U. S. provided that a 75 per cent interest in the organization is owned by American citizens who are resident in the United States.

Authors Hire Theatre To Argue Film Rights

A special meeting open to all members of the Authors League, as well as professional non-members, will be held at the Coronet Theatre, here, on Oct. 20 to discuss "abolition of the present practice of selling literary properties to the films outright and substitution of a plan for leasing the rights for a limited time," the Guild announced here at the weekend.

Also before the meeting will be "the separation of rights under a plan which would entail the disposal of one right at a time, thus protecting those authors who, unwittingly or under compulsion, have given away valuable subsidiary rights," the announcement added.

Bercovici Signs With Story Prod.

With scripts completed in Hollywood on "The Bishop's Wife" for Samuel Goldwyn, and, in collaboration, on "Moss Rose," the book for which Darryl Zanuck, 20th Century-Fox studio chief, is reported to have paid the highest price in studio annals, Leonardo Bercovici has been signed by Story Productions' producer Hal Horne to do the screenplay on "This Side of Innocence," the Taylor Caldwell best seller.

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL

Announces

that "THE DARK MIRROR"
and "TEMPTATION" are
now completed.

Prints are available
for screening in our
exchanges.

INTERNATIONA PICTURES presents

Olivia deHavilland
Lew Ayres

A NUNNALLY JOHNSON PRODUCTION

The Dark Mirror

with THOMAS MITCHELL
RICHARD LONG · CHARLES EVANS · GARY OWEN
Produced and Written for the Screen by Nunnally Johnson
Original Story by Vladimir Pozner
Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK
AN INTERNATIONAL PICTURE

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES presents

MERLE **OBERON** · GEORGE **BRENT**
CHARLES **KORVIN** · PAUL **LUKAS**

Temptation

with
LENORE ULRIC · ARNOLD MOSS · LUDWIG STOSSEL
Screenplay by Robert Thoeren · From the Novel "Bella Donna" by Robert Hichens
and the Play by James Bernard Fagan
Directed by
IRVING PICHEL · Produced by
EDWARD SMALL
AN INTERNATIONAL PICTURE



"'Angel On My Shoulder' is one of the finest films of the year. Academy calibre performances. The best thing Muni's ever done."



* Hedda Hopper's column appears in forty newspapers and is read by 15,000,000 people.

CHARLES R. ROGERS presents

PAUL MUNI · ANNE BAXTER · CLAUDE RAINS

in

"Angel On My Shoulder"

with ONSLOW STEVENS · GEORGE CLEVELAND · ERSKINE SANFORD

Associate Producer DAVID W. SIEGEL · Original Story by Harry Segall

Screenplay by Harry Segall and Roland Kibbee

Music Composed and Directed by Dimitri Tiomkin

Produced by CHARLES R. ROGERS · Directed by ARCHIE MAYO

The big ones come from UA!

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 70 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 1946 TEN CENTS

US Would Limit Auction Bids to Exclusive Runs

Seeks Jan. 1 as Effective Date for Decree; Asks Six Month Limitation on Film Buys, Play-offs Within 30 Days of Availability

Auction selling would be limited to exclusive run deals and distributors would be compelled to license some run on reasonable terms under a provision of the Department of Justice's revised proposed decree and findings of fact which were presented to the three-judge Federal court here yesterday.

Other government proposals would prohibit defendants from licensing more than six months' releases at one time, would require that each license specify a date of availability of a print and would require that a run commence within 30 days after the availability date.

In addition, the Department proposes that the new selling provisions of the forthcoming decree be made effective next Jan. 1. It also recommends that, pending an appeal, no stay be granted of application of any decree provision on which an appeal is not taken.

Pointing out that the standards for determining unreasonable clearance under the former industry consent decree have been discarded, the Department now proposes that the court enjoin defendants from continuing existing clearances in favor of affiliation theatres.

The Department asks that future expansion of defendants' theatre interests be unconditionally prohibited, as well as their acquisition of independent theatre interests upon dissolution of existing pools.

The government has omitted from its proposals any recommendation that arbitration be employed as a method of decree enforcement.

In substance, the foregoing propos-

(*Continued on page* 10)

3 Suggestions Of MPTOA in U.S. Proposals

Levy Hails Guarantee of Product; Meeting Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7. — The Government's revised decree proposals in the New York anti-trust suit include two important elements of exhibitor protection recommended by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, according to Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, who arrived here today for the association's decree meeting at the Willard Hotel, tomorrow and Wednesday.

Levy hailed, as a safeguard against overbuying, the section providing that a run must commence 30 days after availability of product, also the Department of Justice recommendation for compulsory licensing of "some run on reasonable terms." The first U.S. proposal failed to include assurance that the exhibi-

(*Continued on page* 11)

No Coast Issue to AFL Meet: Walsh

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Richard Walsh, IATSE president, asserted here today that "We won't bring up the Hollywood matter during the convention." He said that a report has been sent to William Green and the American Federation of Labor executive council.

Walsh reaffirmed that the IATSE will secede from the AFL if the AFL bows to a union simply because it had a greater number of men in it. He was referring to the Carpenters'

(*Continued on page* 11)

$4,900,000 Skouras Bond Buy Weighed

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 7. — The board of directors of the operating companies owning the Missouri Theatre and Ambassador Theatre buildings here took no action today on the offer of Charles P. Skouras, president of Fox-West Coast, to buy at par all of the $4,900,000 worth of outstanding bonds of the two buildings which he and his brother, Spyros, guaranteed at time

(*Continued on page* 10)

See Higher Rentals Under the Decree

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 7. — Theatres will be forced to charge increased admission prices to the public as a result of the court decree in the New York anti-trust suit, the Associated Theater Owners of Indiana predict, adding: "This would be a fantastic result, and far from the original intention of the Sherman act," a group bulletin declares. "Organized consumer groups, when presented with these facts, will certainly scream to high heaven over this judicial blunder."

The only possible effect of the decree will be to increase film rentals, the state independent group charges, since "no provision is made for the lowering or bidding down of the distributors' designated minimum price. The decree provides merely a method for bidding up the prices."

The ATOI also urges exhibitor members to resist higher demands from distributors by taking drastic action. "You don't have to have every company's pictures," it advises. "Increase your film supply by discontinuing double features. Close your house one change a week. Analyze your business and see how you can make the existing film supply stretch."

California Owners Vote to Join ATA

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7.—Affiliation with the American Theatres Association was voted today by California Theatres and affiliates, which represents all circuit theatres and most independent theatres from Bakersfield to the Oregon line. Together with the recent affiliation of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, this means virtually 100 per cent membership of California theatres with the national ATA.

After voting affiliation, CTA reclassified its membership, making exhibitors regular members, with distributors, supply houses and others associate members not bound by decisions made by active membership holders.

New Justice Dept. Decree Proposals

The Department of Justice in its revised proposed decree and findings of fact advocates:

1. Limiting auction selling to exclusive runs and the compulsory licensing of other runs on reasonable terms.

2. Prohibiting the licensing of more than six months' releases at one time and prohibiting licensing for exhibition more than 30 days after availability.

3. Discarding consent decree standards for determining unreasonable clearance and prohibiting the continuance of existing clearance in favor of affiliated theatres.

4. Prohibiting unconditionally all future theatre expansion by the five theatre-owning defendants.

5. Making new selling methods effective Jan. 1, 1947, and granting no overall stay of other provisions pending an appeal unless a specific provision is appealed from.

6. If the court recommends a more detailed method of selling than that proposed by the government, it would be open for modification on petition after a year of operation.

Distributors' Decree Sent to Court, US

The five theatre-owning defendants in the New York anti-trust suit yesterday sent their proposed decree and individual proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the three-judge Federal statutory court and to the Department of Justice, it is understood.

Personal Mention

DAVID ROSE is due in New York from England by plane this week.

•

WAYNE G. NORTON, sales engineer of Eastman Kodak, will be the 1946 recipient of the Adolph Lomb Award to be presented Friday by the Optical Society of America in recognition of war research work.

•

THOMAS LYCETT LOY of MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S editorial staff and HELEN MARGARET MCNAMARA, formerly of the same office and now with the Hartford *Courant,* will be married at a Nuptial Mass on Saturday morning, Oct. 26.

•

SEYMOUR SCHUSSEL, Film Classics Eastern district manager, is back in New York from Buffalo and will leave shortly for Philadelphia and Washington.

•

LINDA SALZBERGER, assistant to PAUL ACKERMAN, director of advertising and publicity for Paramount International, is vacationing in Leomister, Mass.

•

CLYDE GOODSON, Paramount branch manager in Atlanta, and AL DUREN, sales manager there, have returned to their posts after a home office visit.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, publicity manager for M-G-M here, is recuperating at St. Clair's Hospital following an emergency appendectomy.

•

JAMES S. BURKETT, Monogram producer, is back in Hollywood after a stay at the Santa Monica Hospital for a sarcroiliac condition.

•

RALPH LAGER has returned to the publicity department of Century Circuit, here, after service in the Army.

•

LEDA BAUER, head of RKO Radio's Eastern story department, is back in New York from London.

•

JOHN H. FRIEDL, president of Minnesota Amusement Co., is due in New York from Minneapolis.

•

FREDERICK BRISSON, president of Independent Artists, has gone to Hollywood from New York.

•

MOREY MARCUS, Paramount International's district manager for India, is here from Bombay.

•

CLAUDE LEE, director of public relations for Paramount, is back in town from Kansas City.

•

JAY GOVE, head of sales development for M-G-M here, is back from a Nassau vacation.

•

GERTRUDE TRACY has resigned as manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, Cleveland.

•

WILLIAM GOLDMAN, Philadelphia theatre operator, has left for a Bermuda vacation.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

MOTION Picture Theatre Owners of America in its preliminary statement on behalf of its unaffiliated membership to the Department of Justice on the subject of the decree to be entered by the New York Federal court in the industry antitrust suit raises a question which has been asked by many in the industry since the court's opinion was handed down last June.

The MPTOA statement, drafted by Herman Levy, general counsel of the organization, asks: Why should auction bidding be the *only* alternative to affiliated theatre divorcement, which the court rejected.

The statement continued: "Why may it not be the alternative of enjoining the defendants from indulging in any of the practices complained against by the government (and found by the court to be unlawful) and permitting negotiation for film to go on in a free and open market without compulsive competitive bidding? It was not so much that the defendants in this suit operated theatres that prompted this litigation by the government. It was rather their indulgence in the unlawful practices referred to."

•

Related to these questions is the underlying question of law involved: Has the court exceeded its authority in going beyond the enjoining of what it has found to be illegal to prescribe a method of film buying which hereafter will be the only lawful method of licensing motion pictures? In doing so, has not the court wandered outside its judicial province and become a trespasser in the legislative field?

Based on the results of polls, resolutions and expressions of opinions of record, exhibitors are arrayed against auction bidding for films in a ratio of about 20 to one.

On the basis of comparable expressions, exhibitors are in favor of affiliated theatre divorcement in a ratio of only about two to one.

Yet because the court regarded divorcement as a remedy "too drastic" to order, it proceeded to prescribe a film marketing method the potentialities of which have aroused fear and consternation among the great majority of exhibitors.

That film buying method is the only alternative to divorcement offered by the court.

MPTOA and other watch dogs of the exhibitor's interests may well ask "Why?"

It may be asked, too, how many exhibitors who have expressed themselves in favor of theatre divorcement did so solely because it has now been presented to them, rightly or wrongly, as the only alternative to the unwanted auctioning system?

It is reasonable to suppose, so repellent is the contemplation of auction bidding to the average exhibitor, that many who would not normally be concerned at all over divorcement, are forced now to the conclusion: Better that than what the court would substitute for it.

It is the confirmed belief of this department, and we know that a great number of responsible independent exhibitors share the conviction with us, that divorcement is not a solution of any of the real problems of exhibition. If as some contend the ownership of circuit theatres is an instrument of advantage and aggression, then all that can result from divorcement is the transfer of the instrument to the custody of others; others who, in some likelihood, will not be as well equipped to possess it.

Never once in the industry forums over the past two decades when, in the search for a cooperative code of conduct, exhibition has exchanged its views of needed trade practice reforms with distribution, has divorcement been an issue. As practical business men, the majority of exhibitors were concerned not with economic theory but with practical business matters, foremost among which always will be the buying of films on equitable terms and their exhibition at a profit.

Divorcement, like block booking, is nothing more than a catch-penny term. It completely captivated the starry-eyed theorists of Washington, within whose nebulous philosophies of industry and ready-to-try dreams of a shimmering new American economy, it fitted like a proud porcelain filling in the front tooth of a Hollywood star.

It is the great misfortune of exhibition in today's legal controversy that the only place to which it can turn in the hope of escaping auction selling is to the Department of Justice, which is concerned only with offering it another counterfeit.

Allied of Illinois Elevates Banowitz

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—Benjamin Banowitz has been elected secretary-treasurer by the board of directors of Allied Theatres of Illinois, Jack Kirsch, president, has announced. Banowitz has the Grand, Harmony, Ken and Plaisance theatres and fills the vacany caused by the resignation of Richard Salkin, Jackson Park Theatre.

James Gregory, Alliance Theatre Corp., was elected to the board to fill a vacancy on the board caused by Banowitz's elevation to the secretary-treasurer post.

N. J. Allied Meet

TRENTON, Oct. 7.—New Jersey Allied will hold a state-wide meeting here tomorrow to tackle a variety of subjects, principally trade practices such as film selling and checking, and, of course, the New York decision. Ed Lachman, president, will preside and deliver a report on National Allied's recent convention in Boston.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
Cary GRANT • Ingrid BERGMAN
In Alfred Hitchcock's "NOTORIOUS"
with CLAUDE RAINS
An RKO Radio Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL &
ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL
'HOLIDAY in MEXICO'
IN PERSON
COZY COLE
BOB GRAHAM

BOB HOPE
and Joan Caulfield in
"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE"
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE
in Person
CHARLIE SPIVAK AND BAND
BOB EVANS JOHN and RENE ARNAUT
EXTRA! PEGGY LEE
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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No. Central Defers Rejoining Allied

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 7.—The board of directors of North Central Allied today sidetracked action on a proposal to re-join national Allied States by deciding to leave the issue up to NCA's entire membership at a mid-year convention to be held here Nov. 12.

National Allied leaders have been voted to address the convention.

E. L. Peaslee, vice-president of NCA, gave a report to the board on the meeting of the Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations which was held in Washington last week. The board voted approval of the plans and action agreed upon by CIEA.

Borkin Resigns from Justice Department

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7. — Joseph Borkin, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, has resigned as chief economic advisor and attorney in the anti-trust division of the Justice Department, attorney general Clark announced today. Borkin has handled several cases dealing with the motion picture industry. His last project was the Scophony television patent case, which is still pending.

Borkin said he plans to go into private business here as an industrial and economic consultant.

New First Run House For Fox-West Coast

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 7. — The Loyola Theatre, in construction here for two years by Fox-West Coast Theatres, has opened. Managed by Beach Abrams, under the supervision of district managers Bruce Fowler and Stanley Meyer, the Loyola is located in the Westchester area of Los Angeles. A de luxe first run, the theatre will play 20th-Fox production exclusively, along with Grauman's Chinese, Loew's State, and the Fox Uptown. The house was named for Loyola University, and proceeds from the opening were turned over to that school.

'Operation SOS' Filmed

"Operation SOS," one-reel documentary film, describing the "belt-line" technique used in collecting, shipping and distributing relief supplies overveas, is ready for release, according to the Joint Distribution Committee, sponsors of the film. The SOS (Supplies for Overseas Survivors) picture is narrated by Myron McCormick.

Award Is Proposed For 'Americanism'

An annual motion picture industry award for the person making the outstanding contribution to the cause of good Americanism, either through writing, directing, producing, acting or specialized work, is the proposal made to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences by Sam Wood, producer-director.

Century Circuit in 'Extra Profit' Meet

The first convention in the East dealing with "supplemenatry income" in theatres will take place today as home office executives, district managers and managers of Century Theatres meet here at the Waldorf-Astoria for the day. Designated as an "extra profits convention," the meet will be supervised by Leslie R. Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., Century's added-income division. Attendees will hear Schwartz recount the results of a complete canvass of the entire extra profits possibilities inherent in theatre operation, plus an announcement of the company's intensive plans.

A. A. Hovell, Century president, will welcome the group and introduce Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of the organization, who will explain how Andrews' profits will figure in employee bonuses.

J. R. Springer, general theatre manager, will discuss the show business aspects of extra profits correlating it with "superior theatre operation," and will place extra profits in perspective as a "competition-equalizer."

Other speakers will be Martin Newman, Century comptroller; I. Shaffer, president, Maillard Corp., and a regional member of the National Council on Candy; Philip Rubenstein, aide to the president of Coca-Cola, New York, and Jack Stamaton, head of National Merchandising Corp.

Leon Brandt Joins PRC for Mid-west

Leon Brandt, for the past two years New York exploitation man for United Artists, in charge of all New York area openings and premieres, has joined PRC Pictures on the staff of Exploitation manager Lige Brien and will be in charge of exploitation in the Chicago area, announces Arnold Stoltz, PRC's national director of advertising-publicity. Brandt, who will have headquarters at PRC's Chicago exchange, was with Fox Theatres for many years prior to joining United Artists.

Radio Makers Will Seek Decontrol

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Radio parts manufacturers, as represented by the OPA Radio Parts Manufacturers Industry Advisory Committee, have voted to petition the OPA for price decontrol on the ground that supply and demand for components of receiving sets are in relative balance, the Radio Manufacturers Association announced.

Eighteen separate petitions will be filed by the committee to comply with OPA regulations under the OPA extension act, and a vast amount of data on production, orders, inventories, will be accumulated through the cooperation of section chairmen of the RMA parts division.

O'Hare Rites Held

BALTIMORE, Oct. 7.—Funeral services were held here today for Lawrence J. O'Hare, of the Maryland Theatre here, who died Oct. 2 in Massachusetts while on vacation. At one time he was connected with the Stanley Theatre and National Theatre Supply.

Savings Bond Drive Nov. 11 to Dec. 7

Washington, Oct. 7.—The U. S. savings bonds division of the Treasury Department has in preparation a new bond-selling campaign to run from Nov. 11 to Dec. 7, which will emphasize the security aspect of the investments.

A. S. Aronson Named Assistant to Maas

Alexander S. Aronson has been named assistant to Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association. A veteran of more than three decades in the motion picture business, Aronson's experience in film sales and distribution dates back to 1914. From the early 1930's to the outbreak of World War II, he engaged in export operations of American films throughout Europe, with headquarters in London. Prior to that he served for many years as general representative for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in charge of Continental distribution.

Workman Ill; Rosen In MGM Minn. Post

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 7.—Eph Rosen, veteran salesman with M-G-M, has been named acting branch manager at the Minneapolis exchange during a leave of absence granted W. H. (Bob) Workman, who has been ordered to take a rest to fully recover from a recent illness and operation, it was announced by Ralph Maw, district manager.

Jack Kelly, Northern Minnesota sales representative, has been assigned to handle a number of Twin Cities accounts in the shift.

Legion Aids Theatres Against Racing Bill

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 7.—American Legion, in national convention here, has passed a resolution against legalization of gambling on dog racing. The measure, bitterly fought and defeated by theatre owners years ago, again appears on the November ballot here.

A statewide campaign is now being launched by theatre associations, opposing passage of the measure. Trailers for screens are being sent out free of charge to all theatres.

Mono's Big Ad Budget

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7.—Some $250,000 will be spent by Monogram on a nationwide advertising campaign for "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," Steve Broidy, president of the company, announced today. He added that this is the largest advertising appropriation Monogram has made on a single picture and that newspaper advertising on a national scale will be used by the company for the first time.

Testimonial for Bannon

CINCINNATI, Oct. 7.—The local Variety Club will give a farewell testimonial dinner on Oct. 21 for Jack Bannon, Universal manager, who recently was promoted to branch manager at Chicago.

UA Board to Meet 4th Straight Week

United Artists' board of directors, which has been finalizing new contracts for distribution deals with a series of independent producers, will meet here this morning for the fourth consecutive week, a spokesman for Edward C. Raftery, president, reported yesterday.

Deals with Hal Roach, Sam Bischoff, Walter Wanger and Edward Small were completed at the three previous sessions, and those pending are understood to include a releasing arrangement for the Hal Horne-Armand Deutsch Story Productions and for the producing partnership announced last Sept. 23 by Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan. Miss Pickford, who spoke at last week's meeting, has stated that the new company will avail itself of UA release, provided under her franchise as a one-third owner of that firm. She and Cowan, who planned to leave for the Coast some time ago, have deferred their departures because of the pressure of business in connection with their organization and were both still in New York yesterday.

The question of UA's rejoining the Motion Picture Association, approved by Miss Pickford and David O. Selznick, who also owns a one-third interest, is understood to be still on the board's agenda, but it was tabled at the first of the four meetings, and there have been indications that it may not be brought up for action at present.

Plan Miller-Zucker Oct. 28 Dinner

CLEVELAND, Oct. 7.—Tony Stern of Warners and Joe Lissauer of the Skirball circuit are co-chaiman of a committee in charge of arrangements for the Dave Miller-Lester Zucker dual testimonial banquet at the Statler Hotel on Oct. 28. Miller leaves Cleveland to become Universal district manager in charge of Buffalo, Albany and New Haven, with headquarters in Buffalo. Zucker recently resigned as Columbia branch manager to become allied with the Rank-Universal organization as district sales manager. Temporarily his headquarters will be in Cleveland.

Watts Joins N. Y. Post

Richard Watts, Jr., drama critic for the New York *Herald-Tribune* before the war, yesterday joined the New York *Post* in the same capacity. Vernon Rice has become drama editor of the newspaper. The critic's spot had been left vacant by the death of Wilella Waldorf last March.

Screen Extras Guild Approves 33% Pact

Hollywood, Oct. 7. — The Screen Extras Guild membership has approved, by a mail vote, a new contract with the studios that provides for a wage increase of approximately 33 per cent, to be retroactive to Jan. 1, 1946. Improved working conditions also are in the pact.

VARIETY



Edward L. Alperson Presents "BLACK BEAUTY" by Anna Sewell with Mona Freeman · Richard Denning · Evelyn Ankers · Charles Evans · J. M. Kerrigan · Moyna Macgill · Terry Kilburn And Highland Dale as "Black Beauty" · Directed by MAX NOSSECK · Screen Play by Lillie Hayward and Agnes Christine Johnston · Based on the Novel by Anna Sewell

An Alson production · Released by 20th Century-Fox

NATIONAL BOXOFFICE SURVEY REPORTS: "BLACK BEAUTY IS ONE OF THE NATION'S 12 TOP BOXOFFICE HITS!"

LOS ANGELES – HELD OVER 3 THEATRES!

KANSAS CITY – HELD OVER 3 THEATRES!

NEW YORK – HELD OVER 3 WEEKS!

HELD OVER SPOKANE, SAN FRANCISCO, DENVER! AND PACE-SETTING FIGURES IN SAN DIEGO, SEATTLE, CINCINNATI, MILWAUKEE, PORTLAND, SYRACUSE!

With Nerve, Wit,
Camera and Police Escort
PARAMOUNT
Braves the Wilds of Dodgerville to Film
THE YEAR'S TIMELIEST
SHORT



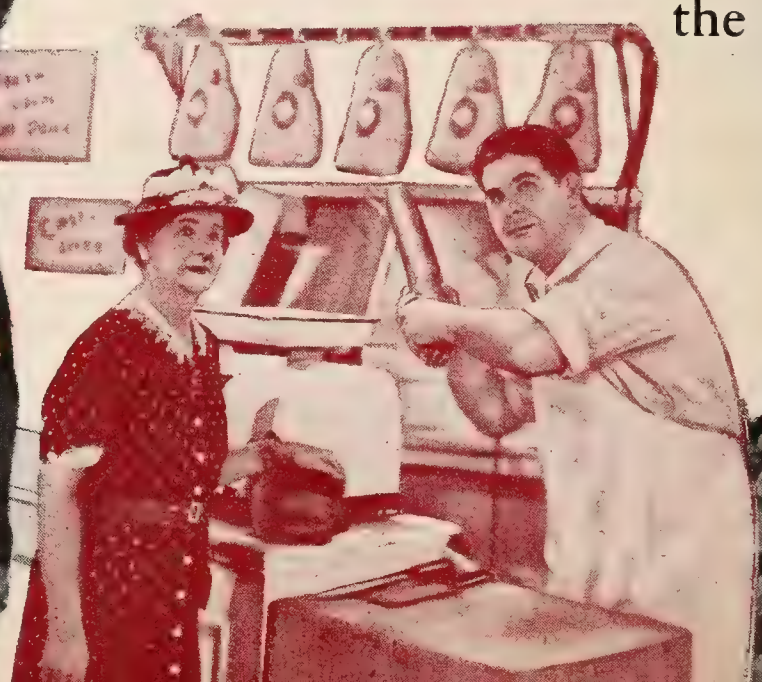
"BROOKLYN I LOVE



Starring
LEO DUROCHER
RED BARBER
THE BROOKLYN DODGERS
And a Thousand Or So Assorted Fan-atics
of the World's Most Colorful Town
Produced, Written and Directed
by Justin Herman

It's not just a borough—
it's not just a ball club—it's
institution, the happiest
phenomenon in Americar
And here's the firs
do-or-die spirit that has mad
the darling

novelt







itional

ost hilarious

e today!

m that really catches the daffy

ooklyn and its delirious Dodgers

millions of radio and baseball fans.

Now is the time to play this inspired

ubject that sets a sizzling starting pace for

"*PARAMOUNT PACEMAKERS*"

A Sensational New Series of 6 One-Reel

Paramount Shorts

62 Papers Are on SMPE's Program

Sixty-two technical papers, presenting a comprehensive assembly of wartime and postwar motion picture engineering developments are scheduled for delivery at the 60th semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, to be held Oct. 21-25 at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, Dr. C. R. Daily, chairman of the Papers Committee, announces. They will cover the latest developments in every phase of the subject, he said. Because of the unprecedented number of papers to be presented, duplicate sessions on no-overlapping subjects may be held.

The sessions will open with a luncheon - meeting at which Byron Price, chairman of the board of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, and vice-president of the Motion Picture Association of America, will be the principal speaker. David Street, 20th Century-Fox singing star, will be guest vocalist at the luncheon.

Evening sessions will be held at various studios, W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president, announced. Among studios serving as hosts are Republic, on Oct. 21; Paramount, Oct. 22, and Disney, Oct. 24. The Friday evening session will be held at the Marquis Theatre.

Survey Shows 'Kid' Campaign Effective

The promotion campaign for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Kid from Brooklyn" attended a "national publicity penetration" figure of 52 last July and the rating has continued to date, according to an Audience Research report announced here yesterday by the Goldwyn office here. In New York the rating has hit 88, it was said. This means, it was said, that 88 per cent of all filmgoers know about the picture.

The only other film to attain comparable ratings in Audience Research annals are "Gone With the Wind" and "Bells of St. Mary's," it was stated. The "Goldwyn Girls" increased the penetration mark 10 per cent in each metropolitan area they visited, according to the report.

Bell-Astor Deal Set

Bell Pictures Corp. has acquired the New York territorial rights on all Astor Pictures. The first release, "Second Chorus," has been booked by the Loew Circuit, according to Bell.

This Is 'National Television Week'

The television industry will mark its approach to commercial operation on a national basis with a series of meetings and exhibits this week, which has been designated "National Television Week," by the Television Broadcasters Association. Highlighting the week will be a two-day conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Oct. 10-11 where new equipment will be displayed and numerous reports on video progress will be given by leaders in the field.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

"The Killers" is in the upper bracket, with an expected $17,000, and while returns at other houses are somewhat better than the previous week, there still is room for improvement. Warm weather prevails after a prolonged cold spell. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8-11:

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,500).

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE UNKNOWN (Col.) and ONE EXCITING WEEK (Rep.) — RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)

THE MISSING LADY (Mono.) and SHERIFF OF REDWOOD VALLEY (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) — KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,500)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. 4th week, on a moveover after three weeks at the Capitol. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. Average: $13,500)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) — RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. 2nd week, on a moveover from the Albee. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Holdovers, which are in the majority here this week, are apparently something of a hindrance at box offices. Receipts are not quite up to recent weeks although ideal weather conditions have prevailed. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $12,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $7,750)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) —STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $17,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio) — HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. With stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

OPEN CITY (Mayer-Burstyn) — LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC)—VALENCIA (1,466) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500)

ATLANTA

Business has been only fair during a week of pleasant weather. Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 9:

CANYON PASSAGE (U) — FOX (3,661) (55c-60c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,600)

DEADLINE AT DAWN (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,200)

CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox) — CAPITOL (2,446) 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600)

FIRST YANK INTO TOKYO (RKO Radio) and THESE THREE (Film Classics reissue) —ROXY (2,446) (44c-50c) Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,200)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

All first-run theatres had holdovers, with all managers squaring off for new holiday programs for Canadian Thanksgiving Day, Oct. 14. There was plenty of opposition in a Shrine circus, Dufferin Park racing, Canadian championship lacrosse finale and football. The weather was mostly clear and warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10-11:

CLUNY BROWN (20th-Fox) — EGLINGTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,200. (Average, $4,700)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,300)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M) — LOEW'S (2,071) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $13,300)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $14,600)

THE KILLERS (U)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $11,400)

CLUNY BROWN (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

'Weekend' Picked as 'The Best' by French

CANNES, France, Oct. 7.—"The Lost Week-End" was named the best American motion picture of the last year and its star, Ray Millard, received individual honors at the International Film Festival here today.

Noel Coward's "Brief Encounter" was judged the best British film of the year and "Maria Santelaria" Mexico's best effort. Michele Morgan was singled out for individual honor for her role in the French picture, "Pastoral Symphony."

'Henry V' in Ottawa

"Henry V" will have its Ottawa premiere at the Avalon Theatre today, with a number of government officials, including Prime Minister Mackenzie King, on the invitation list, United Artists office here announces.

Albany Charters to 2 More Film Firms

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 7. — Film Documents, Inc., has been incorporated to produce and deal in motion pictures. Incorporators are: Mortimer M. Caplin, Janice Loeb and Helen Levitt, New York. Paul, Weiss, Wharton and Garrison, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Cinema Export Corp. has been incorporated to conduct business in New York; incorporators are: Jack Klaw, Sharon Gould and Sylvia Frishman.

'Clementine' Tradeshow

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has set the tradeshowing of "My Darling Clementine" for Oct. 11 in all exchange centers except Portland and Seattle, where the picture will be screened on Oct. 14.

Grosses Good, Despite Heat

New York first-run theatre business is continuing at a good clip, generally, with a few houses, of course, making very lofty grosses, or, at the other extreme, sub-par income. Unseasonable warm weather was no help at all, obviously having kept many potential customers outdoors.

Two new films bowed in and f[illegible] one, "Cloak and Dagger," it is a very auspicious beginning. The picture, along with Alvino Rey's orchestra on the stage, at the Strand, came within inches of the house record with a triumphant $39,000 for Friday through Sunday; it should wind up its first week with $80,000. The second newcomer, "Bachelor's Daughters," is off to a good start at the Gotham, with $15,500 indicated for the first week.

"Notorious," with a splendid stage presentation at the Music Hall, still tenants the top position among the many holdovers. The eighth week's figures will be around $120,000. Among other top-level drawing cards is "Two Years Before the Mast," which is good for $70,000 in a second week at the Rivoli.

At the Winter Garden, "The Killers" also is a strong contender with a $38,000 sixth week in view. "Three Little Girls in Blue," together with Beatrice Kay and Maurice Rocco on the stage, looks good for $83,000, in a second week; the show will go a third week, with "Margie" following.

"Sister Kenny" is showing plenty of strength at the Palace, where it will gross in the neighborhood of $39,000 in its second week. "Three Wise Fools" and Paul Whiteman's orchestra make a fair combination at the Capitol, with $69,000 expected for the second week. The show drew $73,000 in its initial week.

"Monsieur Beaucaire," with Charlie Spivak's orchestra, should take in $65,000 in a fifth week at the Paramount, a good return, and will continue for another week. "Blue Skies" will open at the house on Oct. 16. "Henry V" grossed $13,600 in a fifth week of its two-a-day engagement at the John Golden Theatre. The house will experiment with a third performance, at 5:30 P.M., on Saturday.

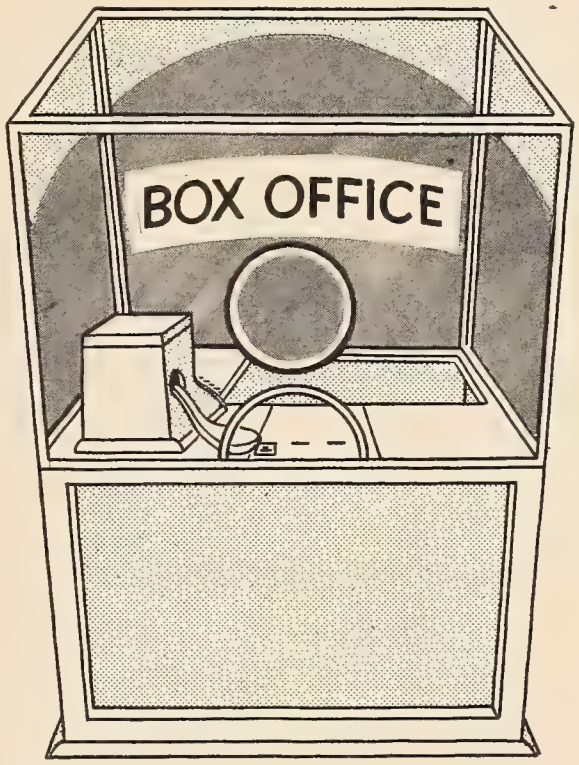
"The Raider" figures to do about $9,000 in a second week at the Rialto; this is healthy business for the house. "Caesar and Cleopatra" is running fair at the Astor, where the fifth week's business should reach $22,500.

"Night and Day" will do about $19,000 in its 11th week at the Hollywood. "Black Angel" at the Criterion is headed for a moderate $17,300 in a second week and will be followed tomorrow by "Gallant Journey." "Mr. Ace" is doing nicely at the Globe, where it should register $21,000 in a second week. The second week of "Fantasia" at the Republic will probably bring in $11,000. "If I'm Lucky" has slipped with $11,500 in sight for its third and final week at the Victoria; "The Westerner," a reissue, will open there on Thursday.

New Hellinger Film

For his next production, as yet untitled, for Universal-International, Mark Hellinger will have access to the files and facilities of the New York police department's homicide squad. Malvin Wald has been assigned to write the screen play.

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NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

U.S., Auction

(*Continued from page* 1)

als mark the principal difference between the Department's present recommendations and those made in its proposed decree and findings which were given to the court by the government earlier.

The government's previous recommendation that defendant theatre operators be prohibited from cross-licensing each other's films for a period of 10 years is retained, as is its proposal that a 25 per cent cancellation right be granted.

The Department's memorandum accompanying the proposals contends that the licensing of films to the highest bidders, as prescribed by the court in its opinion last June, would be too complex to administer unless it were to be supplemented by the proposed ban on cross-licensing and the eventual divestiture of defendants' theatre holdings.

It is suggested, however, that in the event the court itself advances a more detailed method of selling than that contained in its June opinion, one year be allowed for any party to the decree to petition for a modification of the new method, on the grounds that the problems of enforcing a new sales method cannot now be foreseen.

In discussing its new proposals the Department says: "These are all changes which have evolved as a result of careful consideration of the manner in which the provisions outlined by the court will operate in the kind of film market that the court's decree envisions. We submit that all are necessary to give adequate relief from the competitive evils condemned by the court's opinion."

In surveying the complexities of auction selling, the Department of Justice declares, "The auction method of selling films outlined by the court, while entirely consistent in itself with the objectives of the Sherman Act, would require a complex administrative machinery for enforcement not susepticle to judicial control. In our view, it would not be likely to yield constructive results when applied to a market dominated by distributor-owned theatres, unless supplemented by other relief designed to make these major defendants competitive with each other."

Summing up possible abuses under auction selling, which it claims require a ban on cross-licensing, the Department declares, "While the auction method of selling proposed by the court would make non-parties to the decree more vigorous competitors with each other, both as bidders for the film product of the defendants and as sellers of competing film product, it would not place them on terms of equal competitive opportunity with the defendants. Nor would it compel the defendants to compete with each other either in the selling or buying of films, while at the same time permitting them to obtain a substantial economic interest in absence of such competition and the privilege of making express agreements with each other which eliminate such competition."

A cross-licensing ban, the Department suggests, would permit a sufficient number of other integrated and nonintegrated distribution and exhibition units to develop so that the defendants might be faced with the new competition from others of comparable competitive strength, while at the same time depriving the major defendants of a substantial vested interest they now have in allegedly not competing with each other.

"We think the only measure of relief which gives any positive assurance of restoration of free enterprise and open competition among all branches of the motion picture industry" is complete divestiture of the theatre interests held by the defendants, the governments sets foth in its memorandum.

These theatres have been and under the court's proposals may continue to be the means by which this dominance is jointly and individually maintained, the Department asserts.

Summarizing the clearance and auction selling directives of the court and the other prohibitions of the decision, the Department alleges, "The only limitations as to the distributors appear to be,

1. That they must apply only to theatres in substantial competition with one another;
2. That the time and area interval must not exceed that reasonably necessary to protect the licensee in the exhibition of the run licensed;
3. That they must be negotiated theatre by theatre and picture by picture without trying or discrimination;
4. And that where there are competing responsible bidders for the same run with suitable theatres, the picture should go to the highest bidder."

"Obviously, all of these limitations, no matter how rigorously applied, cannot disturb the existing dominance of these defendants as distributors and exhibitors," the Department contends.

The Department takes issue with the court's rejection of divorcement relief, declaring that it understands this rejection to stem from three beliefs; that the injunctive relief proposed by the court is adequate to insure future competition in the exhibition and distribution fields; that the public would suffer from a change of ownership of the best and most important theatres in the country; and that the dominance of theatre operation admittedy possessed by the major defendants might be the result of their superior skill or the lack of initiative by others, rather than the result of the illegal practices condemned in the opinion. The Department contends that only the first reason has validity.

"A divorcement judgment would, in our view, make unnecessary most of the provisions of the judgment with respect to the manner in which films should be licensed, except as interim relief to be in effect pending complete execution of a divorcement plan," the Department argues.

And concluding in its memorandum in support of its proposed decree, the Department maintains, "We do not believe that fully adequate relief is obtainable in this case without a reversal of the position taken by this court with respect to the divorcement of the major defendants from their theatre holdings. But assuming that retention of their theatre holdings is permitted, we submit that the changes now proposed in the decree provisions outlined in the opinion are essential to provide adequate relief within the framework of the existing findings."

Loew's TECK—BUFFALO
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Myers Avers U. S. Auction Plan Is Workable

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Despite an expression of doubt as to the workability of any auction selling plan, Abram F. Myers, chairman of the board of Allied States, today hailed the Government's new proposed decree as containing an elastic bidding plan which can work if the cross-licensing ban between affiliated theatres is also included in the final court order.

"It falls short of the relief which we want; we desire complete divorcement," Myers asserted.

However, the Allied counsel stated that if auction selling must be placed into operation, the latest system proposed by the Justice Department "seems the most workable plan suggested thus far."

Pointing to the Government's argument against clearance, Myers said the Department of Justice evidently does not desire to agree upon a system of clearance by arbitration.

"Agreeing upon arbitration would place the Government in a bad position. Such arbitration makes the final judgment take the same form as a consent decree, and could not legally be appealed to the Supreme Court if it takes such form," Myers stated.

Elaborating upon the new "elastic auction" selling plan proposed by the Department, Myers said that there can be no fair bidding as long as cross licensing is permitted.

"The Department appears to be shunning away from arbitration. Courts just can't farm out their jurisdiction to arbitration boards," Myers continued.

"If the Government proposed a method of handling clearance by arbitration boards, the Justice Department might possibly resign its authority for appeal to a higher court," he concluded.

Skouras Bond Offer

(*Continued from page* 1)

of purchase.

Clarence Turley, secretary-treasurer and manager of both companies, however, indicated a decision might be made shortly. Skouras' offer, which he presented in person and which he insisted was his sole idea, was made to purchase any or all of the bonds at 100 cents on the dollar. The original issue underwritten by S. W. Strauss Co. went into default in 1932 and the buildings were taken over by bondholders committees on foreclosure in 1934.

The two companies operate the Ambassador, first run house in downtown St. Louis, and the Missouri, in midtown; they are operated now by Fanchon and Marco on a management contract basis. Leases of the two theatres expire October 31 and F. and M. is anxious to learn what party they will have to negotiate with. The F. and M. management contract is supposed to run out soon too, it was said.

A. J. Rosebraugh Named

A. J. Rosebraugh has been appointed sales manager of the industrial radio division of Philco Corp., with headquarters in Detroit.

Allied Rental Brief Oct. 21

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—A brief, recommending that auction selling be conducted on a flat rental basis, will be submitted to the New York District Court before Oct. 21, Abram F. Myers, counsel for the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, announced here today. The fact that CIEA anticipated a petition for flat rental selling was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Wednesday.

At the same time yesterday, Myers made public a memorandum directed to Attorney General Tom Clark by the CIEA reaffirming their stand for complete divorcement, supporting a ban on cross-licensing between affiliated theatres, and urging that all bidding be on a flat rental basis.

Myers confirmed an exclusive story which appeared in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Wednesday dealing with the CIEA recommendation.

"Inclusion of the flat rental provision will at once make unnecessary certain qualifying provisions which are pertinent only to percentage deals and which afford the opportunity for the practice of discrimination in the granting of licenses," Myers stated.

Pointing out that checking, auditing, and preferred playing time would be eliminated if the flat rental plan is adopted by the court, Myers said that the solution was arrived at by the CIEA after much study and conferences with the Government.

The CIEA recommended to the Justice Department that the following inclusion be made as paragraph 11-8 (C) of the Government's August draft: (C) each bid considered and each license granted shall be for a flat sum and not upon a percentage basis."

"While the court condemned and ordered the termination of the joint ownership of theatres between the defendants and other exhibitors, it failed to take note of the partnerships with independent exhibitors which result from the defendant's insistence upon percentage playing," Myers said.

The CIEA contends that inclusion of the flat rental provision in the decree would strengthen and make effective the court's order against joint ownership by eliminating defendants' partnership in theatres which are attained without any investment in such theatres, based upon a contract for exclusive run, it was said.

Dubin's Strand to Open

Dedication ceremonies and formal opening of David Dubin's new Strand Theatre, North Tarrytown, N. Y., will take place there tomorrow night.

Myers Says 6,000 Not in Competition

Washington, Oct. 7.—Abram Myers, National Allied general counsel, estimated here today that there are approximately 6,000 theatres in the United States which do not have direct competition, hence would be exempt from the auction bidding plan filed by the Department of Justice in the New York District Court.

MPTOA

(*Continued from page* 1)

tor would be furnished product, he commented.

The MPTOA, Levy added, also supports the Government's proposal for a 25 per cent cancellation privilege where pictures are bought in groups of more than one. This change, too, was recommended by the association, he said, declaring that the Department followed all of its suggestions except the one calling for the elimination of auction selling.

More than 25 directors and state representatives of the MPTOA will be here for the two-day meeting, to analyze the proposed decree and determine a course of action, which probably will take the form of a petition to be heard as a friend of the court.

Results of the MPTOA's poll of exhibitor opinion with regard to the suit (published today in MOTION PICTURE DAILY) will be furnished to the Department, Levy said, and also, if he has his wish, they would be brought to the attention of the court. The poll, representing the views of 961 theatres in 43 states, showed 93 per cent of them opposed to auction sales, 76 per cent against the court's arbitration proposals, 86 per cent objecting to non-industry arbitrators and 63 per cent favoring complete divorcement of exhibition and distribution.

Robert L. Wright, Assistant to the Attorney General, will meet with the MPTOA group tomorrow afternoon to discuss the decree.

Among those called here for the session were: Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president; Frank C. Walker, M. A. Lightman, Michell Wolfson and E. C. Beatty, vice-presidents; J. J. O'Leary, treasurer; Morris Lowenstein, secretary, and the following directors: R. R. Biechele, E. M. Fay, Leonard Goldenson, Merritt A. Kyser, Clarence Kaimann, J. C. Shanklin, Mack Jackson, Morris Leonard, Arthur H. Lockwood, Sidney B. Lust, Dan Michalove, Samuel Pinanski, Lewin Pizor, W. F. Ruffin, Ben L. Strozier, Joseph R. Vogel and L. E. Thompson. L. C. Griffith, also a director, is ill in Oklahoma City.

Coast Issue, Walsh

(*Continued from page* 1)

Union. Walsh said: "We could be a pretty powerful union as our 60,000 men are in the theatre business from the top to the bottom."

Montgomery Bids AFL Settle Intra-Union Strife Problem

CHICAGO, Oct. 7.—In a statement made here today before he rushed to New York on personal business, Robert Montgomery, president of the Screen Actors Guild, asked that the American Federation of Labor set up machinery whereby locals can settle their own jurisdictional disputes. Indications here are that this will be the tenure of a resolution which Paul Dullzell, president of the Associated Actors and Artists of America, will present to the resolutions committee of the AFL sometime after he arrives in Chicago tomorrow.

Pointing out that the SAG is taking no sides in the present Coast dispute, Montgomery asserted that "the present Hollywood strike is symtomatic of a condition within the AFL which has existed for more than 40 years and which more than any other factor has hurt the cause of organized labor in all parts of the country."

Montgomery said that he and the SAG believe that the jurisdictional strikes problem should be "solved on a national basis by this AFL convention." If, he added, "we cannot get action on a national basis at this time, we are going to demand that Hollywood unions have the right to set up among themselves some sort of impartial procedure which will prevent the ever-recurring jurisdictional strike which has plagued our industry since its inception."

Montgomery will return to Chicago from New York on Thursday.

Strike Activity Uneventful On Coast Yesterday

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 7.—With Conference of Studio Unions and IATSE leaders in Chicago, flanked by a Screen Actors Guild contingent seeking a new and finalistic ruling on the dispute in jurisdiction over set construction, strike activity here simmered uneventfully today, but pickets were again concentrated around the Republic studio. However, busses taking workers into Republic were not molested.

Meanwhile, producers, in common with CSU and IATSE spokesmen, said the next important development in the situation is expected to take place in Chicago.

Cites Increases in The Philippines

The most rapid film business recovery in any country in what was formerly enemy occupied territory in the Far East, has taken place in the Philippines, according to Robert V. Perkins, Paramount manager there.

Perkins is the first American film company Philippines manager to arrive in New York from Manila since the reestablishment of the U. S. motion picture business in that territory. Screen entertainment is today the No. 1 form of public amusement in the islands, he stated. The revival of facilities for other forms of amusement and relaxation has not kept pace with the swift job accomplished in the reconstruction of theatres damaged by the war, he said.

There are today around 300 houses in operation, and business in Manila is far ahead of pre-war averages in the capital city, Perkins revealed. On April 1, 1945, the OWI moved into the Philippines with selected subjects from all American product, and for eight months provided screen fare for the Filipinos, as well as for American troops stationed in the islands. After that period, the OWI was liquidated and the American film company took over distribution on Nov. 15, 1945, in most cases with former personnel being rehired.

In December of last year, theatres began mushrooming, film house rebuilding being about the first reconstruction to get under way, Perkins said.

Approve Video Licenses

WASHINGTON, Oct. 7.—Two television applications have been approved by the Federal Communications Commission. A commercial permit was granted to the Minnesota Broadcasting Corp. of Minneapolis, and an experimental video clearance was given the St. Louis University of St. Louis.

40-45 MGM Films Listed for Italy

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Oct. 2 (By air mail). — M-G-M has sent to exhibitors a definite list of pictures which it will release in Italy for the next season. The list partially includes "Edison the Man," "Marie Antoinette," "The Postman Always Rings Twice," "Weekend at the Waldorf," "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes" and "Meet Me in St. Louis." The company will release between 40 and 45 pictures during the season.

Both David Blum, head of M-G-M's international publicity department, and director William Dieterle, were in Rome recently, Blum in connection with new product and Dieterle to look for new Italian authors and novels.

The recently completed "Montecassino," which tells the story of the Benedictine monastery destroyed during the war, will be distributed throughout the world by Trans-World Film.

An Italian commission will visit most of the companies in South America in the near future to establish markets and trade agreements for all types of Italian production, including motion pictures.

Giulio Ascarelli, 20th Century-Fox's publicity head in Rome, has been appointed head of the publicity department in Paris.

The Vatican City daily newspaper has reported that a Spanish production company will work in Italy on a biography of St. Ignatius de Loyola. A committee of 11 Spanish, Italian and French professors are aiding in the preparation of the story, which may also be filmed in Spain and France.

'Jolson' at Music Hall

"The Jolson Story," Columbia, will have its world premiere at Radio City Music Hall, here, following the current engagement of "Notorious."

Link Pascal With Irish Production

By TOM SHEEHEY

DUBLIN, Oct. 3 (By Airmail).— Gabriel Pascal's recent visit to Dublin once again has started rumors about the Irish Government's interest in studios and production.

Pascal's Dublin campaign was brief, but effective. First he announced he was looking for an Irish girl to play the lead in his film version of George Bernard Shaw's "St. Joan." Then he signed one of the Abbey Theatre's younger and most successful producers, Frank Dermody, who will be trained in film work by Pascal and will then return to Ireland.

Pascal finished his brief visit by showing, privately, his "Caesar and Cleopatra" to President De Valera of Eire, and several Cabinet Ministers. Both De Valera and Frank Aiken, Minister for Finance, held private discussions with Pascal following the screening.

Previous Irish studio rumors always have been connected with J. Arthur Rank, who now owns the bigger proportion of Ireland's first-run houses and whose producers are increasingly using Irish players, exteriors and plots. Rank has on several occasions held private meetings with Sean Lemass, Minister for Industry and Commerce.

Public opinion in Ireland increasingly demands some native film production. But whether the final decision will favor a small domestic industry concentrating on an economic supplementary market, or a large British-financed studio providing some employment and some facilities for domestic production, remains to be seen.

'Verdict' Shown Nov. 4

National tradeshowings of "The Verdict" has been set by Warners for Monday, Nov. 4. The picture is scheduled for general release the latter part of November.

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To that end, a cross-continental pattern involving...to begin with ...a few engagements, has been set.

In this drama of distribution, which has its beginning in October, New York will be the background of Act I, with Radio City Music Hall the precise locale of the World Premiere. Three thousand miles westward, Act II will be played. For the first time in the history of San Francisco a motion picture will play day and date in the United Artists, Esquire and Tivoli Theatres, and across the bay at the Roxy in Oakland. The scene will shift rapidly to the Palace, Cincinnati, the Lafayette, Buffalo, and the Hillstreet and Pantages, Los Angeles.

Then comes the intermission...with the curtain rising on the final act in January, 1947, when THE JOLSON STORY will penetrate the highways and byways of the nation, to establish itself conclusively as

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VOL. 60. NO. 71 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 1946 TEN CENTS

Distributors Would Set Minimum Auction Terms

Defendants Ask Authorization to Expand Theatre Holdings and Retain Some 'Pools' If Court Approves; Would Keep Arbitration

The defendants in the New York equity suit in their proposals for a decree presented to the Federal judges on Monday advocate changes which give sweeping elasticity to all trade practices ordered by the judges in their outlined decree.

Highlights of the proposed decree are sections giving the defendants authority to make their own decisions regarding "minimum rates" for film rentals to be used in the courts bidding plan; and a revolutionary proposal that the defendants be permitted to expand their theatre holdings and retain certain pools—if the court desires for the sake of good business.

It was proposed that the distributor defendants offer features to each exhibitor who has a theatre of the size, location and equipment suitable and adequate to show the feature to advantage upon such run to both the defendant and exhibitor involved. Factors to be considered in the bidding plan, the defendants state, should be the number of days run, size of theatre, its character and transportation and other conveniences.

Departing from the Government's decree, the defendants support arbitration of disputes to be handled under the rules of the American Arbitration Association. They further proposed that there be no clearance be-

(Continued on page 12)

Apply Auction To Affiliates; MPTOA Plan

Will File Suggestions As 'Friend of Court'

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—A suggestion for the use of auction selling strictly in competitive areas where the major defendants own theatres was one of the major proposals discussed today by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America in the first of its two-day sessions. That group restated its opposition to the entire bidding plan, however.

A decision to file with the court on an *amicus curiae* basis was made by the executive board today. Looking over the most recent federal proposals, the conference took issue in favor of arbitration, if it is properly handled. Robert Wright, special assistant to the attorney general,

(Continued on page 8)

Allied Acts on Production

National Allied has taken its first tangible action in the direction of possibly promoting a new source of product by way of supporting a new production company. This was disclosed at a state-wide meeting of Allied's New Jersey unit at the Stacey-Trent Hotel, Trenton, yesterday by Irving Dollinger, Eastern regional vice-president of the national organization, who reported that a pledge card of support of the production idea is being readied and will be sent to each member of National Allied in

(Continued on page 8)

U-I Coordinates For New Selling

Due to "the complexities of the present market and the necessity for flexibility in the methods of selling," Universal-International will develop closer coordination between the field sales forces and the home office sales cabinet, William A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager, disclosed here yesterday. At the same

(Continued on page 8)

British Cut Playing Time

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Playing time available to American pictures in England's three large circuits faces restriction following the Board of Trade's announcement today that each circuit henceforth will be required to run as many as six independently-produced British features per year. This is in addition to the exhibitors' quota, which provides that 17½ per cent of the films shown shall be of British origin. Theatres of the circuits—Odeon, Gaumont-British and Associated British Cinema—customarily play each picture for at least a week.

Films financed or produced by Americans or the J. Arthur Rank or ABC interests will not be considered for inclusion on the list of independent features to be drawn up by a board appointed today, according to Sir Stafford Cripps, BOT president. He said, however, that the six extra films are the maximum for which playing time will be demanded of the circuits and that there may not be enough product available to provide this number. The plan, Cripps also emphasized, is temporary, pending the enactment of legislation supplanting the present quota act, which expires in 1948.

The selection board contains nine

(Continued on page 8)

US Stresses Flat Rentals

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8.—Another Government document will be submitted to the New York District Court in the anti-trust case, before Oct. 21, and it will point out the reputed advantages of handling auction selling on a flat rental basis.

Supporting the recommendation made by the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations on flat rentals, the Government plans to go into detail to point out to the New York court the advantages of such a system of selling; the system was detailed in *Motion Picture Daily* last Wednesday, and again yesterday.

Justice Department attorneys said

(Continued on page 8)

"My Darling Clementine"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

THIS reviewer may have missed other candidates somewhere through the years, but insofar as he is concerned "My Darling Clementine" calls for an historical rollback to '39 and "Stagecoach" for comparison. For "Stagecoach" probably was the best Western ever produced. John Ford made that one. Now, after seven years, he makes this one, and it is very, very good.

It is enough to give one a prime case of the jitters to imagine what "My Darling Clementine," with its familiar old song, might have been like at the mercies of a not quite so skilled director. No matter what approach critical analysis may take, the high values which dot this attraction throughout revert to Ford and that superb hand of his so firmly at the helm.

This can be sensed in the superior grade of performances starting with Henry Fonda and Victor Mature, to include Linda Darnell and Cathy

(Continued on page 10)

Exclusive Run Idea Baffles Industry

The Department of Justice's new proposal that the judgment in the New York anti-trust suit include a provision which would limit competitive bidding, or auction selling, to exclusive run deals aroused widespread conjecture in both exhibition and distribution circles here yesterday over what the Department actually has in mind and what it expects such a proposal to accomplish.

Among scores questioned, no one was found who was certain in his own mind about the meaning of the De-

(Continued on page 8)

Newsreel Parade

WITH one exception, newsreels are currently showing the same three events: the end of the Nuremberg trial, the start of the World's Series, and football. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 12—Nazi leaders hear death sentences as war trial ends. Sports: Boston wins World's Series opening game; capacity crowd at Baker Field sees Columbia upset favored Navy, 23-14; Ohio State beats Southern California, 21-0, before 80,000; Texas Longhorns swamp A. and M. at Austin, 54-6.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 210—Judgment day for Nazi gang. Scoring highlights of first two World's Series games. Columbia girdders sink Navy.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 13—The 1946 baseball classic. Last chapter of the Nuremberg trial. Columbia's football too much for Navy.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 15—Nazi leaders found guilty. World's Series opens.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 544—21 Nazi chiefs found guilty. Boston wins series opener. Columbia, 23—Navy, 14.

Para. Names Benson Cincinnati Manager

The promotion of Albert C. Benson from Paramount sales manager in Washington, to branch manager in Cincinnati, where he will succeed J. J. Oulahan, who has resigned, effective Oct. 14, was announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution.

Benson joined Paramount as an accountant in 1920, becoming successively chief accountant, office manager and salesman in the Philadelphia branch, from where he went to Toronto as branch manager. In 1941 he was appointed short subjects sales representative in the Philadelphia district. His designation as Washington sales manager occurred in 1943.

Rathvon, Others to Mexico City Studio

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—N. Peter Rathvon, president of RKO and RKO Radio, and Mrs. Rathvon will leave Hollywood tomorrow for Mexico City to join company with board members, some accompanied by their wives, in an inspection of RKO's new Churubusco studio.

John M. Whitaker, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick L. Ehrman, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Green, Mr. and Mrs. George H. Shaw and Harry M. Durning will make the trip from New York by plane.

Goodkind Quits 'U'-Int'l; Poling In

Larney Goodkind has resigned as story and play editor for Universal-International to produce a play this winter, and has been succeeded by James Poling, formerly with Doubleday and Co., publishers.

Goodkind held the post at Universal for nine years, returning to the company last year after service in the Army. Before joining Universal he was a raido director, music critic and actor. While in the service, he directed, wrote and acted in plays.

Personal Mention

LEONARD GOLDENSON, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, is in Toledo today and will return here tomorrow.

•

ED and HUGH MARTIN of Martin Theatres, Columbus, Ga.; MRS. MARY BROCKETT, Crescent Amusement, Nashville, and MRS. COWAN OLDHAM, Cumberland Amusement, McMinnville, Tenn., have been visiting Atlanta.

•

WILLIAM PINE and WILLIAM THOMAS, producers, are scheduled to leave the Coast by train today for conferences with Paramount officials in New York.

•

CHICK LEWIS, publisher of *Showman's Trade Review,* and MRS. LEWIS, are parents of a second daughter, born recently at Doctor's Hospital, here.

•

GEORGE W. ERDMANN, secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, is convalescing from an illness at Sunny Acres Sanatorium, Cleveland.

•

WILLIAM F. CROCKETT, Virginia Beach theatre owner, has been named Virginia USO campaign theatre section chairman by GOV. WILLIAM F. TUCK.

•

JOHN CICERO of Paramount's home office advertising staff, and MRS. CICERO, are observing their 13th wedding anniversary.

•

ROBERT L. LIPPERT, Screen Guild Productions vice-president, and SAM DECKER, treasurer, will leave Hollywood for Chicago today by plane.

•

J. A. WALSH, head of Paramount's home office accounting department, has been visiting Atlanta from New York.

•

ALVIN GROSS has been transferred from M-G-M office manager in Des Moines to the same post in Denver, succeeding BERNARD GOLD, resigned.

•

HUGH BRALEY, Paramount division manager, is in Salt Lake City from New York conferring with branch manager FRANK A. SMITH.

•

DAVID EPSTEIN will leave Hollywood today for New York, where he plans to spend two weeks.

•

MRS. JAMES R. GRAINGER, wife of the Republic sales executive, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

MRS. NATE J. BLUMBERG, wife of the Universal president, is due to arrive here from the Coast on Friday.

•

SAM BURGER, regional director for Loew's International, will leave New York today for Mexico City.

•

TOM GUINAN, special home office representative of PRC, has been visiting Memphis and Atlanta.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ of Kay Film Exchanges, Atlanta, have returned there from New York.

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, left here last night for Chicago and Milwaukee.

•

EDWARD L. HYMAN, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., and SI SIEGEL, Paramount Theatre executive, are in Detroit following a Western tour.

•

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres advertising-publicity director, was in Albany, N. Y., yesterday from New York, and will be in New Haven today.

•

TOM CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of distribution, is due here from the Coast by plane today.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO Radio president, will fly from Hollywood to Mexico City today, and will come to New York from the latter city.

•

MEL FERRER, producer-director-writer under contract to DAVID O. SELZNICK, arrived here from the Coast yesterday.

•

ED DOHERTY, Columbia salesman in Memphis, and MARY PHELPS of Memphis, were married in that city recently.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal Southern sales manager, and PETE ROSIAN, Cincinnati district manager, were recent visitors in Charlotte.

•

MARION SPITZER, story editor for Liberty Film, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

IRVIN SHAPIRO, foreign film distributor, has arrived in Paris by plane from the U. S.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warner's playdate department, will leave New York for Chicago and Milwaukee today.

•

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD, Warner composer-arranger, is motoring to New York from the Coast.

•

NAT D. FELLMAN, Warner Theatres executive, will return to New York from New Haven today.

•

S. E. COFFIN, manager of the Princess Theatre, Memphis, is vacationing in California.

•

JACK DWYER, Malco office manager, Memphis, has recovered from a recent illness.

•

ADAM LUNOE, member of NBC's Danish section, has returned here from Copenhagen.

•

HARRY PAUL, manager of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply, Atlanta, has returned there from Charlotte.

•

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, president of Astor Pictures, Atlanta, has returned there from Southern Georgia.

•

BERTHA SIMON of M-G-M's Detroit exchange is honeymooning here.

•

PETER LORRE and MRS. LORRE are in New York from the Coast.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES P. CUNNINGHAM

THE worlds of science and of business paid tribute the other evening, at New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, to Brig. Gen. David Sarnoff, who, although only 55, reached his 40th year in radio and related electronics, including sound [illegible] pictures.

Sarnoff began as a messenger boy with the old Commercial Cable Co., back in 1906, in New York, and in the same year took a similar position with Marconi Wireless, which, within three years, raised the 18-year-oldster to manager of the Marconi Station at Sea Gate, near here. It was Sarnoff, who, on April 14-15, 1912, picked up the dramatic message that the White Star Liner *S. S. Titanic* had hit an iceberg in the North Atlantic, on her maiden voyage, and sank with 1,517 aboard. For some 72 hours Sarnoff remained at his wireless key receiving the names of 706 survivors wirelessed from rescue ships on the scene. The other evening that key was ceremoniously presented to Sarnoff.

▽

Wells Productions of Broadway, formally announces, through Niles Wells, its president, that it is now casting for its first legitimate Broadway production, and, without batting an eyelash, admits in releases to the press that the company is now "open for angels for same."

The play is titled "The Mugger"!

▽

Theatre advertisements and other matter appearing in the *Philadelphia Record* are now printed on wrapping paper in all Sunday editions due to the shortage of regular newsprint.

▽

A Hollywood dinner party tossed by producer David O. Selznick on his tennis court the other night must have been a dilly. He served electrically lit fruit salads—each salad set on a silver plate equipped with light bulbs and batteries.

▽

For the second time in five weeks M-G-M's "Mairship" has proved its worth beyond advertising "The Year of the Yearling."

This week the Mairship joined the hunt over Secaucus, (N. J.) swamplands seeking two-year-old Douglas Koenemund, who had been lost for four days. The crew of the blimp cooperated with police chief Arthur Temple and worked with him by radio, flying over swamps which could not be penetrated by humans or bloodhounds. However, the child was found drowned yesterday. Last Sept. 2 the Mairship rescued eight passengers aboard the helpless cabin cruiser Man-Pat-Jim.

▽

Lew Lehr's current yarn is about the two tramps who were haled before a judge. "Where do you live?" asked the jurist of the first tramp.

"Nowhere," the bum answered.

"And where do you live?" he inquired of the second.

"I have a room next to him!"

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(From Film Daily Oct. 1 Issue)

"Undercurrent"

with Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor
M-G-M **116 Mins.**

SET OUT THE ROPES TO HOLD THE LINES THAT WILL FORM FOR THIS SPLENDID DRAMATIC OFFERING.

All the superlatives and very probably a batch of new ones will be called upon to give praise to "Undercurrent." In a season that started in a whirl of lightness and color "Undercurrent" arrives to stir profoundly and provide an emotional impact seldom encountered in the artificiality of the film medium.

Katherine Hepburn has a role that lines her up for unquestioned leadership in her chosen line of endeavor and when the conclusion rolls past, the viewer will be limp, exhausted, stirred. 'Undercurrent" for exhibitor and patron is one of those all too rare events.

From the outset a scheme of suspense is created in the direction of Vincente Minelli that moves and builds to quite unbearable heights and there is a fairly hair-raising scene most certainly not for the impressionable and thin-skinned.

As the story is the thing and as each new role enhances a player's estimation and adds to stature of indicated potentialities so will this film set laurels for Robert Taylor, Robert Mitchum and the supporting cast that includes Edmund Gwenn, Marjorie Main, Jayne Meadows, Clinton Sundberg and Dan Tobin.

The story is a beautiful example of screen writing; intelligent, warm, inventive and given the limit in interpretation. Edward Chodorov has done handsomely and creditably by Thelma Strabel's original. On the music side a Brahms piano concerto tinges, emphasizes, heightens and sets off the dramatic content and in this respect, for his taste and contribution to the whole, Herbert Stothart rates special consideration in the distribution of laudatory remarks.

Miss Hepburn is a young girl swept off her feet by a rapid marriage to Taylor, a rich, renowned manufacturer. and set down amid the glamor of capital society and the country life of aristrocratic Virginia. And as marital life settles upon her she becomes aware of something not entirely right in her husband's action. His brother is relegated to chance remarks, abrupt dismissal. He speaks little of his family.

"Excuse it please! This is where the reviewer gave away the terrific ending. We cut it out so that you could enjoy the thrilling surprises for yourself!"

This is one of the best.

CAST: Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor, Robert Mitchum, Edmund Gwenn, Marjorie Main, Jayne Meadows, Clinton Sundberg, Dan Tobin, Kathryn Card, Leigh Whipper, Charles Trowbridge, James Westerfield, Bill McLain.

CREDITS: Producer, Pandro S. Berman; Director, Vincente Minelli; Screenplay by Edward Chodorov from an original story by Thelma Strabel; Cameraman, Karl Freund; Film Editor, Ferris Webster; Sound, Douglas Shearer; Art Director, Cedric Gibbons; Set decorations. Edwin B. Willis, Jack D. Moore.

DIRECTION, Superb. • PHOTOGRAPHY, Excellent.

YOU'LL SEE WHY LEO CUT UP THIS WONDERFUL FILM DAILY REVIEW ON M-G-M's "UNDERCURRENT!"

P.S. More wonderful reviews in all trade papers!



SAG Presents Plan Of Arbitration as Model for Country

CHICAGO, Oct. 8. — Arbitration machinery for the settlement of Hollywood jurisdictional disputes within the American Federation of Labor, as suggested by the Screen Actors Guild to the AFL convention here, may, if adopted, set a pattern for the rest of the country, according to George Murphy of the SAG board of directors, one of 10 guild members who have come to Chicago from the Coast to present the plan.

Murphy said he had found in Hollywood that rank and file members of the AFL there were almost unanimously of the opinion that some jurisdictional machinery should be created. Paul Dullzell, president of the AAAA, of which the SAG is a component, is presenting the guild's resolution to the AFL convention, he added.

"If the convention here finds our plan a feasible one," Murphy said, "I don't think (Herbert K.) Sorrell (president of the Conference of Studio Unions) or any other local leader will stop it." He emphasized that the SAG is not aligned with either side in the current Hollywood dispute, which has resulted in picketing of studios by the CSU.

Other members of the SAG delegation to Chicago are: Robert Montgomery, president; Edward Arnold, Ronald Reagan, Gene Kelly, Walter Pidgeon, Dick Powell, Jane Wyman, Alexis Smith, Robert Taylor and Buck Harris, the latter being the guild's public relations director.

Film Executives at Meeting on 'Stars'

A meeting of film and other amusement industry leaders will take place today in the offices here of Marvin H. Schenck, chairman of the production committee for the 13th annual "Night of Stars," to discuss the availability of stars of stage, screen and radio for the show. The benefit, proceeds of which will go to the United Jewish Appeal, will be held at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday evening, Nov. 12.

Among those expected at today's meeting, are: Robert H. Weitman, Arthur Knorr, Lester B. Isaac, Max Wolff, John Dugan, Harry Kalcheim, Nat Kalcheim, Sidney Piermont, Larry Puck, Sam Rauch, Leonard Romm, Frank Roehrenbeck, John Shubert, Arthur Weill and David A. Werblin.

Perretz with Filmack

CHICAGO, Oct. 8. — All Perretz has been appointed sales manager of Filmack Corp.'s newly-formed prevue service by Irving Mack, president of the firm. Perrez, for the past 20 years in the trailer business and until recently associated with Alexander Film, will alternate his time between Filmack's Chicago and New York offices.

Tradeshow MGM Film

The tradeshowings of M-G-M's French version of "It Happened at the Inn" are scheduled for Oct. 10, one in Buffalo and the others in Chicago.

Hollywood Strike Is Marking Time

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Studio picketing continued here today without violent incident as Conference of Studio Unions and IATSE headquarters awaited word from Chicago on prospective American Federation of Labor action on jurisdictional disputes.

The CSU maintained token picket lines at all affected studios, but shifted its mass-picketing attentions from Republic to Columbia. No interference with production was reported.

In the meantime, the Screen Actors Guild membership vote to cross studio picket lines established in consequence of the current jurisdictional dispute, resulted in 2,748 ballots for ignoring the pickets, and 509 votes against.

Thomas Soriero, 58, Theatreman, Is Dead

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Thomas D. Soriero, 58, veteran theatre operator who had held a number of posts in exhibition dating back to the nickelodeon era, died here yesterday. His last association was with the United Artists Theatre, Los Angeles.

Born in Providence, Soriero operated theatres in Rhode Island and Massachusetts in 1914 and a year later joined the Louis B. Mayer circuit in New England. He later became general manager of the Charles Whitehurst circuit and subsequently became associated with Universal Theatres, Comerford, RKO and Fox West Coast.

Name West to Head British Eagle-Lion

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Air Commodore Ferdinand West, VC, has been appointed manager director of Eagle-Lion Distributors, Ltd., which handles distribution of J. Arthur Rank films on a restricted basis in overseas areas. Also named were Ralph Bromhead, director and general manager, and John Woolf and John Davis, directors.

E. T. Carr, formerly managing director of Eagle-Lion and now joint managing director, with Woolf, of General Film Distributors, will continue on the E-L board.

20th-Fox Will Hold Two Trade-showings

Twentieth Century-Fox's "Margie" will be tradeshown on Oct. 15 in all exchange centers with the exception of Albany, Memphis, Philadelphia, New Haven and Washington, where the picture will be screened on Oct. 16. "The Bowery," a re-release, will be tradeshown in all 20th's exchanges on Oct. 18.

'Deception' Screening

Warner Bros.' "Deception" will be nationally tradeshown on Oct. 18. The picture will have its world premiere at the Hollywood Theatre, New York, on Oct. 17, with general release scheduled for Oct. 26.

Mort Bramson to Classics

Morton Bramson, formerly with Universal in Washington, has joined Film Classics as traveling auditor.

Competition for US in Puerto Rico

Rafael G. Marti, president and general manager of Tropical Films, Inc., of San Juan, Puerto Rico, and Monogram representative for that territory, has arrived in New York, to call on Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, and Bernard J. Gates, Latin American supervisor for the company, for conferences on new Monogram product and the new sales policy for the coming season. American pictures, he says, meet with strong competition from Spanish-speaking pictures, produced especially in Mexico, which are economically the most successful, and Argentine pictures, which Marti said he considers technically superior, and also from Cuban and Chilean pictures and, to a lesser degree, from pictures produced in Spain.

Dubbing, Marti states, has not met with approval in Puerto Rico, where the audience prefers the original American with sub-titles. European pictures are not popular with audiences, and the only European picture Marti recalls as having been shown was "Mayerling," which he imported himself.

Marti is optimistic over the general outlook for sales possibilities in Puerto Rico, since the establishment of naval and air bases and the large number of men in service have brought to the possession relative wealth, which, Marti believes, will last normally for at least another five years.

Hutchinson Heads Para. British Sales

LONDON, Oct. 8.—Fred Hutchinson, Paramount's British sales manager, has been appointed director and managing director of sales by J. E. Perkins, the company's British managing director.

At the same time, Tony Reddin, publicist, has been added to the board of Paramount's Plaza and Carlton theatres here.

AFM Ignores Probers

WASHINGTON, Oct. 8. —The House Campaigns Investigating Committee has threatened to subpoena the American Federation of Musicians unless the union answers the committee's questionnaire which seeks information concerning the union's political activities in the fall elections. The House group, headed by Rep. Priest of Tennessee is awaiting a reply to a second request sent to the AFL general counsel Joseph A. Padway.

Twin Press Agents

The industry's first twin press agents, Veda and Vesta Ryker, arrived here yesterday at LaGuardia Airport from Hollywood to help publicize International's "The Dark Mirror," which stars Olivia de Havilland in the dual roles of identical twins, and Lew Ayres.

Seek Aid for Church

A $10,000 fund-raising campaign within the motion picture industry to free Trinity Episcopal Church in Cliffside Park, N. J., from debt and to permit its consecration is being conducted by Charles E. Burden on behalf of the rector, Reverend Richard P. Pressey.

Coast Producers Eye Studio Space Here

Inquiries from Hollywood producers concerning availability of studio facilities in the East are being received here by their New York offices.

Indications are that the inquiries are inspired by apprehension over the jurisdictional strife among Hollywood labor unions which could force suspension of pictures now in work. In the event that happened, it is believed, some producers would utilize Eastern studios for the shooting of final sequences in order to wind up productions which were near completion at the time of stoppage.

Petrillo Case Starts In Chicago Nov. 4

CHICAGO, Oct. 8.—The date for hearing of the initial arguments on the Government's case against James C. Petrillo today was set for Nov. 4 by Judge Walter J. LaBuy of the U. S. District Court here.

Judge LaBuy said he would give the defense and prosecution each a half day to present their arguments. U. S. Attorney J. Albert Woll said, after the hearing date was set, that on Friday the American Civil Liberties Union will file a petition asking permission to act as "friend of the court" to attack the Lea Act as unconstitutional since, the Union will allege, the Act "attacks the right of freedom of speech."

Answers Are Filed in 5th and Walnut Case

Distributor defendants yesterday filed answers in U. S. District Court here in the anti-trust suit brought by the Fifth and Walnut Corp., operator of the National Theatre in Louisville, Ky.; Paramount had previously filed its answer.

The defendants deny the anti-trust allegations and asked for a dismissal of the action.

Bemidji Operators Win

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 8. — A five-month lockout of the projectionists at the Bemidji and Chief, Bemidji, Minn., has ended with the union winning recognition and a contract held "satisfactory to both parties." Final settlement came after the local labor council and outside conciliators entered the conferences between union officials and Bender brothers, operators of the theatres. William Donnelly, Minneapolis, head of the state projectionists' union, approved the final contract.

Roach Motion Denied

Judge Francis G. Caffey in U. S. District Court, here, yesterday, denied the motion of Hal Roach for an injunction to prevent Film Classics from proceeding with arbitration in connection with claims made by Roach against Film Classics in a pending legal action. Judge Caffey ruled that he has no power to grant the injunction and suggested application to the New York Supreme Court for the relief sought.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

Keep your eye on this "page one" hit

"The Dark Mirror"

[*Universal-International*]

THE first contribution of Leo Spitz and William Goetz to the Universal-International program should get the new combine off to a flying start at box-offices. Beyond living up to the highest standards of psychological mystery melodrama, it emerges as the screen's most penetrating study of twins and, beyond that, as a heart-breaking exposition of human jealousy. Thus, all sorts of audiences, attracted by the drawing power of Olivia de Havilland and Lew Ayres, undoubtedly will find this a good film to shudder through, to weep at and to discuss after seeing.

Nunnally Johnson's screenplay and production are almost impeccable, breathing simplicity and warmth at every turn into what might have been pretty academic material. And Robert Siodmak's talent for directing this sort of thing is imprinted throughout. His cameras focus most of the time upon the two principals, playing three roles, with occasional support from Thomas Mitchell, but they turn out an unlimited range of scenic and emotional variety.

(Continued on page 3)

MPA P… Order
Opposi… Code
Censo… 'Outlaw'

Sees State Pressure Encouraged by Outlaw

…ge Single Unit …ue Not Practical

Producers Act To Stop …

CIEA May Ask Court For Flat Fee Sales

Official Recommendation Looks to Come Today

…ew Methods In Picture …

Warners' To … Abroads Ru…

…Meet Weighs Decree and Taxes

Cite Al Jolson for Services in War

…dustry film and other entertainment industries gathered at the Hotel Astor here last night to pay tribute to Al Jolson for his work in entertaining troops in this country and abroad during the war. The testimonial dinner was given by the motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee, with former Mayor James J. Walker as toastmaster.

Paul Allen sang the national an-

(Continued on page 10)

Top Rushes Will Continue: O'Shea

Corcoran, Oct. 16—E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, sales manager for Liberty Films, enroute East after two weeks on the West Coast, predicted … on a stopover here that he felt … and business boom in theatre … iness will last at least four or … more years.

O'Shea said he expected his first film, "It's a Wonderful …" to be ready for exhibition by the … of December. Current plans …

(Continued on page 10)

All movie audiences will see and read about "THE DARK MIRROR" in this big national magazine campaign.



FULL PAGE ADVERTISEMENTS IN LIFE (*two issues*), LOOK (*two issues*), SATURDAY EVENING POST, COLLIER'S, GOOD HOUSEKEEPING.

Twins!

.....one

beloved

...one

bewitched!

INTERNATIONAL PICTURES PRESENTS

Olivia de Havilland

Twice as exciting as ever . . . in an amazing double role!

Lew Ayres

Back on the screen at his best!

IN THE NUNNALLY JOHNSON PRODUCTION OF

"THE DARK MIRROR"



with THOMAS MITCHELL

RICHARD LONG • Produced and written for the screen by NUNNALLY JOHNSON
Original story by VLADIMIR POZNER

DIRECTED BY ROBERT SIODMAK who gave you "SPIRAL STAIRCASE" and "THE KILLERS"

This is the Advertisement which appears in LIFE Magazine

MPTOA Would

(Continued from page 1)

shunned away from any method of arbitration in his proposals.

"Arbitration is all right if it is handled on an industry basis with both the exhibitor and distributor represented on the board on an equal basis," Herman Levy, MPTOA counsel stated. Levy took sharp issue, however, with the methods employed by the American Arbitration Association.

The "streamlined" auction selling proposal of the Government is not supported by the MPTOA. The defendants' proposal for sales "on their own terms" was also blasted at the meeting which lasted until nearly midnight.

A decision was also made to recommend extended time of availability of product to more than the 30 days outlined in the Governments' proposal. The 25-man MPTOA board voted in favor of opposing the auction selling limitation which deals with "exclusive run." Levy pointed out that such a practice, if adopted, would create more runs. "You would have a second, third and fourth run in such a case," he added.

Regarding complete theatre divorcement and the ban on cross licensing between affiliated theatres, Levy stated that these are problems of the Justice Department and not of concern to an independent exhibitor organization. Levy was quick to point out that the present MPTOA meeting is strictly between "unaffiliated members of the association."

Today Clarence Kaimann of St. Louis was elected to sit on the MPTOA board of directors. He will represent the St. Louis, East Missouri and Southern Illinois Association at the national group.

The representatives plan to visit Robert Wright at the Justice Department tomorrow for a conference on the decree.

British Cut

(Continued from page 1)

members: six independents and one from each of the circuits. Lord Drogheda, chairman of the British Films Council, heads the group. A. G. White, chief of the BOT's films division, is secretary. Other independent members are: David Bowes Lyon, banker and brother of the Queen; Elizabeth Bowen, novelist; Charles Dukes, president of the Trade Union Congress; Mrs. Max Nicholson, a sponsor of the Children's Film Club movement, and R. C. G. Somerville BOT undersecretary. John Davis will represent Odeon; David Goodlatte, ABC, and Mark Ostrer, Gaumont-British.

SPG Plans Art Exhibit

Motion picture artists and press agents will unveil their "after-hours' art" in a "Screen Publicists in Art—1946" exhibit, to be held Nov. 15 at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, here, the Screen Publicists Guild, sponsoring the show, announces.

"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
IT'S SENSATIONAL
BOX OFFICE RECORDS SMASHED
RKO METROPOLITAN
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Exclusive Run Idea Baffles Trade

(Continued from page 1)

partment's proposal. There were almost as many interpretations as there were individuals interviewed.

Distribution representatives assumed, without any certainty, that what the Department has in mind is the restriction of competitive bidding for films to those exhibitors who wish to be licensed for some specific run, whether it be first, second, third, fourth or fifth run.

If such actually were the case, they claimed, each run of exhibition would be standardized, and each particular run would be licensed at a price and terms throughout each competitive area.

It was pointed out that, if this actually is what the Department intends, grave problems would result, particulary in large metropolitan areas in which a score or more of identical runs exist. In New York City, for example, it was pointed out that the standardized, simultaneous licensing of all second runs in the city would create a print problem that alone might make the proposal unworkable here.

In addition, it was pointed out, such a playing arrangement, being on an exclusive basis, would mean that prospective patrons would have to see the picture during its exclusive run in the immediate area or, perhaps, miss it with consequent loss to the producer-distributor.

Playing terms for such runs, it was said, could not be based on the usual business done by theatres bidding for such exclusive runs but would have to be established in relation to the total business expectancy from all ordinary, non-exclusive runs in each theatre area in order that the producer-distributor would not be financially penalized for licensing an exclusive run in place of numerous engagements on the same run.

Inevitably, it was said, this would lead to the imposition of higher admission charges by exclusive run exhibitors.

Most exhibitors questioned agreed with this version and were skeptical about the value of an exclusive run in the face of its cost and the indicated necessity for increasing admissions drastically to make it profitable.

While the Government bases its proposals on Section No. 6 of the industry consent decree, both exhibitors and distributors questioned professed to see no apparent relation between the exclusive run proposal and the old some-run section of the defunct decree.

In its original decree proposals submitted to the Federal court here in late July, the Department discussed at some length its ideas for the licensing of exclusive runs. Company attorneys, referring to these in the light of the Department's present proposal, said they perceived no clear relation of either the former or present proposals to Section 6 of the decree or to the Federal court opinion handed down last June.

Allied Production Plan

(Continued from page 1)

about a month for either endorsement or rejection.

Dollinger said that the first draft of the pledge already has been drawn and asks that members sign a contract for 12 pictures with the privilege of cancelling eight.

Dollinger stressed that National Allied would take no part in production itself, adding that its only interest is in possible new source of product. He said that established producers have become interested in the proposition since it was originally advanced at Allied's recent convention in Boston. In the event that Allied members approve the plan in sufficient number to guarantee profitable operation by the production interests, whom he declined to identify, Dollinger stated that story properties and, possibly, stars would immediately become available.

Yesterday's New Jersey Allied meeting, attended by a cross section of its membership, numbering 65, went on record against the "numerous" distributor sales drives, some of them, it was said, running concurrently. This is an unfavorable condition so far as the exhibitor is concerned, the membership agreed, and a departure from previous distributor policy of conducting a drive only at the end of a selling season.

The meeting also adopted the resolution passed by National Allied's convention, including a stand against local checking, criticism of the "restricted market," one urging a uniform contract that would be "beneficial to the exhibitor as well as the distributor," and objections to certain clearance practices and high prices, particularly on percentage pictures.

Ed Lachman, president of the New Jersey unit, presided at the meeting and delivered a report on the National Allied convention.

Product availability was brought up at a "film forum," with most sharing the opinion that a shortage exists but that it is an "artificial" one in view of the backlogs of films at Coast studios.

20th Anniversary of Paramount Theatre

With Irvin Berlin's "Blue Skies" as the attraction, the New York Paramount Theatre will start its 20th birthday celebration next Wednsday. "Blue Skies" will be the 675th feature to play the Paramount since it opened in Nov., 1926.

Para. Dance Oct. 25

The Paramount Pictures Club, forferly the Paramount Pep Club, will stage its annual dance in the Hotel Astor on Friday, Oct. 25.

MGM to Tradeshow Two Films on Nov. 18

M-G-M will tradeshow two pictures on Nov. 18 in all of its exhanges, except Washington, where the screenings will be held on Nov. 21.

The pictures are "The Mighty McGurk," "My Brother Talks to Horses."

PRC-Hillman Deal

PRC Pictures has consummated a three-way tieup with the Hillman Detective Magazine Group to promote Alan Curtis and the company's series of Philo Vance detective films.

US Stresses

(Continued from page 1)

here today that the auction selling plan in its present proposed form could be easily amended by the court to carry out the flat rental selling provision recommended by the CIEA.

Robert Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, is said to have worked with Abram F. Myers and other CIEA representatives in the formulation of the most recent UA proposals submitted to the Justice Department.

Wright would not "directly" comment on the new proposals being prepared at the Department. However, the Government attorney strongly hinted that he is in favor of the flat rental system.

The Department is expected to make the same change in its proposed judgment that was recommended by the CIEA, that was to add Paragraph 11-8 (C) as follows: "Each bid considered and each license granted shall be for a flat sum and not upon a percentage basis."

It is believed at the Justice Department that it would be a "wise move" to eliminate such practices as checking of theatres and the auditing of exhibitors' books and records—and the flat rental system would "do just that," a Government spokesman commented.

U-I Coordinates

(Continued from page 1)

time Scully said that E. T. Gomersall had been named to the cabinet.

On the heels of a series of realignments in the U-I sales department, Scully has issued the following statement:

"The complexities of the present market and the necessity for flexibility in the methods of selling will demand much more direct contact on the part of home office sales executives with the entire sales organization throughout the country.

"It is our purpose to define a definite policy on each individual picture and then to have our sales cabinet visit the branch offices and implement this policy.

"To facilitate this, we not only have reapportioned territory and named new district managers (as previously reported), but we also required some changes in the operation of the home office sales cabinet.

"The cabinet now includes A. J. O'Keefe, as assistant general sales manager; Charles Feldman, Western sales manager; F. J. McCarthy, Southern and Canadian sales manager, and Fred Meyers, Eastern sales manager.

"We will now add to the sales cabinet E. T. Gomersall as my assistant. Gomersall was serving as general sales manager of Enterprise Films and following the dissolution of the distribution deal between Universal and Enterprise Gomersall recently returned to Universal as a sales executive."

Absolved of Fire Blame

BATTLE CREEK, Mich., Oct. 8. — Management of the Strand Theatre here has been absolved from blame in connection with a fire Aug. 30. Following investigation by municipal and state fire department authorities, officials announced that a 12-year-old boy had admitted tossing a match into the theatre through an open door leading from an alley.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PITTSBURGH

Theatre business in downtown Pittsburgh is staggering through one of its lowest periods as the strike of 3,200 Duquesne Light Co. workers goes into its 15th day. Only one film, "The Killers," promises to eke out slightly above an average gross this week; two others are doing little better than half of average; two are slightly below the halfway mark. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $9,700)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,500)
THE KILLERS (U)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, on moveover from J. P. Harris. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,200)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $25,000)
CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $8,000)

LOS ANGELES

"Three Little Girls in Blue" and "Till the End of Time" tied for top box-office honors in a week of brisk fall weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,700. (Average: $8,900)
A LADY SURRENDERS (U)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $19,000)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,000)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $7,700)
I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING (U)—FOUR STAR (900) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,600)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $12,700)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and CUBAN PETE (U)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $23,700)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,000)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $26,200)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,600)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,100)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and APOLOGY FOR MURDER (PRC)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $16,000)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and CUBAN PETE (U)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $23,100)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,100)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,400)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,300)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,100)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $12,500)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $8,000)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $21,600)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $16,100)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,700)

MINNEAPOLIS

"Cloak and Dagger" and "Notorious" did top business, with grosses for other films running around average, or a little better. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10:

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—CENTURY (1,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from Radio City. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)
SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,400)
BLACK BEAUTYY (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from State. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $11,500)
CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000)
CAPTAIN CAUTION and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,500)
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $2,500)

PHILADELPHIA

Business slowed down this week, with holdovers at most first-run houses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8-10:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $14,100)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,250)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,100. (Average: $22,800)
FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days of vaudeville starring Carlos Ramirez. Gross: $21,500. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)
IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,000)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)
O.S.S. (Para.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)
THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average; $6,500)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,600. (Average: $28,300)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $24,900)
THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $11,200)

SALT LAKE CITY

Many delegates to the Latter Day Saints conference boosted grosses. The weather has been unusually cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—CENTER(1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)
THE LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. With vaudeville. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,700)
CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,700)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,800)
THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN (Col.)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000)

DENVER

Business pepped up as colder weather, rain and snow drove people inside. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Webber. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)
O.S.S. (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,500)
THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ALIBI (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,500)
THE RUNAROUND (U) and SHE WROTE THE BOOK (U)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)
CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA (UA) and BELOW THE DEADLINE (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)

CLEVELAND

A slight attendance drop from the level of recent weeks is attributed to beautiful weather, plus the World Series. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8:

EASY TO WED (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,000)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $23,800)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)
OPEN CITY (Mayer-Burstyn)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,500)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)
SUSPENSE (Mono.)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Star and Garter Revue. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $30,000)
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $22,600)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $3,650)

OMAHA

Two first-run theatres are doing above-average business, and two are running below, in a week of cloudy, rainy weather. Estimated receipts for week ending Oct. 9-10:

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, for "Anna," moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $8,600)
IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG (20th-Fox)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (55c-80c) 7 days. Corn Palace Revue of 1946 on stage. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,800)
HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $11,000)
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and BEDLAM (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,700)

KANSAS CITY

Film attendance has been only fair, with the temperature reaching close to 90. A food fair and a stage show proved strong competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 8-10:

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)
IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,750)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and LITTLE IODINE (UA)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gros: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)
ONE MORE TOMORROW (WB)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)
MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM, 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
SECRETS OF A SORORITY GIRL (PRC) and CUBAN PETE (U)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,500)
IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

Named to Anti-Bias Post

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 8.—John B. Sullivan, well known to film people here through his service as upstate director for the National Conference of Christians and Jews, is the new director of education and public relations for the State Commission Against Discrimination. He had offices in Albany for the NCCJ, with which many theatres cooperated. Sullivan's new job takes him to New York.

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Production on The Increase, Despite Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 8.—Despite picket lines which impeded production at major studios, the shooting index has risen one notch, to 49, as four pictures reached camera stages and three went to cutting rooms; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Cigarette Girl."
Started: "The Lady from Shanghai," with Rita Hayworth and Orson Welles; "Lone Hand Texan," with Smiley Burnette, Charles Starrett.
Shooting: "Twin Sombreros," "Inside Story," "They Walk Alone," "Last of the Redmen," "The Guilt of Janet Ames."

Enterprise

Shooting: "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Merton of the Movies," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "This Time for Keeps," "Summer Holiday," "Unfinished Dance," "Romance of Rosy Ridge" (formerly "The Yankee").

Monogram

Shooting: "Cisco and the Angel," "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Paramount

Shooting: "The Big Haircut," "Dear Ruth," "Golden Earrings," "Desert Town" (Wallis); "Unconquered" (DeMille); "Adventure Island" (Pine-Thomas).

PRC

Started: "The Red Stallion," with Robert Paige, Noreen Nash, Jane Darwell, Ted Donaldson, Willie Best.
Shooting: "Philo Vance's Gamble."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Banjo," "They Won't Believe Me," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Started: "Outlaws of Sioux City," with Allan Lane, Bobby Blake, Martha Wentworth, Peggy Stewart.
Shooting: "Hit Parade."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Backlash" (Wurtzel).
Shooting: "Boomerang," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "The Homestretch."

United Artists

Finished: "Hoppy's Holiday" (Hopalong Cassidy).
Shooting: "Red River" (Monterey); "New Orleans" (Levey); "Vendetta" (California); "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Universal-International

Shooting: "I'll Be Yours," "Slave Girl."

Warners

Shooting: "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed," "Pursued" (U. S. Pictures).

"My Darling Clementine"

(*Continued from page* 1)

Downs in several lesser degrees, and thereafter embracing players in secondary dramatic importance, like Walter Brennan, Alan Mowbray, Ward Bond and Tim Holt. It can be sensed in the dusty, hard-rocked Arizona desert country which establishes so effectively the mood of the story and it is apparent, too, in the magnificent photographic composition so breathtakingly caught by the black-and-white cameras of Joe MacDonald and Fred Sersens. "My Darling Clementine" is a film with genuine fibre and substance and a piece of Grade A entertainment.

Stuart N. Lake wrote a book from which Sam Hellman wrote a story from which Samuel G. Engel and Winston Miller prepared their script. It deals with Wyatt Earp and his three brothers, peacefully engaged in driving their cattle to California in the '80s. One brother is shot in the back, and the cattle rustled. Fonda, as Wyatt Earp, determines to remain in Tombstone where, as its marshal, he sets out to track the killer—and does.

Crossing his path, in friendly and unfriendly terms, chiefly are "Doc" Holliday, town boss played by Mature; Chihuahua, played by Miss Darnell; Old Man Clanton, who is Brennan; his four trigger-itchy sons; and Miss Downs, genteel visitor from the East whose romance with Mature is never resumed and the way thereby paved for Fonda.

THERE are narrative twists and turns, all of them logical and all of them in place. The story gets under way, it proceeds and it finishes with no side-line excursions to confound or deflect audience interest. There are several characters who are seen, but who never utter a syllable. The dialogue is held to a minimum. The action is never accelerated beyond its requirements and, in fact, in places moves forward almost lazily. This is not a new device to build mounting suspense to its point of explosion. Others have tried it, but making it click is where the poised and certain hand of the director counts. Ford has that kind of hand, and "My Darling Clementine" now comes along to prove it once more.

Proper merchandising should take into the reckoning that this is the first picture for Fonda and Mature since their discharge from the services. That they are combined as the male leads in so auspicious a return is their very good break and the very good fortune of theatres which will play this attraction. Engel, the co-scenarist, was also producer. He has all reason to be satisfied with the outcome.

Running time, 97 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, November.

RED KANN

Reade Houses Will Bar Local Checkers

Local theatre checkers will not be tolerated in any of the Reade Theatres, Walter Reade, Jr., commented at a meeting of the circuit's managers held here yesterday.

In attendance were: Jimmy Mullens, Freehold; Robert Case, Kingston; Roy Blumenheim, Long Branch; Tony Hunting, Red Bank; Hal Martz, Plainfield; Julius Daniels, Perth Amboy; Nick Schermerhorn, Asbury Park; Guy Hevia, Morristown; and from the home office were Pete Gage, Jim Watson, Steve Brener, Jack Harris and David Kearney, manager of the Park Avenue Theatre.

It was announced at the meeting that the new Reade Park Avenue Theatre will be ready for opening in the very near future.

Two new theatre managers were assigned to Plainfield. They are Murray Meinberg, to the Strand and Ray Penbarn, at the Paramount.

Reade Jr. stated that all city managers should plan and stress children shows in their situations.

Donald Nelson Elected

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, has been unanimously elected chairman of the Southern California division of the Institute of Public Relations.

Century Circuit to Stress Extra Profits

Century Theatres will install a company-designed "Tidbit Bar" in its houses, announced Leslie R. Schwartz, chairman of Century's "extra profits convention," held yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria, here. Schwartz, head of Andrews, Inc., Century's added-income division, said the "snack bars" will ultimately be a "part of the construction" of every Century Theatre.

On the dais of the first convention in the East devoted to supplementary theatre income were, in addition to Schwartz, Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president; J. R. Springer, general theatre manager; Sam Goodman, film department head; Martin Newman, comptroller; Edward Schreiber, advertising-publicity director.

Schwartz also discussed the absorption of stores adjoining theatres and their changeover into soft drink lounges, or doughnut shops.

Springer, in assessing extra profits as being "without a ceiling," stated that the process of "going to the movies" is a social event that is improved with the addition of candy, popcorn and soft drinks.

Fred Schwartz, in an examination of the "extra work that extra profits entails" for theatre managers, explained that a survey showed that no additional hours at the theatre were involved. All extra profits activities in the theatre, he declared, could be effected within the framework of regular hours.

There are more than 100 stores adjoining Century Theatres, which may ultimately come under the operation of Andrews, Inc., Schwartz stated.

Executives attending in addition to those mentioned were: Leonard Satz, Myron Siegel, and Harry Schwartz. District managers were: William Applegate, Jack LaReaux, Leonard Freund, Emanuel Friedman, and Jack Weinstein.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, October 8

NEXT on the production schedule of W. R. Frank, Minnesota producer-exhibitor, is "Dan Patch," harness race tale of the world's fastest pacer. John Tainter Foote, who wrote the original story and screenplay, will be the producer. The picture is scheduled to go before cameras in January. . . . Jack Wrather's initial production, "The Guilty," will be made and released by Monogram, with Bonita Granville and Don Castle in stellar roles. . . . Arleen Whelan has been chosen to co-star with Randolph Scott in the next Pine-Thomas production for Paramount, "Albuquerque."

●

Orson Welles has a tough schedule ahead of him this winter. Within a week he will start work at Columbia in "The Lady from Shanghai," opposite Rita Hayworth. Welles is directing and producing the picture—from his own screenplay—as well. As soon as it is completed, Welles will leave for London, where he will produce "Salome" for Alexander Korda. Eileen Herlie, acclaimed in England as the greatest tragedienne since Mrs. Siddons, will play the title role, while Welles undertakes the part of Herod.

●

Joan Lorring has been signed for the chief role in support of Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven in "The Other Love," David Lewis production scheduled to start soon at Enterprise. . . . Dolores Moran will appear opposite James Stewart and Henry Fonda in their sequence of the Bogeaus-Meredith sectional film, "A Miracle Can Happen." . . . Radio actor James Cade has been signed to a term contract by Beacon Productions. He will make his screen debut in "Copacabana," which Sam Coslow is slated to produce for United Artists release.

●

The story of Chicago's Tin Pan Alley—Wabash Avenue—will be combined with the biography of Gus Kahn by 20th Century-Fox to make a musical featuring many of Kahn's better-known songs. Mack Gordon will produce. . . . Betty Dietrich has been signed for an important role in the current Warner picture, "Woman in White." . . . Alan Curtis has been engaged by PRC for the role of "Philo Vance" in a new series of films based on the character created by the late S. S. Van Dine.

●

Hal Wallis has acquired screen rights to "I Walk Alone," by British author Kathleen Wallace. . . . Kindergarten castings: Phillip Bonnell, three-year-old son of Gale Storm and Lee Bonnell, will make his screen debut in Roy Del Ruth's current Monogram production. "It Happened on Fifth Avenue." And Duncan Richardson, another three-year-old, known for his phenomenal swimming ability, has been signed to appear with Esther Williams in "This Time for Keeps," now shooting at M-G-M.

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is the most imitated, the only imitated, journal in this business.

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A QUIGLEY PUBLICATION ROCKEFELLER CENTER NEW YORK 20

Auction Terms

(*Continued from page* 1)

tween theatres not in substantial competition. The proposals would set up the test for clearance on the same basis of the consent decree.

In determining what is reasonable clearance, the defendants proposed the following factors:

(a) The admission prices of the theatres involved, as set by the exhibitors.

(b) The character and location of the theatres involved, including size, type of entertainment, appointments, transit facilities, etc.

(c) The policy of operation of the theatres involved, such as the showing of double features, gift nights, give-aways, premiums, cut-rate tickets, lotteries, etc.

(d) The rental terms and license fees paid by the theatre involved and the revenues derived by the distributor defendant from such theatres.

(e) The extent to which the theatres involved compete with each other for patronage.

(f) The fact that a defendant or an independent circuit of theatres has an interest in one or more of the theatres involved should be disregarded.

(g) There should be no clearance between theatres not in substantial competition.

Washington, Oct. 8—Department of Justice Attorneys today said the defendants' proposed decree, if adopted, would be no better for the Government than to have the case dismissed.

"The document gives the defendants permission to do everything which we are contending is illegal," a spokesman asserted.

On licensing, the proposals read that the defendants would be enjoined from licensing a feature in any case where two or more exhibitors operating competing theatres have notified a distributor that they desire to license such feature on a run designated by the distributor defendant in any manner except the following:

Size, Location

(a) The distributor defendant shall offer such feature to each such exhibitor who has a theatre of the size, location and equipment suitable and adequate to show the feature to advantage upon such run. (The owner may include) "minimum terms" upon which the distributor defendant will grant a license for such run. The license shall be granted to the exhibitor whose offer for the feature satisfies the "minimum terms," if any, and in the judgment of the distributor defendant exercised in good faith affords the best terms. Each such license shall be granted solely upon the merits and without discrimination as between exhibitors competing for the run, whether in favor of theatres in which any other defendant has an interest, old customers, or any personal whatsoever.

(b) In determining which exhibitor's offer affords the best terms the following factors, among others, should be taken into consideration and accorded the importance and weight to which each is entitled regardless of the order in which they are listed:

(1) The film revenue which the distributor defendant will derive from each theatre for the exhibition of such feature on the run in question and upon the terms offered by the exhibitor. In estimating such film revenue, the distributor defendant should take into consideration, among other things:

The number of days for which and the particular days of the week or year or other playing arrangements upon which such exhibitor plans to play the feature; the character, location and size of each theatre; the type of entertainment which each exhibitor intends to present with the feature involved and which the exhibitor in the past has customarily offered the public; the appointments and equipment of each theatre; transit facilities; the admission prices of each theatre as set by the exhibitor for the period of the exhibition of the feature; the distributor defendant's actual experience with each of the exhibitors in fulfilling its obligations in past contracts; each exhibitor's reputation generally in the industry and in the community for honesty, fair dealing and showmanship; and the financial responsibility of the exhibitor operating each of the theatres involved."

Theatres' Suitability

(2) The comparative suitability of the theatres for the advantageous exhibition of the distributor defendant's feature on the run in question; and

(3) The effect which the exhibition of the feature in each of the theatres would have upon other exhibitions of the feature.

The proposals went on to provide for the rejection of a feature by the exhibitor provided he notifies the distributor "in writing within 10 days after there has been an opportunity afforded to the exhibitor to inspect it within the distributor's exchange district in which the exhibition is to be held."

The section on clearance and arbitration follows:

"Controversies arising upon the complaint of an exhibitor that a distributor defendant has not complied with the provisions of subdivision 3 of this section shall be subject to arbitration in the manner provided in the rules of arbitration which are annexed hereto and made a part hereof, and the power of the arbitrator in each of such controversies shall be limited to the making of an award fixing the maximum clearance between the theatre involved which may be granted in licenses thereafter entered into by the distributor defendant which is party to the arbitration or, where the arbitrator finds that the theatres involved are not in substantial competition, prohibiting the granting of clearance between the theatres in licensing thereafter entered into.

"Any distributor defendant or any exhibitor affected by any such award must institute a further arbitration proceeding for a modification thereof upon the ground that since the making of the award the conditions with respect to the theatres involved therein have so changed as to warrant modification, and, in the event that the arbitrator finds that there has been such change, he shall make a redetermination of the clearance and may make an award fixing the maximum clearance if any, which may thereafter be granted in licenses thereafter entered into by the defendant which is a party to the arbitration.

"When, in any arbitration under this subdivision, the findings of the arbitrator shall be that the complainant has not substantiated his complaint, the arbitrator shall enter an award dismissing the complaint."

Dealing with conditions, the defendants contend:

"Where a license has been entered into, an exhibitor shall have no right to assert any such claim unless he shall have mailed to the distributor defendant at its home office a note in writing of such claim and of the grounds therefor not later than two days after receipt by the exhibitor of the distributor defendant's written approval of the exhibitors signed application or applications.

"The power of the arbitrator in deciding any such controversy shall be limited to making, (1) a finding as to whether or not the licensing of a feature was in compliance with such provisions, and if the findings be in the negative, (2) an award cancelling the license for (or to the extent that it may relate to any other feature or features), and (3) in the discretion of the arbitrator, an award of an amount not exceeding $500 to be paid to the complaint.

"Where no license has been entered into an exhibitor shall have no right to assert any such claim unless he shall have mailed to the distributor defendant at its home office a notice in writing of such claim.

Arbitrator's Power

"The power of the arbitrator in deciding any such controversy shall be limited to making (1) a finding as to whether or not the offer to license such feature was made in compliance with such provisions, and, if the findings be in negative, (2) in the discretion of the arbitrator, an award of an amount not exceeding $250 to be paid to the complainant."

In the section dealing with theatre ownership in conjunction with an independent exhibitor, the defendants said:

"The provisions of subdivision 4(a) shall not apply, nor shall the dissolution of any joint relationship between an exhibitor-defendant and an independent exhibitor be required, in any case where such joint relationship resulted from the sale, transfer or other disposition by the exhibitor-defendant of the partial interest in such independent exhibitor, except to the extent, if any, to which and in the places in which the parties were in competition at the time of such sale, transfer or other disposition by the exhibitor-defendant to the independent exhibitor."

The defendant's section on buying and booking is as follows:

"Each exhibitor defendant is hereby enjoined from booking or buying films for any of the theatres which it operates, or from operating any theatre, through any agent known by it to be acting in such capacity with respect to any theatre in which it is not permitted to retain or acquire a proprietary interest, or from acting as a booking or buying agent with respect to any such theatre or any theatre which is not operated by it or by a corporation in which it is permitted to retain or acquire a proprietary interest."

Another provision contained in the decree proposals was that a defendant should be given the right to lease or otherwise contract the temporary use of a theatre for road showing.

Dealing with their own theatre holdings, the defendants wrote:

"Nothing contained in this decree shall be construed to limit, in any way whatsoever, the right of each distributor-defendant to license, or in any way to arrange or provide for the the exhibition of any or all the motion pictures which it may at any time distribute, in such manner, and upon such terms, and subject to such conditions as may be satisfactory to it, in any of its own theatres."

A provision permitting the defendants' counsel to be present at such time as the Justice Department decides to look over the defendants' books was included in the proposals.

On possible "unworkability" of the decree, the defendants said:

"Jurisdiction of this clause is retained for the purpose of enabling the plaintiff or any defendant to apply to this court at any time to modify or to set aside the decree or to take further proceedings in the event that it should appear that the operation of this decree has failed to bring about a correction of the violations of the Sherman Act hereby found to exist and which are the basis of this decree."

The defendants also included a proposal that they be permitted to enlarge theatre holdings and in other manners depart from the provisions of the decree after special hearings by the court (after application) they are found worthy because of special circumstances such as oppressive restrictions which might be unduly burdensome or otherwise inequitable.

While the defendants' decree followed the general court outlined decree, it was more flexible, did not include any licensing ban, had a modified method of bidding controlled by the defendants' decisions in each situation, and called for special consideration by the court in the event that the decree is found to be unworkable and to the detriment of the trade.

Ask Dismissal from Levey-SCA Action

Paramount and General Precision Equipment have filed motions in U. S. District Court here for dismissal of the cross-complaint brought by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur Levey in connection with the Government's Scophony anti-trust action.

The motions are returnable on Nov. 19. The defendants claim that there are no provable damages in the SCA action and that the District Court here has no jurisdiction over the subject matter of the action; improper allegations are also charged.

Scophony, Ltd. of Great Britain is also seeking dismissal from the SCA-Levey action on the grounds of lack of jurisdiction. Scophony, Ltd., has a similar motion pending before Judge Edward A. Conger in New York District Court asking dismissal from the anti-trust suit brought by the Department of Justice with action on the motion expected any day.

RCA Victor V-P Honored

In recognition of RCA Victor's pressing of its one billionth record, Friday, Oct. 18, James W. Murray, vice-president of the company, will be presented with a certificate on Oct. 18, by the National Association of Music Merchants, of which Louis G. LaMair is president.

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VOL. 60. NO. 72 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 10, 1946 TEN CENTS

Griffith Found 'Innocent' In U.S. Anti-Trust Suit

Oklahoma City Federal Court Says Nothing In Evidence in Case Indicates Circuit's Buying Power Gave It Unreasonable Control

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 9.—Judge Edgar S. Vaught today found the Griffith Amusement Co. and related defendants innocent of charges of violating the Sherman Anti-Trust Laws in an opinion sharply differing with the ruling in the Paramount case.

In a far-reaching, 38-page decision in the eight-year-old litigation, Vaught stated: "The theories and contentions of the parties have been patiently followed by the court, but there is nothing in the evidence to justify the conclusion that any buying power possessed by the defendants was ever exerted by the defendants to secure contracts for exhibition rights to the films of the major distributors which gave the defendants an unreasonable control in licensing such film to others in the various towns in the territory covered by the complaint.

"There is nothing in the evidence that would justify the conclusion that the buying power of the defendants was used to absorb or otherwise eliminate a number of actual and potential competitors, nor that would justify the conclusion that the possession of the power or the manner in which it was used is a violation of the Sherman Act."

The Government, Vaught stated, did not establish by a fair preponderance of the evidence that the defendants have purchased or contracted for more moving picture films than they believed were reasonably necessary to supply themselves: "Competition was fair under the circumstances

(Continued on page 5)

MPTOA Asks Injunction vs. Illegal Acts

Plan for Limiting Bids To Affiliateds Dropped

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—A recommendation that the court impose an injunction against the majors prohibiting unfair trade practices rather than imposing specific trade methods such as auction selling, will be sent to the New York Court by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, it was learned today at the close of the two-day meeting of officers and directors of the MPTOA here.

An urgent appeal for exhibitor unity against auction selling was made by Fred Wehrenberg, president of MPTOA, at the conclusion of the meeting.

At the conclusion of the conference, the group of 25 regional and state directors of MPTOA voted in favor of approaching the court on a "friends-of-the-court" basis.

The proposal that auction bidding be restricted to situations where de-

(Continued on page 7)

Day Cites Auction Bidding Advantages

Auction selling of motion pictures will eliminate inequitable practices in hundreds of situations throughout the country making it possible for many independent exhibitors to obtain top product for the first time, Bernard P. Day, president of Joseph P. Day, Inc., said here yesterday. An important by-product of this intensified competition will be the disappearance of buying combines which will no

(Continued on page 7)

ITOA Votes Today On Joining Allied

New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association will decide the question of possible affiliation with National Allied at a meeting at the Hotel Astor here, today. The chance of such an affiliation is considered remote.

The matter of affiliation stems

(Continued on page 7)

AFL Gets AAAA's Anti-Friction Bid

Chicago, Oct. 9.—A resolution calling for settlement of jurisdictional strikes within the American Federation of Labor ranks, which was prepared with reference to the Hollywood labor controversy, was sent to the resolutions committee at the AFL meeting here today by representatives of the Associated Actors and Artistes of America.

The resolution is expected to be reported on some time next week. Thereafter, it is expected to be referred to the AFL executive council—which is tantamount to burial of the resolution.

'IA' Projectionists Get 25% Pay Raise

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—Notable as the first IATSE contract signed by the major studios this year, the Studio Projectionists' Local 165 yesterday signed a pact embodying the previously stipulated 25 per cent increase, retroactive to Jan. 1 of this year, and containing provision for further increases if living costs have advanced five per cent by the end of 1946.

The contract pays regular studio

(Continued on page 5)

Columbia Will Hit US Limit on Sales

Columbia Pictures will attack the Department of Justice's proposal to prohibit the licensing of more than six months' releases at one time, in an additional memorandum to be filed with the three-judge Federal statutory court in the New York anti-trust case. It will act prior to Oct. 22, according to Louis D. Frohlich, Columbia counsel.

Universal, which like Columbia had been selling an entire year's product in advance, is understood to be studying the Government's new proposals, as embodied in its revised proposed decree, which was sub-

(Continued on page 4)

Expect Over 1,200 at TBA Meet Opening Here Today

More than 1,200 registrations are in hand, including scores from top executives in the motion picture, radio, advertising and allied fields for the two-day second annual television conference and exhibition of the Television Broadcasters Association, which will open at the Hotel Waldorf Astoria, here, this morning.

Over 80 papers on every phase of television are to be delivered at the conference by executives, educators, technicians and scientists.

Plans for the creation of a national television network service within the next few years will be featured at the conference and the first post-war ex-

(Continued on page 5)

FCC Asked to Defer Color Video Action

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Engineers at the Federal Communications Commission have advised against approving the "color wheel" method of color television which has been developed by the Columbia Broadcasting System, it was learned today.

The experts have advised the commission to hold up approval of the CBS petition for immediate action on commercial color until the method of electronic color being studied by the

(Continued on page 5)

Maas Will Tour 'MPEA Countries'

Irving Mass, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, will sail on Oct. 25 on the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth* for a six-weeks' tour of MPEA's European countries. Initial stop will be Paris, where Maas will preside at a four-day meeting of MPEA's Continental managers and representatives, including Arnold C. Childhouse, Holland; Morris Goodman, Germany; Wolfgang Wolf, Austria; Louis Kan-

(Continued on page 4)

Personal Mention

NED E. DEPINET, RKO executive vice-president, and PHIL REISMAN, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of distribution, will return to New York from London Oct. 16.

•

NICK TRONOLONE, Pathe Laboratories vice-president, will leave here for the Coast today and is due in Mexico City Oct. 15 to inspect the laboratory being built there by Pathe for RKO Radio.

•

IRIS SHARTIN, daughter of WILLIAM S. SHARTIN, United Artists branch manager in Cleveland, and HOWARD GOLDSTONE are engaged to be married.

•

HENRY W. HAUSTEIN, Paramount branch manager in Portland, Ore., is in New York conferring with GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division sales manager.

•

JOHN DAVIS, managing director of Odeon Theatres, Ltd., is due in New York by plane next Tuesday from England.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, and LEM JONES, his assistant, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

• •

JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, and his assistant, PAUL RICHRATH, will leave here Sunday for Boston.

•

PAULA SELIGMAN, formerly with the Paramount and Republic story departments here, is now writing television scripts.

•

WILLIAM M. PIZOR, foreign manager of Screen Productions, will leave New York for Chicago today.

•

GEORGE WEISS, 20th Century-Fox studio publicity liaison, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood.

•

LEONARD CASE of Vanguard's New York office has left for Paris by plane.

•

WILLIAM Z. PORTER, Monogram home office auditor, left Hollywood yesterday for a tour of exchanges.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M district manager, has returned to his Albany headquarters from New York.

•

RICHARD MORGAN of the Paramount legal staff in New York will leave for Seattle today.

•

JOHN JENKINS, president of Astor Pictures of Dallas, and MRS. JENKINS are due in New York.

•

JOHN E. FLYNN, M-G-M Midwestern sales manager, is due here from Chicago today.

•

HARRY K. MCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for Cincinnati.

•

REX HARRISON, 20th Century-Fox star, is here from the Coast.

18 16mm. Programs Set by Warners

Under its plan for supplying 16mm. films to the foreign field, Warner Brothers is releasing the pictures in combination programs consisting of a feature and a short, with 18 such programs already completed for distribution first in Latin-America, where the company's 16mm. activities were launched recently.

Included in the Spanish programs set to date are: "Action in the North Atlantic" and the short, "Daffy's Southern Exposure"; "Captain Blood" and "Rhythm of the Rhumba"; "Oklahoma Kid" and "A Night in Mexico City"; "Objective Burma" and "A Coy Decoy"; "Passage to Marseille" and "Gopher Goofy"; "Sergeant York" and "Rhythm on Ice"; "Santa Fe Trail" and "Fight, Fish, Fight"; "The Sea Hawk" and "Hobby Horse Laffs"; "They Died with Their Boots On" and "Prehistoric Porky"; "Virginia City" and "Sword Fishing"; "Always in My Heart" and "Hunting the Hard Way"; "Casablanca" and "Musical Mexico"; "Kings Row" and "Puss'n Booty"; "Mildred Pierce" and "Points on Arrows"; "Now, Voyager" and "Shark Hunting"; "Saratoga Trunk" and "You Ought To Be in Pictures"; "To Have and Have Not" and "California Junior Symphony"; "My Reputation" and "Daffy Duckaroo."

Distribution of 16mm. versions by Warners, under the supervision of A. C. Brauninger, is expected to be placed on a world-wide basis in the near future. European plans in this connection are now being worked out.

Handel Writes Book On Audience Surveys

Leo Handel, president of the Motion Picture Research Bureau, which conducts audience surveys for M-G-M exclusively, has completed a book. "Film Audience Research," covering all phases of the subject, including an evaluation of exhibitors' opinions. Howard Dietz, M-G-M advertising-publicity chief, contributed the introduction for the book, publication of which has yet to be set.

That part of M-G-M's research which had been handled by Audience Research Institute since last February has reverted back to Handel's outfit.

Carriers Meet and Re-elect Clark

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—Problems affecting operation and distribution services of film carriers were discussed at the Film Carriers Conference, here, announced J. P. Clark, Highway Express, Philadelphia, who was re-elected chairman. John Vickers, of Charlotte, was named vice-chairman.

Carriers attending included Myer Adleman, Harold Shertz and Clint Weyer, all of Philadelphia; Charles Iles and Harold McKinny, Des Moines; E. E. Jameson, Kansas City; Earl Goldberg, Los Angeles; Harry Bridgeman, Washington; Frank Smith, Syracuse.

9 Films Quarterly From United Artists

United Artists will release nine features quarterly during 1946-47, for a total of 36. After already releasing two for the current quarter, it announced seven more yesterday for the period, J. J. Unger, general sales manager, listing the seven as follows:

Oct. 11, Comet Productions' "Little Iodine"; Oct. 25, Hunt Stromberg's "Strange Woman"; Nov. 15, Hopalong Cassidy Productions' "The Devil's Playground"; Nov. 22, Seymour Nebenzal's "The Chase"; Dec. 6, Preston Sturges' "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock"; Dec. 13, Comet's "Susie Steps Out"; Dec. 27, Bing Crosby's "Abie's Irish Rose."

The two already released were Andrew Stone's "Bachelor's Daughters" and Charles R. Rogers' "Angel on My Shoulder."

DeRochemont to Talk To Ampa on Europe

Richard De Rochemont, producer of March of Time, will address the next luncheon meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at the Town Hall Club here on Thursday, Oct. 17, to be held here at a place to be determined. DeRochemont, who will speak on "The European Film Market Today," recently completed a five-week tour of European capitals.

Phil Williams, AMPA vice-president, will preside in company with Rutgers Neilson, AMPA president.

'Pink Tickets' for 7 From Chicago Censor

CHICAGO, Oct. 9.—One French picture, "Amuck," and six other films were tagged "for adults only" by the local censor board during September. The six features "pink-ticketed" were: "So Dead the Night" (Col.); "The Gorilla Woman" (Capitol); "Her Sister's Secret" (PRC); "Angel on My Shoulder" (UA); "Dead of Night" (Universal-British); "The Woman We Fool" (Azteca). Latter is a Mexican film.

One hundred and twelve pictures were viewed during September and 19 cuts were made. All told 426,000 feet of film was viewed by the board.

Film to Show Where Admission Price Goes

LONDON, Oct. 9.—General council of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association will produce a six-minute film to illustrate how 39 per cent of the money paid for theatre admissions in this country goes to the Government in the form of taxes. The decision was made in light of the Government's expressed reluctance to reduce the entertainment levy.

Olson Gets DuMont Post

Victor E. Olson has been appointed sales manager of the receiver sales department of Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories, by Ernest A. Marx, general manager of DuMont television division.

Managers Not in Chicago 'IA' Drive

Chicago, Oct. 9. — Richard Walsh, IATSE president, reiterated here today that managers will not be included in the new theatre "white collar" workers being organized in Chicago. This was also affirmed here by Gene Atkinson, business agent of the local operators' union, who in Nov. re original announcement regarding formation of the union, had stated that managers would be in the new unit.

Seattle Anti-Trust Case Trial Starts

SEATTLE, Oct. 9.—Trial of the anti-trust suit brought by Theatre Investment Co., operators of the Bagdad and Venetian Theatres, against distributors, has started in U. S. District Court here.

Theatre Investment is seeking $138,476 in damages, plus $20,000 in counsel fees, alleging control to prevent its buying product. Defendants are RKO Radio, Warner, Universal, Loew's Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, National Theatres, Evergreen Theatres and Fox Pacific Theatres.

Robert Nickerson of Dwight, Harris, Koegel and Caskey is here for 20th Century-Fox, with Richard Morgan of Paramount and Earle Beatty of Loew's expected from New York this week.

Lamantia Gets Post On Rank Sales Staff

Nick Lamantia, formerly with Universal Pictures, has been added to the special field representatives staff of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, by William J. Heineman, general sales manager. Lamantia will supervise Dallas, Atlanta, New Orleans, Memphis, Charlotte and Oklahoma City for the Rank product released through Universal-International.

He was New Orleans branch manager of Universal in 1943, and entered the Armed Services in the following year. Upon his return he re-joined Universal, remaining as branch manager of the Atlanta office until last June when he resigned to enter his own business.

Zimbalist Named PRC Press Book Editor

Al Zimbalist has been named press book editor of PRC Pictures, here, and will begin his new duties on Oct. 21, it was announced yesterday by Arnold Stoltz, national director of PRC advertising-publicity. Zimbalist was for the past year advertising-publicity director for Film Classics, prior to which he handled publicity and exploitation for RKO Theatres, here, and for Warner Philadelphia theatres.

He is the author of "Sweet Georgia Brown," now being produced by RKO Radio.

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ONCE AGAIN "GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND GOOD PICTURE-MAKING" IN **WARNER SHORTS**

"MEN OF TOMORROW"

PRINTED IN **TECHNICOLOR**

Produced in Co-operation with

THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA



Mr. Exhibitor Mr. Booker Mr. Manager

Your theatre can accomplish as much goodwill with this short subject as with any picture in memory. The opportuniiy for broad-scale civic cooperation is tremendous! See the short. See the pressbook.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY Warner OF TALKING PICTURES

British Managers' Unionizing Dropped

LONDON, Oct. 9.—Giving way to pleas by its independent members, the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association has decided to abandon drafting of an agreement for the unionization of theatre managers and will, instead, re-examine the whole question of managers' salaries and working conditions.

The independents have held that managers are not mere employes, but virtual partners in their enterprises, a sentiment said to be reflected by the managers themselves, who are understood to feel that their work cannot be accomplished satisfactorily in eight hours per day, as required by the unions.

Following a debate on the subject at a CEA meeting today, the exhibitors' negotiating committee of the association has been enlarged to include eight additional independents. This development is regarded as a successful challenge by the independents to dominance on the part of CEA's London headquarters.



Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

A bus strike has had some effect on theatre business here. Eight first-run houses, however, are grossing above average, with "Notorious" and "The Killers" setting the pace. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 10-11:

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th - Fox)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,250) (65c-95c) On stage: Larry Adler. 2nd week. Gross: $58,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) Twice daily, 9th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $14,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio) — GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $18,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) On stage: Del Courtney's orchestra, 2nd week. Gross: $40,000. ($45,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $34,000. Average: $24,000)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox) — STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) Gross: $31,000. (Average: $29,000)

EASY TO WED (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

"Make Mine Music" is the leader in a week of clear but cold weather. Business is described as satisfactory although a majority of the grosses are somewhat below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 9-11:

STELLA DALLAS (Film Classics) and UNHOLY GARDEN (Film Classics)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $1,160.

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $32,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) With vaudeville. 7 days. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M) and THE INNER CIRCLE (Rep.) — PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $23,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000)

TO EACH HIS OWN (Para.) and TRAFFIC IN CRIME (Rep.)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 2nd week on moveover from St. Francis. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

STELLA DALLAS (Film Classics) and UNHOLY GARDEN (Film Classics) — TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $1,100.

YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $14,000)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $27,000)

BOSTON

Baseball fever and a sudden return of hot weather combined to keep grosses around average. Loew's Orpheum and State have shifted to a policy of opening new pictures on Sunday and find it working well. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 9:

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Donald O'Connor, Joan Roberts, Three Swifts. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $26,300)

OF HUMAN BONDAGE (WB) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,900. (Average: $7,300)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $24,800)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.) and THE LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,800)

THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.), 3 days; I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.), 4 days—ORPHEM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,700)

OF HUMAN BONDAGE (WB) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,600. (Average: $14,200)

THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.), 3 days; I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.) 4 days—STATE (2,200) (35c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $17,300)

ST. LOUIS

Although the World Series hit matinee business, theatres at night have benefited by the influx of visitors, with the result that grosses are satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 9:

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ALIBI (RKO Radio)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $18,000)

CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS (M-G-M) and THE GENTLEMAN MISBEHAVES (Col.)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (40c-50c-65c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and THE FRENCH KEY (Rep.)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

WITHOUT RESERVATIONS (RKO Radio) and A STOLEN LIFE (WB)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)

GHOST BREAKERS (Para. reissue) and BLUEBEARD'S EIGHTH WIFE (Para. reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,500)

Warners Badger Theatre
Racine, Wisconsin
HELD OVER
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Columbia to Hit

(*Continued from page* 1)

mitted to the court here last Monday; and 'U' will probably make a decision in a few days. United Artists has been selling films singly, while the five theatre-owning defendants sold in blocks before the decision in the New York case.

Frohlich will charge in his memorandum to the Federal court that the Department of Justice is seeking to violate Columbia's rights under the U. S. Copyright Act in attempting to gain this new limitation on licensing, which, he claims, is in no way connected with the decision in the case. He plans to point out that the Department's proposal would restrict Columbia's rights under the Copyright Act and coupled with other proposals made by the Government, tend to destroy the rights of Columbia granted to it in film licensing by the act.

Columbia may be the only company which would be hit by the attempt of the Government to limit sales to six months' product, because Universal has indicated a switch to single picture sales, although it might fight the new Government proposal.

While the Department of Justice had originally proposed a cancellation privilege of 25 per cent on a year's product, where pictures were sold in advance of trade showings, the new proposal would presumably allow a 25 per cent cancellation on six months' product; Columbia had proposed a 20 per cent cancellation on a year's product sold in advance.

Maas MPEA Tour

(*Continued from page* 1)

turek, Czechoslovakia; Dr. Nicholas Palugyay, Hungary; Nicholas Cazazis, Rumania.

The first overseas field conference since MPEA's organization is scheduled for Nov. 3-7, and while in the French capital, Maas will hold conferences with European managers of MPEA member companies.

From Paris, Maas will proceed to Amsterdam, Prague, Budapest and Bucharest for personal inspection of MPEA's distribution facilities and for discussions aimed at coordinating and integrating the organizations in those countries. His trip will also include visits to American-occupied zones in Germany and Austria where he will survey the present U. S. military government - controlled distribution setup under which MPEA releases.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
SAN FRANCISCO TRADE SHOWING
OF
"VACATION IN RENO"
THURSDAY, OCT. 17, AT 10:30 A.M.
RKO PROJ. ROOM, 251 HYDE ST. - SAN FRANCISCO

Griffith Cleared

(*Continued from page* 1)

of each situation involved. The defendants went into the open market and bought their product from the distributors in the same manner as was open to all competitors. The defendants were alert and progressive and took such advantages only as were natural in the industry.

"There is nothing in the evidence to justify the conclusion that the distributors were overawed or overreached in their dealings with defendants; or that the distributors were compelled or coerced into entering into any contract with the defendants by reason of the buying power of the defendants or from any other cause. There is no evidence that would justify the conclusion that any combination or agreement of any character existed between the defendants and the distributors that had for its purpose the stifling of competition in, or monopolization of, the exhibition of moving picture films or to unreasonably restrain trade or interstate commerce in such exhibition of moving picture films, that has been occasioned or brought about by the manner in which the defendants used any buying power they possessed."

Vaught ruled that the Griffith brothers had succeeded in expanding so tremendously during the 1930's due to sound business practices: "The Griffith brothers," he held, "are shown to have been exceptionally good theatre operators keeping consistently abreast of the developments of a rapidly growing industry their accounts naturally were coveted by the producers and distributors."

Buying Tactics

In another place Vaught previewed the buying tactics of the Griffiths in great detail: "The testimony of all the major distributors is that in licensing the films, the Griffith theatres were treated as another exhibitor." Vaught said that neither Griffith Amusement Co. nor Consolidated Theatres had any control of any character over the operations of Griffith Theatres, Inc., or Wes-Tex, and *vice versa*. Each has been, and was at the time of the trial a distinct entity from the date of its organization. Thus he ruled out the Government convention that the four corporations were combined into one circuit. And competition, Vaught asserted, is the life of trade: "The very law we have under consideration, the Sherman Act, has for its purpose the protection of competition. The law has always favored it."

The Department of Justice brought its anti-trust suit against Griffith on April 28, 1939 asking for the dissolution and rearrangement of the Griffith theatre holdings; for injunctive relief restraining the defendant circuits from negotiating joint contracts with distributors; and enjoining Griffith from further acquisition "of additional theatres or financial interests therein."

After entry of a consent decree in the New York anti-trust suit in 1940, the Department of Justice concentrated its action upon Griffith as part of its program to press its actions against the Schine and Crescent circuits. It was the last of the three regional actions to be tried. The government won victories in the other two.

The trial of the Griffith action started in Oklahoma City May 4, 1945 and concluded Oct. 2, 1945. The distributors who were originally parties to the action were dropped out before the case went to trial. During the trial, Robert L. Wright, government counsel, attempted to prove that contracts between Griffith and the distributors from 1933 to 1938 were designed to eliminate competition.

The Government brought the suit against Griffith Amusement Co., Griffith Consolidated Theatres, Inc., R. E. Griffith Theatres, Inc., Wes-Tex Theatres, Inc., and eight distributing companies.

The distributors were later dismissed as defendants after the signing of the consent decree in the Paramount case. Individual defendants are L. C. Griffith, now seriously ill in a local hospital, H. J. Griffith, Kansas City, and R. E. Griffith, deceased.

FCC Color Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

National Broadcasting System has been further advanced.

The reason for holding up the FCC decision on color television is that a special receiving set is required for each method or process used. FCC hopes to approve some color method and see it used on a universal basis, it is said.

FCC Sets Dec. 9 Hearings On Color Television

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Despite a report that the Federal Communications Commission is not in support of the "color wheel" method of color video developed by the Columbia Broadcasting system, it announced that hearings will be held on the technical and economic problems of commercializing color television on Dec. 9.

The announced hearing was in response to a petition filed Sept. 27 by CBS asking immediate action on the color video developed by them.

NBC, presently preparing a method of electronic television in color, will appear in protest to commercial operation of any mechanical method of color, it was said.

Don Lee To Appear

Don Lee Broadcasting Co., which has been working on still another method of color video will also appear at the CBS commercial color hearings.

FCC said that it wants the actual cost of the CBS method to the public of color receivers and the present stage of their production, economic and technical problems involved in putting out two-band sets for color, equipped to receive both on the present television band and the ultra-high frequencies used for the CBS-type color broadcasts will also be aired.

Individuals who desire to testify before the commission should file applications before Nov. 25. The Radio Technical Planning Board and Radio Manufacturers Association, which have been testing color, were also made parties to the hearing by FCC.

WDAD Joins CBS Nov. 4

WDAD, Indiana, Pa., will join the Columbia network as its 161st affiliate, effective Nov. 4, it was announced by Herbert V. Akerberg, CBS vice-president in charge of station relations.

TBA Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

hibition of television equipment—ranging from large transmitting units and studio equipment to streamlined television receivers in all sizes and designs—will be unveiled this morning.

Products of television manufacturers will be shown. Television transmitters and studio equipment will be exhibited by RCA Victor, General Electric, DuMont Laboratories; television receivers will be displayed by Farnsworth, DuMont, General Electric, Philco, RCA Victor, Telicon, Crosley, and, Sonora with additional displays set by National Broadcasting, American Telephone and Telegraph and Belmont Electric.

Among those to be heard at the conference are: J. R. Poppele, president of TBA; Merlin H. Aylesworth, Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, Arthur F. Van Dyke, Edgar Kobak, Robert S. Peare, Frank Kingdon, Thomas F. Joyce, Frank Mansfield, Dr. George Gallup, H. Allen Smith.

Also: H. V. Kaltenborn, Dr. William Carr, Lt. Col. Eric Tebow, Comm. Bonney Powell, Ernest H. Vogel, Leonard F. Cramer, L. G. Woodford, R. M. Gray, Charles Durban, Charles Hammond, Warren Wade, John Allen, K. A. L. Foster, A. D. Rodner, Jr., Ed Franklin, Don McClure, among others.

Two functions arranged for the conference include the banquet session, tonight, at which the annual TBA "Awards of Merit" will be presented and the luncheon session at noon, also today, at which time TBA will salute the United Nations. Benjamin Cohen of Chile, assistant secretary general of United Nations will be the guest speaker.

Television stations in New York City, Schenectady, Philadelphia and Washington, will telecast many of the sessions of the conference, which will be picked up by image orthicon cameras and transmitted on the four-city network.

Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., is general chairman in charge of arrangements. His executive committee includes: Paul Raibourn, awards; Popple, speakers; Douglas Day, budget; Richard Hooper, displays; F. J. Bingley, engineering; P. G. Caldwell, panel meetings; George Shupert, program committee; Herbert E. Taylor, banquet; D. K. de Neuf, registration; Noran E. Kersta, television programs and Will Baltin, publicity-promotion.

'IA' Projectionists

(*Continued from page* 1)

projectionists $116.40 weekly on the basis of 40 hours and six days, specialized categories receiving more.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9.—The strike situation here continued virtually unchanged today as all factions still awaited development at the American Federation of Labor convention at Chicago.

Columbia was the target for mass picket tactics for a second day. Late this afternoon, however, the company obtained a court order limiting pickets heretofore to a total of 25. Similar action had been taken previously by M-G-M, Warners and Republic. The Conference of Studio Unions is expected to shift mass pickets to another studio tomorrow.

Will Fete Zimmerman

William Zimmerman, RKO Radio sales executive, will be honored by his associates at a cocktail party in the Ritz Carlton Hotel, here, tomorrow, upon the occasion of his approaching marriage. Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president, heads the committee which also consists of Walter Barnson, Nat Levy and D. J. Loventhal.

Plagiarism Charged

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 9. — Samuel R. Golding and Norbert Faulkner have filed suit against Loew's and M. C. Levee for $50,000 charging plagiarism of the plaintiffs' original story which they allegedly had submitted to Levee who is said to have sold it to Loew's.



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 14	IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG C—(1038) SINGING ON THE TRAIL O	(Block 17) THREE WISE FOOLS Margaret O'Brien C—90 mins. (628) (Rev. 6/13/46)	DECOY Edward Norris Jean Gillie D—76 mins. (Rev. 9/17/46)					(September Releases) BLACK BEAUTY Mona Freeman Richard Denning O—76 mins. (636) (Rev. 7/17/46)			
Sept. 21	GALLANT JOURNEY Glenn Ford Janet Blair Charles Ruggles D—86 mins. (2004) (Rev. 9/5/46)		TRIGGER FINGERS Johnny Mack Brown O—56 mins. (Rev. 10/3/46)	(Block 6) (Special) MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE Bob Hope C—93 mins. (Rev. 5/13/46) (Block 6) SWAMP FIRE Johnny Weissmuller Buster Crabbe D—69 mins. (Rev. 5/16/46)	OUTLAWS OF THE PLAINS O—56 mins. HER SISTER'S SECRET D—85 mins. (Rev. 9/12/46)	RIO GRANDE RAIDERS O—56 mins. (558) ROLL ON TEXAS MOON O—68 mins. (542) (Rev. 9/13/46)	(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46)	CLAUDIA AND DAVID Dorothy McGuire Robert Young C—78 mins. (637) (Rev. 7/24/46)	ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER Paul Muni Anne Baxter Claude Rains D—101 mins. (Rev. 9/16/46)	THEY WERE SISTERS Phyllis Calvert James Mason D—115 mins. (Rev. 5/15/45)	SHADOW OF A WOMAN Helmut Dantine Andrea King D—78 mins. (602) (Rev. 8/14/46)
Sept. 28	SHADOWED Anita Louise Michael Dunne D— (7042)				ACCOMPLICE Richard Arlen Vida Ann Borg D—66 mins. (Rev. 9/24/46)		LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46)	IF I'M LUCKY Vivian Blaine Perry Como Carmen Miranda M—(638) (Rev. 8/28/46)			
Oct. 5	THE THRILL OF BRAZIL Evelyn Keyes Keenan Wynn Ann. Miller M—91 mins. (7006) (Rev. 9/9/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE Frank Morgan Keenan Wynn C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46)	GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D—72 mins. (607) (Rev. 9/24/46)		DRIFTIN' RIVER O BRUTE MAN Tom Neal Jane Adams		SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46)	(Re-release) SUN VALLEY SERENADE John Paine Sonja Henie M—86 mins. (Rev. 7/28/41)		(October Releases) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	CLOAK AND DAGGER Gary Cooper Robert Alda Lilli Palmer D—106 mins. (603) (Rev. 9/9/46)
Oct. 12		NO LEAVE, NO LOVE Van Johnson Keenan Wynn C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46)			GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D		(Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46)	LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)	TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent Charles Korvin Paul Lucas	
Oct. 19	LAND RUSH Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnette O—54 mins. (861) (Rev. 9/17/46)	(Re-issue) RAGE IN HEAVEN Ingrid Bergman Robt. Montgomery D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby			HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46)			NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)		BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean	LAST FRONTIER UPRISING Monte Hale Adrian Booth O	(Block 2) SINBAD, THE SAILOR (Color) D. Fairbanks, Jr. Maureen O'Hara D	STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46) (Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)	STRANGE WOMAN (Stromberg) Hedy Lamarr George Sanders Louis Hayward		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605)
Nov. 2			BRINGING UP FATHER Joe Yule Renie Riano C				WOMAN ON THE BEACH Joan Bennett Robert Ryan D			Nov. Release) NOTORIOUS GENTLEMEN Rex Harrison Lillie Palmer	
Nov. 9			SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O			HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46) CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)			NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C
Nov. 16			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang		CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	MARGIE Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan D—(646) WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)	(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		
Nov. 23			SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely Lasses White	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)	STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O				(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan		

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date*

MPTOA Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

fendants own theatres was discarded by the MPTOA group.

The primary concrete decision was that the exhibitor group will be in strong opposition to auction selling, with the belief that a court injunction preventing the defendants to discriminate against independent exhibitors would be sufficient to eliminate the monopoly alleged by the Government.

Weherenberg asserted that auction bidding is so vicious that all exhibitor attempts to influence the court to discard it should be approved by all other exhibitors. Weherenberg evidently meant that the MPTOA fight against the court's bidding plan should be approved by other organized exhibitor groups such as Allied, and the American Theatres Association.

Actually, all exhibitor groups are in opposition to the auction-selling plan, but Allied States is the only organization which has proposed a substitute. Allied believes, according to its counsel, Abram F. Myers, that auction-selling will work if it is restricted to specific cases and if the ban on cross-licensing is included as a companion for the selling plan.

Commenting on auction selling in an appeal for exhibitor unity, Weherenberg said: "The approach on the problem and the methods employed may differ, and there is room for honest disagreement as to approach and methods. The end, however, is the same—the elimination of auction bidding."

MPTOA board chairman Lewen Pizor announced that the gist of the meeting was approval of the distributor's proposal for arbitration of certain disputes in accordance with the recommendation of the judges that arbitration be discarded. Pizor also disclosed that the group agreed that if arbitration is approved, it should be handled with the exhibitor and distributor, each selling a member of the arbitration board, and an umpire chosen by the law if the two cannot agree.

Pizor pointed out that MPTOA's policy has always been to encourage arbitration and conciliation and to discourage litigation.

The conference approved the distributors proposal that "road shows" be permitted "provided the road showing of the particular picture was a national policy."

Herman M. Levy, general counsel for MPTOA, has been instructed to prepare a brief for the court which is in objection to auction bidding and which contains discussion of the favorable and unfavorable suggestions of the justice department and of the distributors.

The results of the MPTOA poll on "auction selling" will also be transmitted to the court as a part of its brief, it was disclosed. The poll was unanimously against the court's bidding proposal.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 9.—Approval of the MPTOA proposal for an industry-wide forum to discuss the problems arising from the final judgment in the New York industry case was made today by its board of directors.

Fostered by MPTOA, president Fred Weherenberg, the forum would consist of representatives of producers, distributors and exhibitors.

Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has already asserted that he would be glad to act as moderator at such a meeting between the industry representatives. However, Johnston has not yet been approached by MPTOA on the matter, his office reports.

MPTOA board voted against holding the forum at present. It was agreed that the industry-wide meeting should not be held until after the New York Court renders its final judgment in the equity case.

Day on Auctions

(*Continued from page* 1)

longer serve any purpose under the new setup, Day declared.

The Day organization, one of the leading real-estate auctioneers in the country, submitted some weeks ago to the distributors, the Department of Justice and the Federal Court a plan under which it would establish nationwide facilities for auction bidding, "safeguarded to insure open and impartial operation" for auctioning, as proposed in the New York anti-trust decision.

Day said the opposition of exhibitors to auction selling on the ground that they could not compete for product against the larger resources of the circuits was largely unjustified. Commenting on the inequities that would be removed by auction selling, Day said: "Every exhibitor knows of certain situations where chains have been able to buy films at lower rentals than competing exhibitors were willing to pay, sometimes paying as little as nine per cent of their gross, or $100 for a film a nearby exhibitor would gladly pay $300. Such conditions will not be possible under auction selling.

"There are many good (independent) operators who have nice houses with a fair amount of seats who have been playing 'B,' 'C,' and 'D' product for years because they could not get anything else. Auction selling will make top product available to these exhibitors, who before could not compete with a circuit operation.

"Wouldn't an exhibitor who has been paying $700 weekly for his film bill and grossing between $1,600 and $1,700, gladly pay $1,400 if his intake went up to $3,000?," Day observed.

"This single-theatre exhibitor would no longer have to fear the power of a buying combine of which his nearest competitor is a member. The buying combine has been able to obtain product this exhibitor wanted because the distributors found it more advantageous to sign 100 theatres at a time instead of one. The buying combine, which could threaten distributors with a ban on their product unless satisfactory terms were reached, will be without purpose when pictures must be bid on individually."

ITOA, Allied Vote

(*Continued from page* 1)

from ITOA president Harry Brandt's proposal of one national organization of all independent groups which he advanced at Allied's convention in Boston last month. Brandt thereupon put the matter of ITOA's alignment with such an organization in the hands of a committee headed by Leon Rosenblatt and including John C. Bolte, Robert Goldblatt and Rudolph Sanders. The group will present its report at today's session and a vote will be taken.

it's hard to keep a secret...

When Everyone Who Is Anyone Is Talking About...

HER SISTER'S SECRET

it's hard to keep a secret...

When Everyone Knows The NEW PRC Has Another Big Boxoffice Hit—

So We're Going to Let You in on

HER SISTER'S SECRET

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VOL. 60. NO. 73 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11, 1946 TEN CENTS

U. S. Protest In Work on Decree Idea

Will Oppose Nearly All Distributor Proposals

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—A sweeping protest to the defendants' proposed judgment will be submitted to the New York District Court by the Justice Department next week.

Taking special issue on the rights of the major defendants to set minimum auction terms, the Government will submit to the court a complete legal analysis of the impact of a final order granting such authority.

Worried over the defendants' pro-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Sentenced on 'Hot' 16mm. Print Charge

Joseph Bitto, who had pleaded guilty to a charge of copyright infringement involving 16mm. version of 20th Century-Fox's "Song of Bernadette," was fined $250 and sentenced to six months imprisonment by Federal Judge Grover Moscowitz here yesterday. The jail sentence was suspended and Bitto was placed on probation for 18 months.

Bitto was one of a number arrested last April by Federal Bureau of Investigation agents in connection with

(*Continued on page 7*)

Distributors Submit Individual Findings

The five theatre-owning distributor defendants in the New York anti-trust case have each submitted supplemental proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law to the three-judge Federal statutory court, here, and to the Department of Justice in Washington.

One proposed decree and one general set of proposed findings had previously been submitted last Monday. The supplementals deal with conditions specific to the individual defendants.

Actors Seek Meeting with Green on AFL Peace Plan

CHICAGO, Oct. 10.—An official of the American Federation of Labor convention here today said that members of the Screen Actors Guild will seek an audience here with William Green, AFL president, in order to expedite the setting up of machinery to eliminate Hollywood jurisdictional strikes.

Members of the SAG met here today at the Morrison Hotel with the three-man AFL executive council committee which had handed down its decision in the Hollywood jurisdictional dispute last Dec. 26 favoring the IATSE, and on Aug. 16 this year issued a "clarification" of the order which, in effect, negated the December decision.

Meeting here were George Murphy, Edward Arnold, Ronald Reagan and Gene Kelly of the SAG, and the three AFL vice-presidents, who are members of the AFL executive council: Felix Knight, W. C. Birthright and W. C. Doherty.

Murphy said that everyone he has

(*Continued on page 4*)

'U' Signs Long Term Deal with Pathe 'Lab'

Eastern Film Laboratories in Bound Brook, N. J., a division of Pathe Industries, has consummated a long term exclusive contract with Universal Pictures for all film processing and printing for Universal and its subsidiaries, according to Robert W. Purcell, chairman of the board of Pathe Industries. Imminence of the deal was reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Sept. 23. It is understood that the contract will run for at least 10 years. Pathe has been handling Universal printing for several years, but on short term deals.

Purcell also revealed that construction of a new building to provide enlarged quarters for Eastern Film Laboratories has been approved by the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Congress Anti-Trust Probe Hearings Off

WASHINGTON, Oct. 10.—Congressman Estes Kefauver, chairman of the Monopoly Subcommittee of the House Small Business Committee today announced that hearings of his subcommittee, set for Oct. 15, have been cancelled.

The committee probe was to extend into the film industry. However, the committee will still study the enforce-

(*Continued on page 7*)

TBA Awards Go to Nine

Winners of the annual "Awards of Merit" of the Television Broadcasters Association were honored at TBA's banquet last night with presentations made by Paul Raibourn, vice-president of Paramount Pictures, president of Television Productions, and a member of the TBA board. The awards climaxed the first day of a two-day TBA national conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, and were made as follows:

To Dr. Albert Rose, Dr. Harold Bell Law and Dr. Paul Kessler Weimer, all of RCA Laboratories, for outstanding technical contributions to television; to John Royal, NBC vice-president, for the individual responsible for the best special events program

(*Continued on page 7*)

Affiliation Is Still Under ITOA 'Study'

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, at a meeting held at the Hotel Astor, here, yesterday, voted to "make a study" of possible affiliation with "national organization," according to an ITOA statement. It was said that an ITOA committee will arrange a meeting with National Allied to discuss the subject.

Brandt originally made a proposal for a national organization of all independent groups before Allied's Boston convention last month. At that time the idea was turned over to an ITOA committee which was to have given its report at yesterday's meeting. ITOA declined to make known the nature of the report; instead, it announced that the meeting "voted

(*Continued on page 7*)

British Editor Says Breen Succeeded

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—Reginald Whitley, motion picture editor of the *London Daily Mirror,* who is here for conferences with industry leaders, declared today that the recent visit to England of Production Code Administrator Joseph I. Breen had greatly improved British understanding of the code.

"Breen's visit made British pro-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hail Griffith Opinion As a 'New Concept'

Posession of Power No Trust Law Violation

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 10.—Federal Judge Edgar S. Vaught's opinion exonerating Griffith Amusement Co. and related defendants in the Government's anti-trust suit there was described today by Henry Griffing, chief counsel for Griffith, as a "new conception of the Sherman Anti-Trust Act."

Washington, Oct. 10.—The Griffith Amusement Co. anti-trust suit will be appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court, the Justice Department said today, despite the fact that it had not yet seen the opinion.

The Department is expected to appeal as soon as it can draw up papers and determine appeal grounds, it was said.

"The Act previously has been interpreted as the right of the government to regulate and maintain equality among competitors," Griffing said. "Judge Vaught spoke emphatically in

(*Continued on page 7*)

Lull, Not Cessation, In RKO's 'B' Output

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—There will be a lull, but no cessation of RKO Radio's production of "B" pictures, a studio spokesman asserts, thus refuting rumors that the company would follow other studios' example in abandoning minor-budget product.

The declaration by N. Peter Rathvon, RKO and RKO Radio president, when he took charge of the studio, that the company will always make "B"

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"A Lady Surrenders" and "Vacation in Reno" are reviewed on Page 8; "Fool's Gold," "Rio Grande Raiders" and "Dangerous Money," on Page 6.

Personal Mention

ERIC JOHNSTON, Motion Picture Association president, returned to Washington yesterday after a short visit here.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of domestic distribution, will leave here for the Coast today, accompanied by NAT LEVY and WALTER BRANSON, Eastern and Western district managers, respectively.

•

ADOLPH ZUKOR, II, grandson of the Paramount board chairman and an employe of the company's home office international department, celebrated his 21st birthday yesterday.

•

AL DAFF, vice-president of Universal International Films, will leave here by plane for London today and will continue from there to the Continent.

•

STANLEY HIGGINSON, Warners' managing director for Australia, arrived in New York yesterday by plane from Sydney via San Francisco.

•

ISABELLE AUSTIN of the Roxy Theatre publicity department will leave here tomorrow by plane for a two-week vacation in Bermuda.

•

HERBERT J. YATES, WILLIAM SAAL and HYMAN J. GLICK, Republic executives, will leave Hollywood for New York by plane on Sunday.

•

LEO M. DEVANEY, RKO Radio Canadian division sales manager, is in New York.

•

GEORGE SHARF of M-G-M's legal department will leave here over the weekend for New Orleans.

To Honor Mrs. Hal Horne

Prominent for her leadership in Jewish philanthropic activities in New York and Hollywood, Mrs. Hal Horne, member of the boards of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, United Jewish Appeal, United Palestine Appeal and National Jewish Hospital, and wife of the producer, will be guest of honor at a luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria on Monday, on her retirement after four years as president of the New York women's division of the National Jewish Hospital.

Poling to Meet Press

William Dozier, Universal-International vice-president and production executive, will introduce James W. Poling, U-I's new Eastern story director, to the trade press, at a luncheon at the Club 21, here, next Thursday.

Named Aide to Poling

Florence Odets has been named assistant to James Poling, Eastern story editor of Universal-International Pictures, it was announced here yesterday. Miss Odets previously was assistant story editor for Paramount in Hollywood.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE telephone buzzed insistently yesterday. At the other end was a well-known sales executive. He's been around for years and gets his share of the headlines. He also has been reading the news flood on the Government suit which rose to some sort of a dubious crest in the last 72 hours.

"What's it all about? I read once. Then I read again and end up where I started. Who's trying to do what, and how?"

Cause of the confusion, chiefly, was the Department of Justice's new proposal under which auction bidding would be narrowed to exclusive runs. Meaning, naturally, exclusive runs would be condoned, set up and made operative.

Getting off the spot sometimes is not simple. This time, it was a cinch. A cinch because everyone has a different idea, all of them currently closing out in a fine state of bewilderment and uncertainty. We just kissed in.

■

Aside from the mystification over what the Department hopes it can accomplish, or thinks may be accomplished, the conversation around Times Square and byways runs high over the implications. Such as:

How would prices be geared and wouldn't 50 per cent look like peanuts?

How would distributors calculate terms if they are to be cut off from subsequent run revenue? And wouldn't that subsequent run revenue, in some manner now nice and foggy, have to be computed in the exclusive run if distributors, and their producers, ever hope to come out? Also, what effect on higher admissions and, if admissions go higher, how does the Department protect the public interest under the Sherman Act?

■

Also: What about the dangers of declining revenue in these days of ever-increasing costs?

What would be the impact on quality if producer returns are placed in jeopardy?

With grosses displaying signs of descending to the terra firma they once knew, on the one hand, and the consolidated opinion pictures cannot be made any cheaper, on the other, how can balance be maintained?

Without exclusive runs, some of these questions are furrowing executive brows the deeper. With exclusive runs, and even if distributor defendants win their point about slipping price minimums under exclusive runs, the consumption rate—the exhibitors', that is—of aspirin is apt to be something terrific.

■ ■

The other day, Universal International advertised prints of "The Dark Mirror" and "Temptation" were in exchanges awaiting the pleasure of prospective exhibitor customers. Inspection of the credits reveals the line "International Pictures presents."

The reason: Certain perfunctory details, bearing on the merger of International and Universal, make it required for these two to carry the production auspices indicated. When "Magnificent Doll" is ready for the market, moreover, this Skirball-Manning production will be released by Universal. That makes three completed, or about ready, before the consolidation.

Thereafter, it is Universal International which will be the distributor. Its first group will include "Song of Sheherazard," "The Pirates of Monterey," "Smash-Up" [heading for a title switch] and "Swell Guy."

Thus, the merged facilities of Universal and International into Universal International will flow over into distribution under the same name. We first reported this two weeks ago.

■ ■

They keep on talking about 6,000 to 8,000 non-competitive houses around the country. Maybe, yes. Maybe, no. The mileage separating one theatre from another is not always the determining element, for one theatre can go far beyond its own town's boundaries and set up the claim the outlying population is its oyster. Therefore, a series of overlapping circles blanketing large areas of the nation not only are possible, but, in many cases, actual.

There is a very knotty question which no one to date has been able to answer to the general satisfaction. The question:

How far is a competitive area?

■ ■

GRAPEVINE STUFF: That "The Emperor Waltz"—Bing Crosby and Joan Fontaine — cost Paramount an eye-opening $4,000,000.

Msgr. McClafferty Cancels Rome Trip

Monsignor John J. McClafferty, executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, due to ill health, has cancelled his planned trip to Rome to attend the conference of the International Catholic Office of Cinema General Council set for this month.

Pope Sees Film Group

Pope Pius XII received yesterday at Castle Gandolfo, his country estate, the delegates of the Catholic International Film Office, who are in Rome for the Catholic International Film Festival which opened there last Saturday, according to press dispatches reaching here last night.

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"SISTER KENNY"
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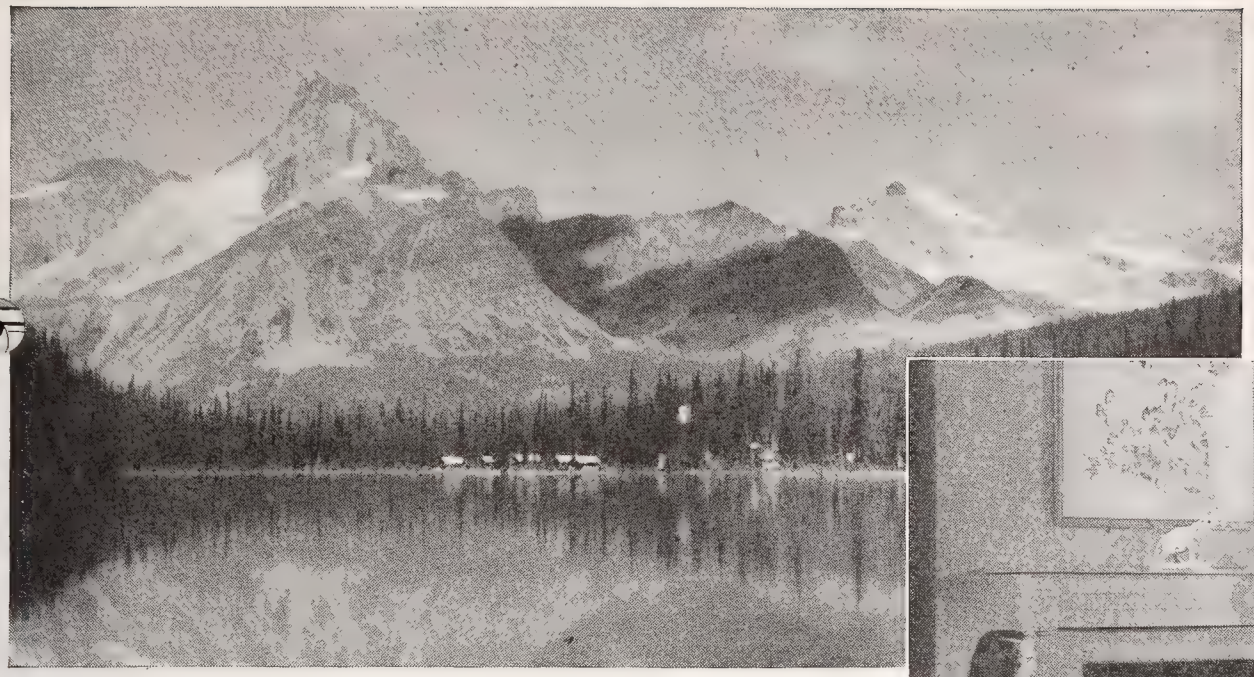
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BOB HOPE
and Joan Caulfield in
"MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE"
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE
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BOB EVANS JOHN and RENE ARNAUT
EXTRA! PEGGY LEE
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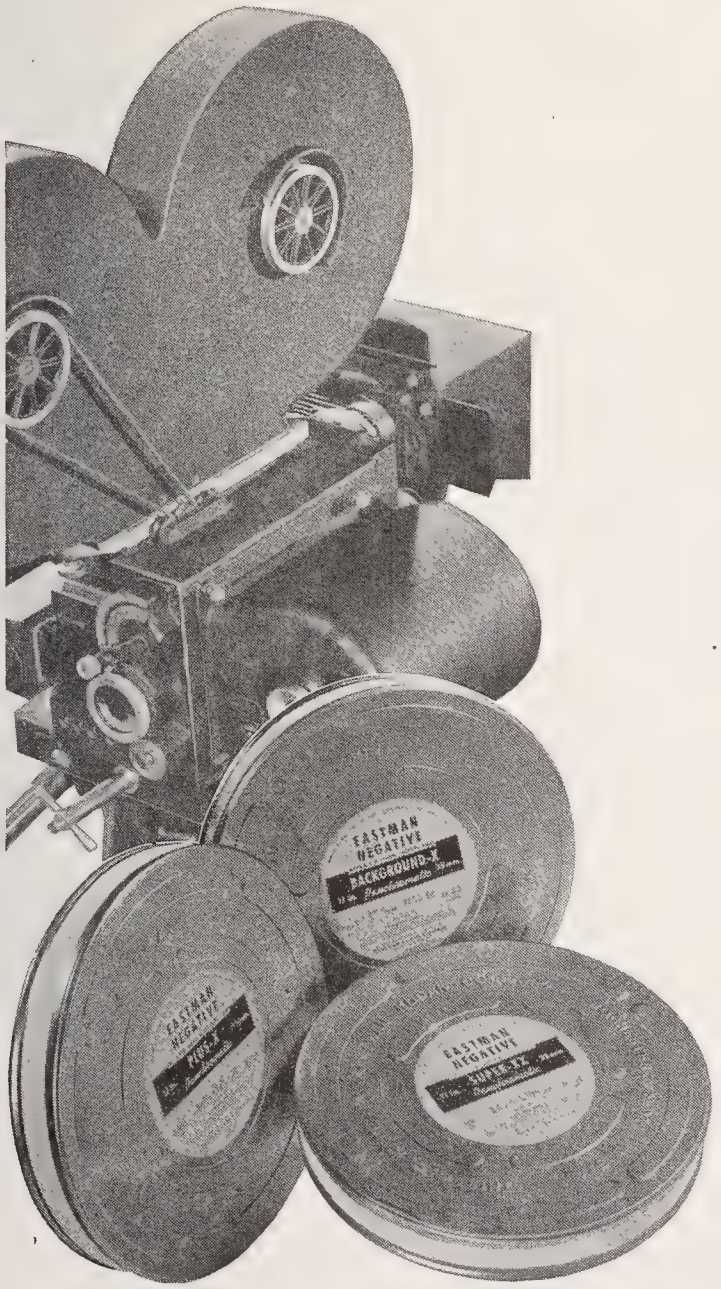
20th Century-Fox Presents
"THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE"
In Technicolor
PLUS ON STAGE — BEATRICE KAY
MARY RAYE & NALDI
Extra! MAURICE ROCCO
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Ascap Makes Plans For World Meeting

Plans were discussed for the Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers' international convention to be held for the first time in the U. S., at Washington, Oct. 21-26, at the semi-annual meeting of Ascap yesterday afternoon at the Ritz Carlton Hotel here. Deems Taylor, president, presided.

John G. Paine, who within the past year has been to Europe and South America, reported on relations with Ascap affiliates throughout the world. Jack Mills, chairman of the executive committee, announced that, for the first time, all pertinent records and archives of the Library of Congress would be made available to visiting delegates at the international convention.

International members present included C. A. Weissing, general manager of BUMA, the performing society of Holland, and Jaul Janssens-Casteels, attorney of the Belgium society, SABAN.

Taylor reported that in the past six months Ascap had gained 57 new writers, and 26 new publishers; for a total membership of 1,813 and 283, respectively. He added that Ascap-licensed places now numbered 31,544, an increase of about 3,000 in six months.

ASCAP to Be Host to World's Composers

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers will be host to the world's leading composers, dramatists and authors in Washington, Oct. 21-26. The organization, representing some 100,000 artists from 27 nations is called the Confederation Internationale des Societes d'Auteurs et Compositeurs.

Formed in 1926 to prevent pirating and exploitation of musical and literary works, the Confederation will have its 15th annual meeting in the Library of Congress, Washington. This is the first meeting of CISAC since 1938, and the first time in the history of the Confederation that a meeting has been held in the United States.

Jernigan, Dunn in Katz Exchange Posts

ATLANTA, Oct. 10.—Ike Katz, president of Kay Film Exchanges, has appointed Jerry Jernigan manager of the New Orleans branch. For the past 20 years he has been connected with the sales organization of Warners in New Orleans.

Lynn Dunn, formerly with United Artists at Atlanta as a sales representative, has been appointed branch manager of Katz's Memphis exchange.

Filmack Increases Cameramen's Wages

CHICAGO, Oct. 10.—Filmack Trailers has signed a new contract with cameramen's local No. 666 of the IATSE calling for a 10 to 20 per cent wage increase, effective immediately.

Irving Mack, Filmack president, announces that cameramen will receive an additional 10 per cent, while assistant cameramen will get 20 per cent wage boost. The contract will be in effect through Aug., 1947.

Actors Seek AFL Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

talked to is in favor of the resolution submitted here yesterday proposing that machinery be set up for handling jurisdictoinal disputes. No one, said Murphy, is opposed to it. He also pointed out that not one of the 600-odd delegates to the AFL convention yesterday opposed considerating it.

Since the resolution had not been submitted 30 days ago, just one vote yesterday on the convention floor could have killed it. At least now the resolutions committee has it and can act on it, it was pointed out. They can, when it comes up next week, together with other, resolutions, recommend its adoption, recommend its defeat, or recommend it for further study by the executive council, it is said.

Some informed observers here believe the latter recommendation would be tantamount to 'burial" and that unless it is actually brought to the floor of the convention no specific remedy will come out at the meeting.

Birthright's Views

Birthright, one of the AFL vice-presidents, at this morning's meeting said it was merely an informal discussion. He said he was in favor of some set-up whereby jurisdictional disputes could be settled amicably. Regarding the SAG's resolution, he said: "There is no action we can take on it. We did discuss it informally."

Informed observers here believe the resolution presented by the SAG is very mild and point out that another jurisdictional resolution, which has been submitted by the Waterloo, Ia., Central Labor Union, and which has been referred to the committee on resolutions, contains specific recommendations for eliminating jurisdictional disputes in the AFL. Numbered resolution No. 90, the Waterloo Plan is as follows: "Resolved, that this 65th convention of the AFL create a jurisdictional board, comprised of six members who are not officials or members of the AFL executive council and not more than one member of the same craft, and shall be chosen from the rank-and-file membership of the AFL.

"And be it further resolved, that the term of office for members shall be two years and members of the board shall be elected by the convention, three members for a term of two years and three members for the term of one year, and at each succeeding convention there shall be elected three new members to replace the senior members of the board. The chairman of the board shall be elected by the members of the board, with no vote except a tie vote. And be it further resolved that no member of the jurisdictional board shall serve for more than one term.

"And be it further resolved, that this board shall be on the permanent payroll of the American Federation of Labor with their office in the AFL building in Washington, with the members receiving an adequate salary and expenses.

"And be it further resolved that this board go to the scene of any jurisdictional dispute and all such disputes be decided on the basis of the merits of each case argued, all cases being presented in briefs or oral arguments before the board, and the jurisdictional board sit in judgment on all such disputes between any and all local unions or international unions involved.

"And be it further resolved that any international or local union desiring may appeal their case at the next convention of the AFL."

Mass Pickets on Coast Move From Columbia to Paramount

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—Picket concentration in the Conference of Studio Unions' strike today shifted to the Paramount laboratory when pickets, first gathering at Columbia as happened yesterday, were read the court order limiting their number there to 25.

However, orderliness prevailed at today's concentration point, but Paramount was expected to make application to the court for a restrainer late this afternoon or tomorrow as other studios have done.

Meanwhile, both the CSU, which has scheduled a regular weekly mass meeting for Sunday night, and the IATSE, which declares it is placing substitutes in studios in sufficient number to maintain production levels, expressed the opinion that the local situation would continue without important change over the weekend and until the American Federation of Labor sessions in Chicago take definite action.

Netter Heads PRC's Non-theatrical Unit

Douglas Netter, formerly assistant manager of the PRC's New York exchange, has been named to head a newly-organized department handling non-theatrical accounts, by Harry H. Thomas, president.

Under the new departmental set-up, Netter will be in charge of sales and distribution for such accounts as the Army, Navy, educational institutions, organizations and television. The accounts were previously handled through the company's regular sales department, headed by Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager.

Gamble Gets Another

PORTLAND, Ore., Oct. 10.—Ted Gamble announces another addition to his Northwest circuit, with the purchase from Sam Fleishman, veteran theatre operator, of his Red Theatre here.

Doyle at Australia RKO Sales Meeting

RKO-Radio's Australian sales convention will be held at Sydney, starting Oct. 14, with the entire Australian sales force in attendance, according to a cable received here from Ralph Doyle, managing director, who will conduct the meeting. Louglas Lotherington, general sales manager of the territory, will assist Doyle at the convention.

Cobian Buys UA Films

Ramos Cobian, theatre circuit operator in Puerto Rico, has closed for United Artists' entire lineup for 1946-47 season, UA foreign manager Walter Gould reports.

Gould said the deal assures United Artists product of extended runs in Cobian's two key theatres in San Juan; the Paramount and Metropolitan, as well as preferred playing time in his circuit of 23 houses.

Ohio Will Rule on Controversial Films

Columbus, Oct. 10.—Gov. Frank J. Lausche has appointed a three-member advisory board to sit in on controversial films, such as Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw." Named were: Mrs. Lester M. Merritt, president of the Women's State Committee of Women's Organizations; Miss Anne B. Whitmer, Ohio State University instructor, and Rabbi Samuel M. Gup, this city.

Dr. Clyde Hissong, chief state film censor, disclosed that "The Outlaw" will not be shown in Ohio until the producer accepts four cuts ordered, which, up to now, he has refused to make.

Coast Anti-gambling Bill Fight Grows

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 10. — The Southern California Theatre Owners Association has joined with the California Newspaper Publishers Association and other film industry groups in a campaign against a state measure to legalize night dog-race gambling. Paul Williams, SCOTA general counsel, suggests that exhibitors work through their newspapers, radio stations and prominent persons, in addition to utilizing their screens.

For direct participation they are to receive two one-minute trailers for insertion in newsreels, one for showing beginning Oct. 21 and the other to start Oct. 28. The SCOTA is opposing the measure on the ground it constitutes unfair competition, promotes inhumane treatment of animals, and is destructive of community welfare.

The Independent Theatre Owners of California, and Robert Poole, its executive director, are similarly urging exhibitors to work to defeat the measure.

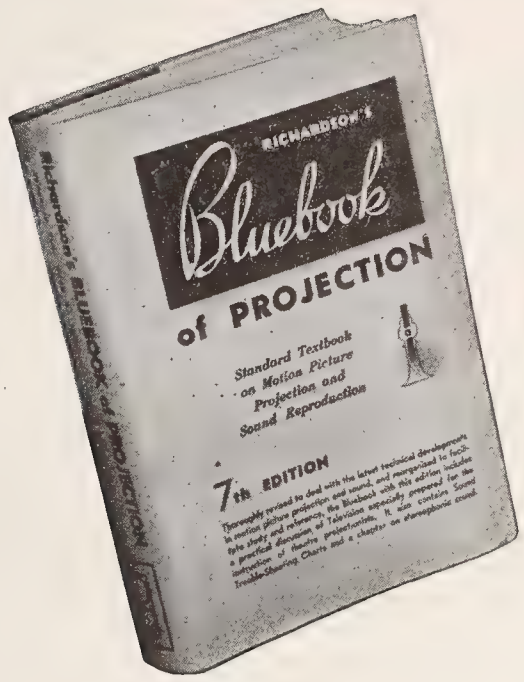
Boston's Curley Is Sued Over 'Art' Ban

Mayor James M. Curley of Boston was made defendant in a $200,000 damage suit filed in Superior Court of that city yesterday by David Loew and Albert Lewin, producers of "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," the United Artists home office announced here. The complaint, filed by the Boston law firm of Nutter, McClennen and Fish, alleges that the mayor has caused financial injury to the production through his action in "frowning" upon a public exhibition of 11 paintings on the theme of "The Temptations of Saint Anthony," which had been specially painted for use in advertising the film.

Mexicans Promote Production Code

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 10.—The Mexican motion picture industry is evincing wide interest in Hollywood Production Code by which the American industry governs itself. *The Proyector,* official bulletin of the National Chamber of Motion Pictures, an industry-wide organization, is currently printing the text of the code in weekly installments.

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U. S. Protest

(*Continued from page* 1)

posal that they be permitted to appear before the court to ask permission to retain some theatre holdings and pools on grounds of "extreme hardship, or other reasons," the government will assert in its brief that such a plan would permit the defendants to retain the same authority to monopolize that they now are accused of possessing.

The Justice Department is against arbitration because it believes that to permit arbitration of trade disputes would cause considerable legal ramifications in a Government effort to appear before the Supreme Court on appeal.

There is no doubt at the Department about an appeal to the high court. "We intend to appeal in order to get complete theatre divorcement as relief," the Government said today.

The new Federal document will oppose most every proposal made by the defendants. It will contain an argument against the defendants' proposed bidding plan, the arbitration and clearance proposals, and the right of seeking the permission of the court to keep present or acquire additional theatres.

As a companion to the Government's answer to the defendants, recommendations may be a recommendation that the bidding system be conducted on a flat rental basis. This will also be proposed to the court by the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations.

SCTOA Will Meet on Intervention Plea

Los Angeles, Oct. 10.—A general membership meeting of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association will be called here upon the return from New York of Paul Williams, SCOTA's general counsel, for a report on the organization's motion to intervene in the New York anti-trust case. Williams, who has arrived here from the East, will leave again on Oct. 17 for the hearing of the SCOTA's petition on Oct. 21 in New York. The motions were referred to the three-judge statutory court there by Federal Judge Caffey, who presided at the motion calendar.

UP Czech Premiere Of 'Wilson' for MPEA

Anxious to inaugurate the release of MPEA product in Czechoslovakia at the earliest, the Czech Film Monopoly has requested that the premiere of "Wilson" in Prague be advanced to Oct. 17, instead of the 28th, as originally scheduled.

Bregstein in New Post

Herbert L. Bregstein will become editorial director of *Screen Guide Magazine,* succeeding Carl A. Schroeder, who recently resigned from that post. Bregstein has been for the past eight years an editorial executive of Triangle Publications.

PROCTOR'S NEWARK
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Reviews

"Fool's Gold"

(UA-Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) *Hollywood, Oct. 10*

"FOOL'S GOLD," the second in the new Hopalong Cassidy series, emerges as good fare for the theatres sorely in need of such product. William Boyd, the star, and producer Lewis J. Rachmil have an idea the fans will like more story with the Hopalong type of action. This effort will test that theory, for the story here is the thing.

Hoppy, who has retired to the peace and quiet of his ranch, is called to rescue a friend's son from the clutches of an outlaw mob operating in the Twin Buttes country. He fulfills the assignment, but it takes a heap of doing. He and his pals, California Carlson and Lucky Jenkins, invade the outlaws' lair and wander with charmed lives therein. They show the youth the error of his ways, and the beauty of the lady gang boss thwart the plan to snatch the gold shipment, and ride away to the doubtful serenity of Hopalong's ranch.

George Archainbaud directed, from an original story and screenplay by Doris Schroeder. In the cast, in addition to Boyd, are: Andy Clyde, Rand Brooks, Robert Emmett Keane, Jane Randolph, Stephen Barclay, Harry Cording, Earle Hodgins, Bob Bentley, William Davis, Forbes Murray, Glen B. Gallagher, Ben Corbett, Fred Toones.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set. W. F.

"Rio Grande Raiders"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Oct. 10

SUNSET CARSON and Bob Steele, Both favorites of the patrons of Hollywood's Hitching Post Theatre, share acting honors in a Western that is neither better nor worse than the pictures which usually play that showcase of rawhide opera. Pretty Linda Stirling adds the requisite femininity, and Tristram Coffin is cast as the bold bad stage-line operator who is Carson's rival for a coveted franchises.

It is Bob Steele, cast as Sunset's brother, who motivates the skullduggery which forms a prominent part of Morton Parker's screenplay, based on a story by Norman Hall. Recently released from prison, Bob begs his brother for a job and a chance to go straight. Sunset, unaware that his brother is also in the employ of his rival, gives the lad a chance. After that, it takes a lot of fast thinking and flying fists, climaxed by a stagecoach race, to establish Sunset's right to the franchise. Thomas Carr directed, and Bennett Cohen was the associate producer.

Running time, 57 minutes. General audience classification. Thalia Bell

"Dangerous Money"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Oct. 10

CHARLIE CHAN assisted by his son Jimmy and his chauffeur Chattanooga, solves a typical murder mystery in typical Chan style. Sidney Toler portrays the Chinese detective in familiar fashion, while Victor Sen Young and Willie Best contribute their usual brand of comedy.

The first murder occurs on shipboard. The victim is a Federal agent whose mission it is to track down "hot" money stolen from Manila banks during the Jap invasion. Things look black at times for Gloria Warren, entrusted with the feminine romantic lead, and Joe Allen, Jr., cast as her finance. The astute Chan, however, pins the crime, and two other killings which succeed it, on the guilty party, and final sequences see the betrothed pair cleared of suspicion. James S. Burkett produced, and Terry Morse directed, from a screenplay by Miriam Kissinger, which in turn is based on the character created by Earl Derr Biggers.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 5. T. B.

AVC to Release Trailer

The motion picture chapter of the American Veteran's Committee has started national distribution of a trailer, entitled "Jobs and Homes for Veterans," announces AVC chairman Walter T. Brown. He added that this will be the first time that any veteran program had been attempted to engage the cooperation of theatre owners in helping veterans find jobs and living quarters.

Radio Permit Hearing

Albany, Oct. 10.—Van Curler Broadcasting Corp., principal officers of which are Walter T. Brown, Sam Rosen, vice-president and treasurer of the Fabian circuit, and W. W. Farley, owner of Film Row exchanges, will have its plea for permission to conduct a radio station here heard by the Federal Communications Commission in Washington on Oct. 14.

'Last Bomb' Premiere

Washington, Oct. 10.—More than 600 military, Government and diplomatic notables, headed by Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, attended the special world premiere of "The Last Bomb" at Warner's Earle Theatre, here, last night. The two-reeler, made by Warners in cooperation with the Army Air Forces, features the first public views in Technicolor of the atom-bomb at Nagasaki.

Sullivan to UA Meet

Portland, Ore., Oct. 10.—A. J. Sullivan, branch manager in Seattle for United Artists, accompanied by his sales staff has left for Las Vegas, Nev., to attend a company regional sales conference. Salesmen with Sullivan include Ernie Piro, Paul Hull, Seattle, and Jack O'Bryan, Portland and Morrie Segel, Leo Adler, auditor from Los Angeles.

'U' Pathe Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Pathe board. The building will be erected at 106th Street and Park Avenue, New York, adjacent to the newly-renovated Pathe Studios. Kenneth M. Young is president of Pathe Industries.

Pathe Industries has paid a regular quarterly $1.00 dividend to cumulative preferred stockholders on Oct. 1, to holders of record at the close of business Sept. 20. Purcell said Pathe Industries earned $831,604 for the 32-week period ending Aug. 10, 1946, and he estimated that earnings for the 36-week period ending Sept. 7, were about $960,000. At this rate, the corporate earnings for the full year would be about $1,390,000, he added.

It was also announced that the Eagle-Lion Films, Inc. and Eagle-Lion Studios had been formally organized as Pathe subsidiaries. Arthur Krim, formerly director, vice-president and treasurer of National Screen Service, has been named president of both companies.

A. W. Schwalberg is vice president and general sales manager of Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., and Bryan C. Foy continues as vice president in charge of production for Eagle-Lion Studios, Purcell concluded.

RKO's 'B' Output

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures, still stands, it was said.

The rumors stem from the company's failure to renew producer Martin Mooney's contract, and, additionally, from the necessity of clearing extraordinary stage space for filming "The Robe," which is to start early next year.

The RKO spokesman pointed out that the company has 23 completed films, including many "B" pictures, in its backlog.

Everson's Complaint Dismissed by AAA

The American Arbitration Association has dismissed a clearance complaint filed against Paramount, Warners, 20th Century-Fox, Loew's and RKO Radio, by Fred Everson, operator of the Williamson Theatre, Williamson, N. Y., AAA reports here.

Everson had asked that product become available to him at the same time it goes to the Strand, Talmyra, N. Y., instead of immediately after the Strand's run.

Services for Nelson, Exhibitor, on Sunday

Louis Nelson, veteran Metropolitan New York theatre operator, died here yesterday. He was a charter member of the New York Independent Theatre Owners Association, and was last associated with the Endicott Circuit in Brooklyn.

Funeral services will be conducted at Park West Memorial Chapel, here, on Sunday at one P.M.

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TBA Awards

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the past year; to Donovan B. Stetler, advertising director of Standard Brands, for the best entertainment program; to Paul Belanger, a television director at station WCBW, for the outstanding artistic program, and to Klaus Landsberg of Paramount's station W6XYZ, Los Angeles, for the best public service program.

In another group, awards to individuals for outstanding contributions in the field of television went to Dr. Oliver E. Buckley, president of Bell Telephone Laboratories, and to Keith S. McHugh, vice-president of American Telephone and Telegraph Co.

In making the awards, Raibourn commented upon the fact that television as compared with other media affords an unbiased method of disseminating information. "Spoken or written words are colored by the minds of men through which they are transmitted while television is the first instrument which makes it possible for a distant citizen to attend a presidential speech or closely watch the strife on an industrial picket line without the intervention of another and perhaps biased mind," Raibourn said.

Tribute to UNO

Tribute was paid to the work of the United Nations Organization at the TBA luncheon session yesterday with J. R. Poppele, TBA president, presenting a special scroll to Benjamin Cohen of Chile, UNO assistant secretary general. In accepting the scroll on behalf of UNO, Cohen stressed the importance of television in effecting international understanding and in furthering the ideals of international peace.

Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., and general chairman of the conference, opened the convention sessions yesterday. Among the highlights of the morning session was an address by Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual Broadcasting, titled "Is Television Necessary?" Kobak emphasized that millions of dollars are being spent on television equipment and only thousands of dollars for television programming, adding that the situation should be in reverse. Programs sell sets, he stressed.

Other speakers at the morning session were: Dr. Alfred N. Goldsmith, who traced television from 1926 to 1946; Arthur F. Van Dyck, who presend a 16mm film in color dealing with the Bikini atom bomb tests, and Merlin H. Aylesworth, who spoke on the effect of television on newspapers. Panel meetings on television receivers, television programming, station management and television and education, featured the afternoon session.

Late models of television receivers and television equipment were on display and in operation. A special feature of the exhibit was the new RCA "Image Orthicon" television cameras.

Sessions will continue today with one of the speakers scheduled to be Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* whose subject will be "A Showman Looks at Television."

Sapinsley Promoted

MEMPHIS, Oct. 10. — Ed Sapinsley, promoted to assistant secretary of Malco Theatres, Inc., is succeeded by J. Clayton Tunstill as city manager and field division manager, with headquarters at Memphis.

Griffith Opinion Hailed

(*Continued from page* 1)

terms of free competition and free enterprise. His opinion differed from previous Sherman Act rulings in that he maintained that the power or opportunity to engage in restraint of trade did not, in itself, make a firm holding that power guilty."

Claude Motley, director of theatre operations for Griffith Amusement Co., said L. C. Griffith remained too ill to comment upon his exoneration.

Griffing's comment apparently was based on Judge Vaught's philosophy of free enterprise. "If the battle of competition is carried to its normal conclusion one competitor reaches a point of ascendancy over the other," the opinion stated, "and the losing competitor naturally takes a secondary position or is completely vanquished. They both cannot occupy the same position in the contest at the same time. It is a competitive contest and there is no rule of law, economics, or business that can strike and maintain an even balance between the participants during its progress. In the business in which the individual defendants were engaged, the exhibition of moving picture films, both competitors could not exhibit the same picture at the same time. The licensing of the film was the business of the distributor, and his choice of who should exhibit it and the terms and conditions under which he would license the film were matters that were wholly in his control," Judge Vaught wrote.

"The distributor either had the film or was going to produce it. It was his article and was for license. The market was provided by the distributor; the various exhibitors knew where and from whom the article was to be licensed. The methods of the distributor were known to all. The evidence shows that the exhibitor either could go to headquarters direct or bargain through the representative. If the exhibitor was content to wait for the representative, or depend upon correspondence, he took his chances on supply. If, upon the other hand, he cared to go to headquarters and bargain, it was possible to get a better choice of product, just as it is in any other line of endeavor where one is engaged in retailing to the trade goods that are provided by wholesale dealers," the opinion said.

"The evidence discloses that the defendants took advantage of the opportunities afforded them in the ordinary course of dealing during the time covered by the complaint. That was their privilege and there was nothing illegal or immoral about it, merely because they represented large interests or were able to make large deals. The evidence shows that the licensing was all arrived at by barter and trade, and the exhibitors all placed upon the same footing," the opinion continued.

"The attitude of the Government is one of suspicion. Many of the normal and natural occurrences and situations are given a sinister meaning and argued from that standpoint. The proposition of which "could be done" or "might be done" under given situations is argued vigorously (by Government attorneys). But we are not concerned with that approach. Our concern is what the evidence discloses *was done,* and any fair inferences we can gather from those acts regarding the *intent* of those who acted," Judge Vaught wrote.

The court gave the defense attorneys 15 days in which to prepare a form of judgment consistent with the opinion, along with findings of fact and conclusions of law. Griffing pointed out that acqquittal of the defendants made dismissal of the case unquestioned.

'Hot' Prints

(*Continued from page* 1)

traffic in "hot" 16mm. prints of features which the industry had given to the Army for overseas exhibition. A number of the prints were found to have been stolen from the Army Signal Corps studio in Astoria, L. I. Bitto was not charged with being involved in the theft. A number of other cases involving the "hot" 16mm. prints are pending.

Edward A. Sargoy of the Copyright Protection Bureau and a member of the New York law firm of Sargoy and Stein, was special counsel for distributors involved in the case and presented the industry's position. Sargoy told of industry efforts to keep 16mm. prints of new features off the "hot" market, but said the problem had been complicated since the war when thousands of such prints were supplied to the services. Many of these are now turning up in illicit showings around the country, he said.

Snyder to Eagle-Lion

Patrece Snyder, formerly with the publicity departments of 20th Century-Fox, Story Productions, Inc., and Russell Birdwell and Associates, has joined the publicity department of Eagle-Lion Films, Inc., it was announced here yesterday by Max E. Youngstein, E-L publicity head.

ITOA Study

(*Continued from page* 1)

unanimously to study various propositions for affiliation" with national organizations."

Abraham H. Eistenstadt, veteran New York exhibitor, was given a life-membership scroll at the meeting. Additionally, new theatre members were reported, including the Embassy Newsreel, Midway, Laffmovie and Cedarhurst Playhouse. Harry Brandt, ITOA president, presided.

'Margie,' 'Clementine' Premieres on Wed.

Two world premieres will be staged next Wednesday by 20th-Fox, one at the Roxy, New York, for "Margie," and one at the Fox Theatre, San Francisco, for "My Darling Clementine." Record advertising campaigns in newspapers and on the radio will herald the events on both Coasts.

For the "Margie" premiere, an advance teaser campaign has been running in newspapers and on billboards for a month and will be followed by increased display space next week. In San Francisco, stars from 20th's will participate in the premiere, which studio will participate in the premiere, which will usher in more than 100 day-and date engagements in the West.

Festival in Belgium Is Planned for June

By LOUIS QUIEVREUX

BRUSSELS, Oct. 5 (By Air Mail).— The Belgian government will sponsor a World Cinema Festival here in 1947. American representatives of Hollywood companies have agreed that Brussels would be a good place for the festival, and after long discussions government officials have put their stamp of approval on the plan. The festival will be held from June 15 to 30.

At a meeting presided over by Herman Vos, Minister of Education and the Fine Arts, the following were named to a festival committee: Senator Vermeylen, representing the Cinematheque and the Seminaire des Arts; Leon Duwaerts, general president of the Association de la Presse Cinematographique Belge; M. Haulot, General Commissioner for Tourists; M. Grauls, representing the Minister of Finance; Fernand Rigot, for the Minister of Education; Maurice Widy and Gaston Williot, delegates of the Association de la Presse Cinematographique Belge.

The festival, in addition to an exhibition of motion pictures, will feature a series of concerts, art exhibitions and similar evidences of Belgium's artistic stature.

Organizes New Firm

HARTFORD, Oct. 10. — Charles R. Abry, former publisher, has organized Audio-Visual Co. of New England, at Norwalk, to distribute visual education material in New England.

Congress Probe

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment of the anti-trust laws and make a report to Congress by the end of this year, Kefauver stated.

The report which will include an analysis of such cases as the motion picture anti-trust suit, will be made public, Kefauver stated.

Committee investigator William Bennett is handling the study. Material collected from the Justice Department, Federal Trade Commission and private sources outside the Government will be brought together for the report, Kefauver said.

Reason for cancelling the hearing is that the members are unable to devote sufficient time during the balance of this year to do justice to the monopoly study, Kefauver added.

Breen Succeeded

(*Continued from page* 1)

ducers realize that they must rid their films of words and scenes offensive to Americans," Whitley said, following conferences with Motion Picture Association vice-president Byron Price and Breen. He added: "I have found no evidence of discrimination against British films in this country."

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Skouras Heads Rally For Greek Relief

Issuing a call to save the homeless, sick and starving people of Greece, Spyros P. Skouras, national president of the Greek War Relief Association, and president of 20th Century-Fox, has urged 1,032 representatives from American and Canadian communities to mobilize at Chicago's Palmer House, Oct. 19-20, to launch the association's $12,000,000 fund-raising campaign.

"These tragic victims now depend on UNRRA, but come December—when that agency ceases relief operations—their only hope is the Greek War Relief Association," declared Skouras.

Attending the two-day convention will be GWRA representatives from all over the country and 500 leaders of Greek-American societies who will meet to coordinate their various relief efforts into GWRA's overall program, so that each society can reap the economies of a centrally-operated and controlled relief and rehabilitation program. Skouras added that plans and quotas for the fund-raising would be announced at the convention.

Nov. 21 Set as Date For Balaban Dinner

November 21 was set yesterday as the date for the Hotel Astor dinner to be given to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, by the motion picture and entertainment division of the Joint Defense Appeal. Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia; Leonard Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler, president of Randforce Theatres, are chairmen of the dinner.

Explaining that the JDA is the financial arm of the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee, Cohn, Goldenson and Rinzler added that the work of the two national agencies in combatting anti-Semitism is made possible by the annual JDA campaign, for which the 1946 goal is $5,000,000—43 per cent more than the amount raised last year.

The chairmen pointed out that Balaban has been spearheading motion picture efforts in past years for communal, philanthropic and patriotic endeavors.

State Dept. Series to Be Made on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10. — Hamilton MacFadden, of the motion picture division of the State Department's Office of International Information and Cultural Affairs, has arrived here to confer with Stephen Bosustow, executive producer of United Productions of America on a final story-line for a film on the function of public opinion polls in the United States. The film is to be the first of a series to be undertaken by the State Department to inform foreign audiences of American social, political and economic thought. It will demonstrate how views of the American people on national and international affairs find expression and exert influence on industry and in Government legislation and policies.

Reviews

"A Lady Surrenders"

(Rank-Universal-International)

Hollywood, Oct. 10

AN interesting story, skilfully acted by such top British stars as Margaret Lockwood, Stewart Granger and Patricia Roc, the whole embellished with a musical score based on Hubert Bath's popular "Cornish Symphony," make this an attraction which will find a ready response from certain audiences. Its appeal is limited, however. Though Granger is known in this "country for his work in "Caesar and Cleopatra," Patricia Roc for her role in 'Canyon Passage," and Margaret Lockwood for a number of earlier pictures, none of the three has demonstrated outstanding strength on American marquees. The Cornish and Yorkshire dialects employed are hard on American ears and, over and above these disadvantages, the picture suffers from excessive length. It runs nearly two hours, and that is a lot of sitting time.

Four writers, J. W. Drawbell, Rodney Ackland, Leslie Arliss and Doreen Montgomery, are credited with contributing to the finished product, a love story whose principals are a girl facing death due to a heart ailment, and a man burdened with the knowledge of inevitable blindness. The two meet at a resort hotel on the Cornish coast, where both propose to enjoy the few months of life and light left to them, and to ignore as far as possible the war which backgrounds Britain.

Margaret Lockwood, as the doomed girl, resolves to keep her secret from Granger, who is equally determined not to reveal his own impending loss of sight. The situation in itself is bound to lead to a rift between the lovers, and Patricia Roc, cast as a most unscrupulous young lady, does her best to widen that rift and win Granger for herself.

Naturally, for such a story, no ending could be devised which would have everybody happy. Granger regains his sight, and is reunited with the girl he loves, but the shadow of her certain death remains, even in the final sequence which brings the two together again.

Direction, by Leslie Arliss, points up the script with deft touches, and Bernard Knowles' photography of the Cornish landscape is lovely. Harold Huth produced, and Maurice Ostrer was in charge of production. The film is a presentation of J. Arthur Rank and Gainsborough pictures, released in this country by Universal-International.

Running time, 117 minutes. General audience classification. Release date,

T. B.

"Vacation in Reno"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Oct. 10

THOUGH many of RKO Radio's most reliable actors—Morgan Conway, Wally Brown, Alan Carney, Anne Jeffreys and Iris Adrian—are cast in the company's current farce, only Jack Haley, who is starred, has much to do. And the things he does are the old, time-tried things which have made audiences laugh since the days of the Keystone comedies.

A rabbit-fancier by avocation, Haley buys, from the War Assets Administration, a mine-detector which he hopes will lead him to buried treasure. The latter, in turn, will finance his rabbit farm, if all goes well.

All does not go well, however. His wife, misunderstanding certain of his actions, leaves him. Instead of buried treasure, his detector unearths loot from a bank-robbery. To add to his difficulties, the bank-robbers threaten his life, and two attractive young ladies menace the foundations of his marriage. With the aid of an unloaded pistol and a supply of Army signal flares, he routs them all, and ends up with a revitalized marriage and $5,000 in cash. Leslie Goodwins produced and directed, and Sid Rogell was executive producer. Charles E. Roberts and Arthur Ross wrote the screenplay, based on a story by Charles Kerr.

Running time, 60 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

T. B.

Legion Classifies Eight New Pictures

The National Legion of Decency has approved three new films for all theatre patrons and classifies five others as acceptable for adult audiences only.

The new pictures and their classifications are: Class A-1 "Driftin' River," PRC; "Trigger Finger," Monogram; "Gunman's Code," Universal. Class A-2, "Drifting Alone," "The Missing Lady" and "Strange Voyage," all Monogram; "Shadowed," Columbia, and "Undercurrent," M-G-M.

'Bob' Gross in Business

Robert (Bob) Gross of Sid Rechetnik's press book department at Warners' home office, has resigned to enter business on his own in the export-import field.

New Color Plant of Trimble's to Expand

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 10.—Prospect for possibility of a new supply of color film was revealed here today by L. S. Trimble, president of Trimble Laboratories, Inc. Trimble said his recently-established firm operating until now in the industrial field would enter the entertainment field upon construction of a new plant, probably early next year.

Pickford-Cowan Party

Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan, who last week announced a production merger, will give a reception tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, in honor of the 25 editors from all over the U. S. now attending the first session of the American Press Institute at Columbia University.

Companies Agree to Aides to Veterans

Each of the eight film companies having contracts with the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild has agreed to appoint a special officer to consult with war veterans regarding their conditions of employment, according to a SOPEG spokesman.

The plan for veterans' consultants has been worked out following SOPEG's claims that some returning service men have not been given their full seniority rights and the benefits of changes made during their absence. Also sought by the union are more opportunities for on-the-job training under the "GI" Bill of Rights, and it is understood that applications for such training will be handled by the special officers to be appointed.

Indications are that the veterans' consultants will constitute an employer committee, working with a special veterans' committee which SOPEG has set up under the chairmanship of Norman Hasselo of United Artists, vice-president of the union, with Lou Edelman, organizer, lending assistance on behalf of the SOPEG office.

Companies so far definitely committed to the plan are: United Artists, Columbia, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Republic, Loew-M-G-M, RKO Radio and National Screen Service.

Meanwhile, SOPEG negotiations are going forward with PRC and Paramount Laboratories, with indications that contracts will be signed by those companies in the near future.

Negotiations for renewal of contracts with the Columbia, UA, 20th-Fox and M-G-M exchanges were resumed yesterday and will be continued at a meeting tomorrow afternoon. The exchange employes have empowered the SOPEG executive board and negotiating committee to call a strike, but this has been deferred pending the outcome of the current talks.

Loew's 16mm. Films In England Monday

Loew's International will get its 16mm. program under way in Great Britain on Monday with the release of an initial group of 12 programs of features and shorts, Orton H. Hicks, director of Loew's 16mm department announces.

Also, the programs will be released in Ireland beginning Nov. 4. F. D. Russell-Roberts is in charge of all M-G-M 16mm. activities in Great Britain and Ireland, under the direction of Sam Eckman, Jr., managing director and chairman of the board of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures, Ltd.

The initial list of 12 programs include: "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "Madame Curie," "Two Girls and a Sailor," "Pride and Prejudice," "Maytime," "Waterloo Bridge," "Treasure Island," "Mutiny on the Bounty," "Tarzan's Secret Treasure," "Capatin's Courageous," "Lost in a Harem" and "A Night at the Opera."

Kogan Moves to Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 10.—Serge Kogan has taken over as Columbia manager in Mexico. He comes here from Lima, Peru, where he served Columbia for several years.

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SAG Proposal To End AFL Strife Gains

Action on Jurisdictional Fights Likely This Week

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, Oct. 13. — Indications are that the resolutions committee of the American Federation of Labor will recommend adoption of a system of handling jurisdictional disputes embodying suggestions encompassed in the Screen Actors Guild resolution and several other jurisdictional resolutions including the Waterloo, Iowa, plan when the committee reports to the AF of L convention proper here this week.

Sentiment among the delegates at the present time indicates favorable reaction to the jurisdictional plan although some informed observers here believe that William L. Hutcheson, Carpenters Union head, may lead an

(*Continued on page* 8)

Other Outlets for Pickford-Cowan

The new producing company formed by Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan will release a number of films for an unnamed distributor other than United Artists, under a deal Cowan had in negotiation prior to forming the partnership, the producers stated here at the weekend. Both stressed that this outside deal will supplement rather than supplant their distribution through UA.

Denying reports of a rift with UA, Miss Pickford said she intends to continue as a one-third owner of that

(*Continued on page* 8)

To Pass on ATA at Iowa-Nebraska Meet

DES MOINES, Oct. 13.—Allied Independent Theatres of Iowa and Nebraska (unaffiliated) will hold an open meeting at the Fort Des Moines Hotel here, tomorrow and Tuesday to outline plans for a membership drive and to discuss trade problems, legislation and action on affiliation with

(*Continued on page* 8)

SIMPP Ready To Intervene

The Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers is expected to complete plans here today to file a brief to intervene in the New York antitrust suit to oppose auction selling and other aspects of trade restrictions.

The SIMPP brief will probably be as *amicus curiae,* with David O. Selznick's Vanguard Pictures joining to seek to pave the way for roadshowing his "Duel in the Sun" at advanced admission prices.

Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, has been in New York from

(*Continued on page* 8)

Progress Marked at Television Meeting

By GENE ARNEEL

"National Television Week" ended on Friday with the conclusion of the Television Broadcasters Association's two-day conference at the Waldorf Astoria, here, in which leaders of all phases of the video industry participated and exhibited new equipment.

New equipment included a number of home video sets and the Bell Telephone System's exhibit, one that drew considerable interest, which presented in diagram form the company's present achievements in coaxial

(*Continued on page* 8)

Duals in Decline at Twin-City Houses

Minneapolis, Oct. 13. — Double bill programs are on the decline in Minneapolis and St. Paul neighborhood houses, a checkup reveals, reportedly due to big box office grosses by competitors with single bills.

The drop in duals is not general, but one affiliated and one independent member of the local film colony predicted this week that the trend to singles "seems to be complete."

NCA to Meet Today On Local Checkers

DULUTH, Minn., Oct. 13.—Use of local checkers by film companies in checking percentage pictures will highlight a regional meeting of North Central Allied at the Duluth Hotel here, tomorrow, it is announced by Don Swartz, NCA executive secretary, who will conduct the meeting.

Other matters to be discussed include an outline of NCA's interpretation of the court's decision in the New York equity suit and reports of the national Allied and CIEA meetings in Boston and Washington, respectively.

U.S. to 'Go to Bat' if UK Ruling Hits American Films

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—U. S. State Department intervention to protest the British cut in the playing time of American films may result if an unfavorable report on the new British Board of Trade ruling is received here, George Canty of the Department's commercial policy division stated here yesterday.

Canty asserted that a copy of the BOT ruling and an analysis of its impact upon American film product in Britain will be submitted to Washington by the American Embassy in London.

Details of the BOT action reducing playing time for American and other films were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Wednesday. The BOT ruled that henceforth Britain's three large circuits—Odeon, British Gaumont and Associated British Cinemas—play six strictly independently produced British pictures a year; and they may not be from any of J. Arthur Rank's companies.

The State Department has not heard views from the Motion Picture Association on the ruling, Canty said. He expressed the belief that the MPA is also waiting for a copy and final analysis of the regulation and its impact.

Canty said, however, that the U. S. Government will not "stand by" while unnecessary restrictions are placed on our films in great Britain.

Companies to Fight Local Checkers' Ban

Move Started by Reade May Bring Cancellations

By TOM LOY

A show-down fight over the practice of sending local checkers to keep tab on percentage engagements, appears to be in the making following the Walter Reade circuit's announcement last week that it no longer would tolerate local checkers at any of its houses.

While some distributors were inclined to avoid facing the issue, preferring to wait until a local checker for one of their pictures actually has been denied access to a Reade theatre, others were understood to be prepared to retaliate by withholding product from the circuit. This could readily be done,

(*Continued on page* 8)

USExpectsScophony Case Consent Decree

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—A consent decree will "definitely" be the outcome of the pending Scophony antitrust suit, a Justice Department attorney working on the case discloses. "A consent decree would actually be protection for the defendants in the suit," he said.

He pointed out that Paramount and General Precision Equipment Co. would be barred from television participation in the event a violation of the Sherman Act is proven in court. Once a restraint of trade is proven

(*Continued on page* 8)

Chouinard to Buy For 20 in N. W.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 13. — Casper Chouinard, veteran film salesman with United Artists here, has been named film buyer for the new Twin City buying and booking compine, Independent Theatres association, according to Ted Mann, spokesman for the group which is headed by Henry Greene. Chouinard takes over his new duties

(*Continued on page* 8)

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, plans a two-week visit to New York following his current inspection trip to the RKO Churubusco studios in Mexico City.

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MAX ROTH, PRC Eastern sales manager, arrived here from Chicago over the weekend for conferences with HARRY H. THOMAS, president, and LLOYD L. LIND, vice-president and assistant general sales manager.

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ALLEN USHER, Paramount district manager for Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Indianapolis, left New York for Chicago at the weekend.

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M. R. (DUKE) CLARK, Paramount district manager for Dallas, Oklahoma City and Memphis, and FRED LARNED, Dallas branch manager, are due here from their territory tomorrow.

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RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, will leave England for New York on the *Queen Mary* Wednesday.

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SAM PALMER, editor of the *Paramount Sales News* here, is on vacation.

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WILLIAM PINE and WILLIAM THOMAS, Paramount producers, arrived in New York from the Coast over the weekend.

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AL M. KANE, Paramount Boston district manager, and JOHN MOORE, Albany branch manager, have arrived in New York from their territories.

U-I Adds Three to Ad-Publicity Staff

Three additions to Universal-International's home office advertising-publicity department were announced on Friday by Maurice Bergman, Eastern director of the department.

Newcomers include Maria Van Slyke, formerly of International's New York publicity department, who will do general contact work for U-I; Milton Livingston, former MOTION PICTURE DAILY reporter, who will be added to the general publicity staff with special assignments in trade paper publicity; William Kernan, formerly with RKO Theatres' advertising department and more recently with the Donahue and Coe agency, who joins the advertising department specializing in placement of exhibitor advertising.

Phil Laufer, formerly specializing in theatre publicity, has been transferred to the Winter Garden Theatre, now under U-I operation, as its publicity representative.

Coast Town Seeks Tax

HUNTINGTON PARK, Cal., Oct. 13.—This community, a town within the city of Los Angeles, is seeking to impose a one per cent general sales tax. The desert towns of Beaumont and Banning are attempting to get together on the same sort of tax.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IT is generally believed in court and legal circles in New York that the several exhibitor organizations which are petitioning the three-judge Federal court to be heard either as intervenors or as *amicus curiae* in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry have only a slender chance of succeeding in their endeavors.

The New York Federal court on several previous occasions, and in this very same proceeding, has denied similar petitions. In doing so it has indicated that it considers the original parties to the litigation—the Department of Justice and the corporate and individual defendants—an already sizeable crowd. From the tenor of remarks made from the bench in past hearings on the industry anti-trust suit the District Court could be represented, reasonably enough, as being of the opinion that the proceedings could be hopelessly confused and unduly prolonged by the admission of interested parties, even as "friends of the court."

As recently as last Janary, the Federal jurists denied petitions of the Conference of Independent Motion Picture Producers to file briefs as "friends of the court."

On another occasion the same court denied the petition of the American Civil Liberties Union to file a brief on behalf of "the public."

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It is extremely doubtful that the court will alter its stand at this time. It has taken the position that the Department of Justice represents or, let us say, should represent the exhibitor's as well as the public's interest.

Theoretically, that is true. In the opinion of many, it is substantially inaccurate.

The Department has, of course, included in its own proposals for a final judgment several of the recommendations and suggestions of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. There is every indication that, in addition, it will champion some of the proposals advanced by Allied States and the CIEA.

However, on the basis of the record, it would seem that the Department is far more interested in doing something *to* the defendants than it is in doing something *for* the exhibitors. Reference is made here to divorcement.

The Department tries to convince itself that in doing battle for divorcement it is championing the independent exhibitor. Yet exhibitors in the ratio of more than 20 to one would prefer that the Department assault competitive bidding rather than champion divorcement.

That, of course, is the principal reason why exhibitor organizations are clamoring to be heard in the present court proceedings. They are fully aware of the single-purposeness of the Department's zeal. They have little confidence in it and less enthusiasm for it, for reasons set forth in this column a week ago.

Certain that in the main that which the Department wants the most is not what the most exhibitors want, the exhibitor has no other recourse but to petition the court for a hearing. Yet the court already has turned a stone ear to such petitions.

The court's custom in this proceeding of denying briefs in *amicus curiae* leaves even less room to suppose that it will entertain petitions to intervene, such as those filed by the American Theatres Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations. But a "no" to intervention is only of the same potency as a "no" to *amicus curiae*.

The hope of the exhibitor is in the court's taking cognizance of the overwhelming opposition of theatre owners to competitive bidding, as documented in the MPTOA poll and in exhibitor association resolutions, and thereafter disowning its own child.

• •

The victory of the Griffith Amusement Co. in the government anti-trust suit in Oklahoma City Federal court appears to be a completely unabridged one. Judge Edgar S. Vaught not only gave the circuit a clean bill of health but went on from there to commend it for its alert, efficient and honorable business operations over the years.

It may have been a different type of case than the Schine or Crescent cases to produce so strikingly different a result. Perhaps that was why the Department of Justice left it till the last. In any event, the result of an appeal will be interesting. It will be difficult to reverse so unequivocal a clean bill as that given to Griffith by the Federal District Court.

Newsreel Parade

NAMES make the news in the newsreels, which feature Jack L. Warner, Gen. Eisenhower and James Byrnes. Three world-wide events are prominent in the programs: The B-29 "Dreamboat" long-distance flight, the Red Cross aiding China, and the World's Series. Opening of the Alcan highway, Chief Justice Vinson, stalin lating a football team with oxygen, each appear in two programs; complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 13—Secretary Byrnes in Paris speaks on Stalin's "no war" statement. U. S. Army B-29 flies over the top of the world, from Honolulu to Cairo. Names in the news: Paul H. Griffith elected commander of the American Legion, Chief Justice Vinson assumes post as Supreme Court meets, W. Averill Harriman sworn in as Secretary of Commerce, Jack L. Warner receives Mexican award for building U. S.-Mexico good will, Gen. Eisenhower with the Royal Family of Britain, Film Flashes: Farmer battles ducks, Red Cross aid Chinese. Sports: World's Series highlights, Georgetown University uses oxygen to give "pep" to football players.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 211—Army "Dreamboat" flies 9,500 miles non-stop. Byrnes, speaking in Paris, sees no war. Alkan Highway opens new frontier. Vinson becomes Chief Justice. Mexico honors Jack L. Warner. U. S. Red Cross aids China. British King welcomes Eisenhower. Georgetown University put "zip" in gridders with a whiff of oxygen. World's Series highlights.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 14—B-29 flies across the top of the world. Paris holds an automobile show. Bundles for China. Mexico honors Jack L. Warner. Air disaster in French Alps. Eisenhower makes five-star invasion of Scotland.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 16—Byrnes asks end of war-talk in Paris. Red Cross distributes clothing to China's children. Britain stages big fashion show in London. Jack L. Warner honored by Mexico. Cotton pickers vie for national title. Alkan highway opens to civilians.

Eric Johnston's Trip Seen Off Until 1947

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association may decide to postpone his European trip until next year because of the delay in his plans caused by the current labor dispute on the coast.

"The longer he waits, the more apt he is to put off the trip until next year," an MPA spokesman here said.

Skouras Will Start Drive Here Tonight

The $2,500,000 campaign for funds to carry on the work of the National Arthritis Research Foundation will be opened with a dinner at the Astor Hotel here tonight, presided over by Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, is chairman.

Bob Hope will be toastmaster at the dinner, which was postponed from last Monday to enable him to attend.

Soriero Rites Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—Funeral services for Thomas D. Soriero, veteran exhibitor, were held here at the weekend.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.


Brave in Adventure . . .
. . . Bold in Love!
SINBAD -- The Box-Office Man!

FABULOUS, WONDROUS, ROMANTIC TAL

A THOUSAND YEARS AGO, upon a death-laden "ghost ship," Sinbad discovers a long-buried chart—key to the hidden treasures of Alexander the Great! His triumph is short-lived, for the chart magically vanishes! On shore, he meets an exotic adventuress, who believes him to be Prince of Deryabar, long-lost heir to the treasure. Thinking she can help him, Sinbad pleads with her to sail in search of the priceless plunder of the ages! But she refuses—and warns him of danger . . . . .

SINBAD (**DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS JR.**) LANDS IN HOSTILE DAIBUL, SEEKING SHIREEN (**MAUREEN O'HARA**) THE EXOTIC MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURESS, WITH WHOM HE HAS FALLEN IN LOVE

FURIOUS BATTLE RAGES BETWEEN THE EMIR'S SHIP AND SINBAD, WHO HAS BEEN BETRAYED BY TREACHEROUS MELIK (**WALTER SLEZAK**) WHO ALSO HAS DESIGNS ON ALEXANDER THE GREAT'S PRICELESS LOOT!

TAKEN PRISONER, SINBAD IS FORCED T
THE EMIR AND MELIK TO THE ISLE OF DI
HIDING-PLACE OF THE WORLD'S GREATEST T

SINBAD BEATS OFF HIS PURSUERS!

AS MELIK LIES DEAD, TRICKED INTO SUICIDE BY SINBAD—THE GREEDY EMIR AND HIS HORDE FIGHT FOR THE TREASURE--ONLY TO BE BLASTED INTO ETERNITY BY SINBAD'S DEADLY "GREEK FIRE"!

OF SINBAD KING OF ADVENTURERS! MASTER OF MAGIC!



Watch for the screen's most lavish spectacle... the world's most fabulous Prince of Romancers . . . and the exotic Queen of his Heart . . . soon at your favorite theatre!

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.
MAUREEN O'HARA · WALTER SLEZAK

in

SINBAD THE SAILOR

with ANTHONY QUINN · GEORGE TOBIAS

JANE GREER · MIKE MAZURKI

Produced by STEPHEN AMES · Directed by RICHARD WALLACE

Screen Play by JOHN TWIST

IN TECHNICOLOR

RKO RADIO PICTURES



Doug, twice as dashing as ever before! Maureen, more beautiful and exotic than you've seen her!

120 LEADING NEWSPAPER COMIC SECTIONS WILL RUN THIS HALF-PAGE AD (full-page in tabloid-size papers) . . . ADDITIONALLY, four-color, full-page ads appear in LIFE—WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION—LOOK—SATURDAY EVENING POST—COLLIER'S—AMERICAN—TRUE STORY—COSMOPOLITAN—TIME—REDBOOK—LIBERTY—ESQUIRE and the FAN LIST . . . plus SIX ADDITIONAL inclusions in RKO's PICTOUR OF THE MONTH full-page ads in Life, Woman's Home Companion and Look . . . A GRAND TOTAL CIRCULATION OF 133,236,873!

...OUT OF THE ARABIAN NIGHTS!



• The reckless loves, the daring exploits, of Sinbad ...the kind of a man who'd risk his life for a kingdom—or a kiss!

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.
MAUREEN O'HARA ★ WALTER SLEZAK
in
"SINBAD THE SAILOR"

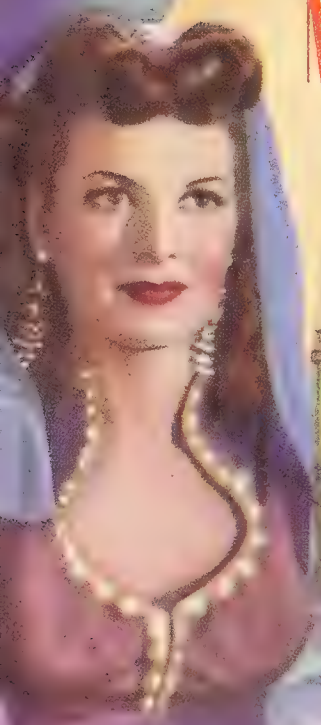
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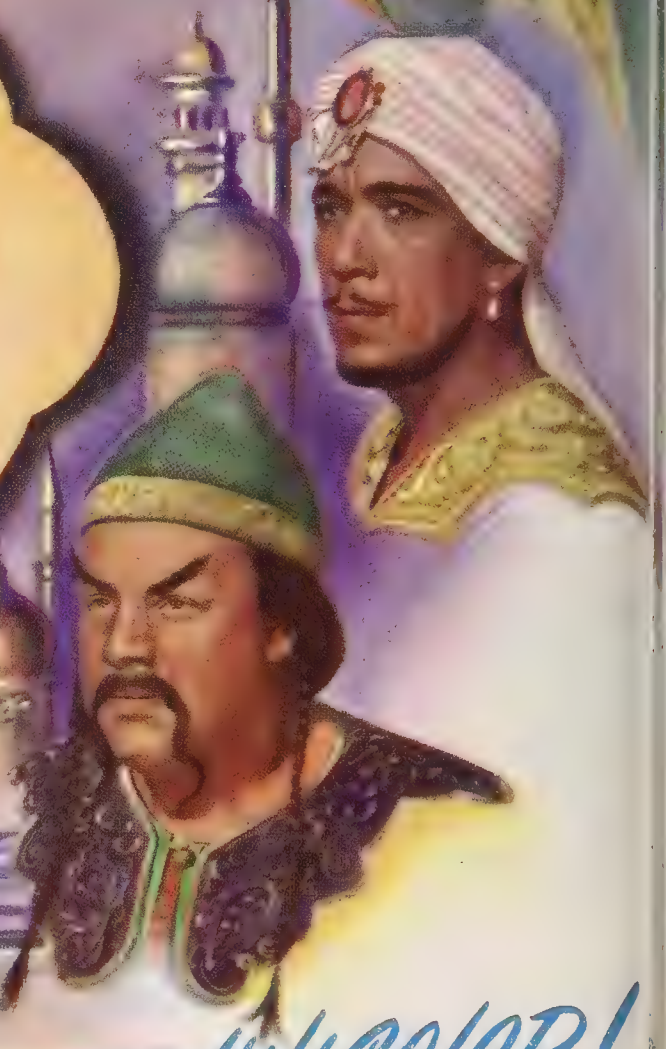
ANTHONY QUINN • GEORGE TOBIAS

JANE GREER • MIKE MAZURKI

Produced by STEPHEN AMES • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE

Screen Play by JOHN TWIST





RKO RADIO PICTURES

FILMED IN TECHNICOLOR!

LITHO U S A

5 Companies Are Chartered in N. Y.

ALBANY, N. Y., Oct. 13.—World Wide Film Corp. of America has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures, by incorporators Harold J. Sherman, Brooklyn, and Floria V. Lasky and Sara Kaye. Fitelson, Mayers and London, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Madison Commerce Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a theatrical business in New York. Incorporators are: Benjamin S. Moss and Jack Marks, New York, and Jessie Morrison, Bronx. Marks and Marks, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Sinatra Songs, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct a music publishing business; incorporators are: Mortimer M. Lerner, Renee Stern and Estelle Beal, all of New York. Beilenson, Jaffe, Jaffe and Berger, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Freedom Road Films, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct a business in motion pictures. Harte and Nathanson, New York, were the attorneys.

The Technavue Corp. has been incorporated to carry on a motion picture business in New York; incorporators are: Sidney Fischer and Emanuel M. Fischer, Brooklyn, and Julius Yablok, New York. Yablok was incorporating attorney.

Crown Lists Five Foreign Releases

Before his departure for Paris recently, Alfred Crown, Samuel Goldwyn's foreign sales representative, announced a world-wide release schedule of product currently in circulation.

"Wonder Man," "The Princess and the Pirate," and "The Best Years of Our Lives," will be shown in Latin America during the first six months of 1947; "The Little Foxes," "Wonder Man" and "The Princess and the Pirate" will circulate in Continental Europe during the same period.

"The Kid from Brooklyn," with the "Goldwyn Girls" appearing personally at the premiere, will open in London in mid-Autumn, and "Wonder Man" and "The Kid from Brooklyn" will be available at the same time in the Far East and Australia. "Wonder Man" has just been released in Scandinavia.

Sweden, Switzerland, the Near East and Portugal have seen every Goldwyn film up to "The Kid from Brooklyn," of which prints are now in the exchanges awaiting a starting date.

European Theaters Still Draw Big

More than half a million soldiers in the European Theatre see motion pictures weekly, according to the Army's Theatre Special Services; 592,840 viewed 656 prints making the rounds weekly in the European Theatre, averaging 154 soldiers at each of the 3,852 showings.

Review

"The Overlanders"

(*Ealing-General Film Distributors*) *London, Oct. 11 (By Airmail)*

IN 1942, when Japanese invasion threatened Northern Australia the cattlemen set out to drive thousands of steers nearly 2,000 miles across sterile country into safety; bullocks, they said, being more valuable than bullets just then, and Harry Watt—of "Target for Tonight"—has set the story down on a motion picture canvas of unexcelled splendour.

Taken by themselves, the incidents of the film seem the ingredients of just another Western. The odd cavalcade crosses a river where there is a spot of trouble with crocodiles; the escorting horses making a meal of poisonous weed and dying; wild horses caught and broken in their stead; oxen reaching a dried-up well and being driven over a steep mountain range in search of water, and there's a wild, stirring, stampede or two for good measure.

But put together those incidents of Western normalcy become laden with drama. It is a simple film, simply told, and is none the worse for that. In its very simplicity and straightforwardness it becomes charged with greatness. It shows the way to untapped screen material sources in the wide, entrancing, sweep of Britain's Dominions beyond the seas. Watt here points the way. "Overlanders" is the forerunner of many films which will be made not only in Australia, but in South Africa, also. It is assuredly one of the season's top money-spinners on this side. It should rate favorably in America. It serves moreover to introduce to the screen two newcomers: Chips Rafferty and Daphne Campbell. Both are good.

Running time 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

PETER BURNUP

March of Time on SAG 'Unfair List'

March of Time has been placed on the unfair list by the board of directors of the Screen Actors Guild. Instructions are being issued to members of the Guild to refrain from accepting any engagements by the March of Time, the Guild announced.

A request is also being made to the governing boards of the American Federation of Radio Artists, Actors Equity Association, American Guild of Variety Artists and American Guild of Musical Artists for similar instructions to take disciplinary action against any members who violate the instructions, according to SAG. Mrs. Florence Marston, SAG Eastern representative, claims that the March of Time has refused to sign the Guild's standard collective bargaining contract because of an expressed fear that March of Time will lose its status as a newsreel company.

Officials of the reel declined to comment on Friday on the SAG action.

Six Groups Share in Allied Dinner Fund

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Six charitable organizations are the sole beneficiaries of the net proceeds of the National Allied "Presidential Inaugural Dinner" tendered by the industry in Chicago in honor of Jack Kirsch, last May, on the occasion of his election to the national presidency of Allied.

The committee in charge of the inaugural reports that $2,000, representing the net proceeds of the affairs, has been distributed among the Greek War Relief, B'nai B'rith Leo N. Levi Memorial Hospital, LaRabida Sanitarium, Shiners' Hospital for Crippled Children, Catholic Charities of Chicago and Visual Education Department of the Sinai Religious School.

Lovelett Back to Films

J. E. Lovelett, veteran film salesman who left the Minneapolis Monogram staff several months ago after three years with the company, to enter another field, has been named northern Minnesota sales representative for the Minneapolis Columbia branch, by manager Hy Chapman.

WB Field Staff in Meet on New Films

Warner Brothers' field public relations representatives for the Eastern territory met at the home office on Friday and Saturday to discuss campaigns on three new pictures, "Deception," "Never Say Goodbye" and "The Verdict." Among those in town for the sessions were Art Moger and Phil Spiegel, from Boston; George Fishman and Ed Maillard, Philadelphia; Richard Stephens, Buffalo; Herb Pickman, New York.

The men attended screening of the three pictures and then discussed advertising plans with Gil Golden, WB's national advertising manager, conferring later with Larry Golob, Eastern publicity director, and William W. Brumberg, manager of the field staff, on promotional plans.

Bell Highlights WB Talking Film Fete

Latest issue of *Bell Telephone Magazine*, a quarterly published by the American Telephone and Telegraph Co. for international distribution, devotes 19 pages to the 20th anniversary of talking pictures.

The article, authored by Frank H. Lovette and Stanley Watkins, gives a detailed account of the technical side of the development of sound, as well as crediting Warner Brothers for pioneering the commercial career of the invention.

Matsoukas to Chicago To Aid Greek Relief

Nick John Matsoukas, director of advertising for Skouras Theatres, here, will be in Chicago all this week, in connection with the national convention of the Greek War Relief Association, meeting there to adopt final plans for the launching of its national $12,000,000.00 fund raising campaign. The convention will be held at the Palmer House for two days, October 19 and 20.

A. Van Nomikos, independent theatre operator in Chicago and regional director of Greek War Relief Association, will hold a press conference there with Matsoukas, today at the Palmer House, in connection with the convention.

British Test Over Unfriendly Critics

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Oct. 13.—A test case on the industry's efforts to close theatre doors to radio and newspaper critics whose remarks about films of accepted wide box-office potentiality have been allegedly damaging, shaped up here at the weekend when Mrs. Arbuthnot Arnot-Robertson, reviewer for British Brodacasting Corp., sued for writ of libel against M-G-M, following publication of a letter from that company asking that she be restrained from reviewing its pictures.

Mrs. Arnot-Robertson, speaking of "The Green Years," is reported to have asked: "When will Hollywood learn that to make things larger and lumpier than life is simply to diminish their effect?"

M-G-M's subsequent letter said, in part: "In our judgment, based upon a considerable number of talks given by Mrs. Arnot-Robertson, that critic is completely out of touch with the tastes and entertainment requirements of the picture-going millions, who are also radio listeners, and her criticisms are on the whole harmful to the film industry."

Taking the position that artistic disdain of pictures having the ingredients of popular success is out of place, except in media of limited and intellectual appeal, the industry here is understood to welcome airing of the matter in the court, as now provided by Mrs. Arnot-Robertson's suit.

The general subject of critics was debated at a weekend meeting of the Kinemtaograph Renters Society.

Sign Joan Fontaine For Goldwyn Film

Joan Fontaine will play the role of Erica opposite Gregory Peck in Samuel Goldwyn's filming of the Gwethalyn Graham novel "Earth and High Heaven," Goldwyn announced here at the weekend.

Goldwyn concluded an agreement for Miss Fontaine's services with Rampart Productions, the new producing organization controlled by the star and her husband, William Dozier, Universal-International production executive.

Oct. 28 Examinations In 5th-Walnut Suit

Albert J. Hoffman, owner of the National Theatre, Louisville, and the Fifth and Walnut Street Corp., lessee of the house, filed notice in Federal District Court here on Friday for examinations before trial in connection with their $2,100,000 triple-damage suit against distributors for alleged inability to obtain first-run product.

Listed for examination on Oct. 28, at Federal District Court in Louisville, are the Broadway and Fourth Ave. Realty Co. and Peoples Theatre Co., operators of first-run houses there, as well as Modern Amusement Co., operators of a second-run house. Attorneys for the defendants were invited to be present to cross-examine the witnesses.

Stover Joins Law Firm

C. Clark Stover, Jr., has resigned from the legal department of American Broadcasting to accept a partnership in the law firm of Spier and Kerbeck

Television

(*Continued from page* 1)

cable facilities for the television transmission.

Television's present position, the strides it has taken, its responsibilities and is potentialities were covered by the speakers at the two-day conclave.

The motion picture as it figures in the new art form additionally was part of the subject matter and interest of the film industry in television was reflected by the number of theatremen in attendance. These included John Balaban, A. H. and Meyer Blank, Ralph Brandon, John Friedl and William Jenkins, to name a few from out of town, plus scores of New Yorkers.

Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* discussed films as they pertain to television, in an address in which he urged the "struggling and experimenting art of television to take real cognizance of the achievements in technique and narration of the motion picture."

Continuing, he said: "No matter whether you are presenting a 'live' show or a film, what television delivers to its audience is still a motion picture and the methods of motion picture production as established by the screen remain authoritative."

Ramsaye traced the growth of the film industry and offered this admonition: "Television has all that same distance of evolution to travel, and it is going to be tedious, also expensive, if it does not learn from the motion picture—and faster."

SIMPP to Intervene

(*Continued from page* 1)

Hollywood for several days conferring with lawyers and SIMPP representatives on plans for intervention. It is understood that James Barnes, an attorney here, has been retained by the SIMPP. A representative of Loyd Wright, SIMPP counsel, is understood to be participating in the Nelson conference.

Milton A. Kramer and Samuel S. Isseks are counsel for Selznick on his intervention plans.

Screen Guild Prod. Studies N. Y. Decree

CHICAGO, Oct. 13.—Sales procedures as they will affect Screen Guild Prod. as a result of the New York decree was one of the major topics under discussion here Friday at the special meeting of the company's directors at the Blackstone hotel.

John L. Jones, president, is presiding at the sessions. Those attending besides Jones are: Robert L. Lippert, executive vice-president and general manager; Arthur Lockwood, vice-president; F. A. Bateman, general sales manager, who is also assistant treasurer; J. L. Franconi, secretary; S. K. Decker, treasurer; Madison Schwer, comptroller and assistant secretary; and Jack Engel, J. Francis White, Jr., Bert Stearn and Al Dezel.

New RKO Radio Outlet

MANILA, P. I., Oct. 13.—Completely rebuilt and refurnished, the Capitol Theatre, here re-opened today with Sam Goldwyn's "The Princess and the Pirate," RKO-Radio. Ernesto Rufino is the operator. The roof of the theatre displays a large neon sign reading: "Home of RKO Pictures."

Companies vs. Checkers' Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

according to a spokesman for one of the companies, by cancelling any films remaining under a contract which covers a film on which checking by a local checker had been refused.

Walter Reade, Jr., who made known the circuit's stand at a meeting of its managers, as reported last Wednesday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, said that he had sent a letter to the heads of the various distribution companies 18 months ago, seeking to have only out-of-town checkers assigned to cover percentage engagements at the Reade houses in New York State and New Jersey, but that he finds companies still "trying to establish the fact that they can have anyone."

Among developments prompting the present stand, Reade declared, was the introduction of a pending city ordinance in Morristown, N. J., under which the annual theatre license fee would be increased from 25 cents to $1 per seat. This, he said, can be attributed, at least in part, to the fact that "local information" as to film grosses "is disseminated and exaggerated." Danger of such dissemination would be reduced to a minimum if the checkers were sent from out of town, according to Reade, who added that he had no objection to this practice. "We appreciate checking by the parent companies," he emphasized. "It is an added protection to ourselves" in determining revenues accurately.

Stating that his original announcement was, perhaps, "more forceful than the situation implies," Reade admitted that his circuit's ban on local checkers would not be entirely hard-and-fast, at least in the beginning. If, in an occasional instance of real emergency, an out-of-town checker cannot be sent, the theatre will cooperate by agreeing to one from at home, but in general the ruling will be enforced, he declared.

Regarding the danger of losing product as a result of the stand, Reade is awaiting developments. "If they want to cancel a dog," he said, "we'll let it go," but he indicated that cancellation of any lucrative film would be opposed.

The Reade circuit operates 25 theatres, located in Saratoga Springs and Kingston, N. Y., and in Asbury Park, Freehold, Long Branch, Morristown, Perth Amboy, Plainfield, Red Bank and Tom's River, N. J. It obtains product from all the distribution companies, according to a circuit executive. M-G-M, however, uses no local checkers, while Confidential Reports, which operates for Paramount, RKO Radio, Warner Brothers, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal, Columbia and Republic, has been making an effort to use out-of-town checkers whenever possible.

Pickford-Cowan Outlets

(*Continued from page* 1)

company, adding that her existing distribution agreement is "adequate to take care of our program for the coming year." The agreement provides "most-favored-nation" terms for any of the six films she had in preparation before expiration of her UA distribution contract on Sept. 5, provided they are delivered for release before Sept. 5, 1947. Under these terms, UA will collect a 25 per cent distribution fee on the first $800,000 gross and 10 per cent thereafter. The company has been seeking to eliminate such clauses with its producers in favor of higher percentages.

Miss Pickford hopes to be able to deliver three or four pictures before the deadline date. Her six properties in preparation are: "One Touch of Venus," "Sorrell and Son," "Tonight or Never," "Street Scene," "The Greeks Had a Word for It," and "Rain." She will have the use of the Samuel Goldwyn studio.

Additional facilities, for two films annually during the next two years, will be available at the Hal Roach studio, under an agreement between Roach and Cowan. For a time, following a recent deal between Roach and Walter Wanger, who also will use the Roach studio, Cowan's status there was understood to be in doubt, but he said at the weekend that he had been assured the facilities previously promised to him.

Cowan and Miss Pickford deferred their plans to return to the Coast at the weekend. They will remain in New York for the present, organizing the new company.

On Friday the partners held a reception at the Waldorf-Astoria for 25 editors attending the first session of the American Press Institute at Columbia University. "Free Press" is one of the film properties held by Cowan.

In attendance at the Friday reception were: Mr. and Mrs. Jack Cohn, Herman Shumlin, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Grad Sears, Arthur Kelly, Alton Cook, Archer Winsten, Tom Waller, Evelyn Keyes, John Huston, Helen Quo, Dana Andrews, Lillian and Dorothy Gish, Sam and Joe Siritzky, and others from the industry.

U. S. Expects

(*Continued from page* 1)

against a company, it is immediately barred from participating in television and radio by the Federal Communications Act.

Joseph Borkin, special assistant to the Attorney General, will leave the Justice Department Tuesday, and the case will be handled from this point forward by the New York office and the Department's consent decree section here, Borkin said.

Iowa-Nebraska Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

American Theatres Association.

New officers of the exhibitor unit, headed by Howard Brookings, Oakland, Iowa, theatre owner, are regarded as viewing ATA affiliation favorably, in contrast to the opinion of Leo Wolcott, until recently the head of the association. Other officers in the revamped AITO are George March, Vermillion, S. D., vice-president; T. J. Evans, Clinton, executive secretary and treasurer.

Get Distribution of US Message Films

WASHINGTON, Oct. 13.—Representatives of the Motion Picture Association and the American Theatres Association have made an agreement for the distribution of federal film messages by major film companies, the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion announced here [illegible] the weekend.

The agreement was reached at a meeting between representatives of the ATA and a committee of distributors and MPA representatives.

Details and procedures covering release of "a reasonable number" of films will be worked out by the distributors' committee, according to the OWMR.

Four exhibitor associations already have promised cooperation with the Government in recommending exhibition of message films, it was said.

SAG Proposal

(*Continued from page* 1)

opposition movement against the plan. Hutcheson himself was not available for comment.

Meanwhile, the Screen Actors Guild is doing considerable lobbying in trying to get the jurisdictional machinery underway as quickly as possible. A SAG delegation met with William F. Green, AFL president, late last week and Edward Arnold is in the Morrison Hotel daily conferring with AF of L big-wigs in order to gain adherents to plans advocating the setting up of machinery to handle jurisdictional squabbles.

Coast Still Eyes Chicago As Violence Flares Anew

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 13.—The second week during which Hollywood produced pictures at declared par levels behind picket lines ended with the unions and producers alike still looking to the American Federation of Labor convention in Chicago for some clue as to what may come next.

On Friday, mass picketing attention was switched from Paramount Laboratory, which was besieged on Thursday, to Technicolor's plant, where violence resulted in approximately 50 arrests. Thereupon, Technicolor followed the example previously set by M-G-M, Warners, Republic and Columbia, and obtained a court order limiting the number of pickets. The violence then subsided.

Chouinard to Buy

(*Continued from page* 1)

tomorrow.

In his new assignment Chouinard will buy film for 26 theatres in the Twin Cities area. The list comprises six houses of Guttman-Mann; three each in the Henry Greene, Lyle Carisch and Rubenstein-Kaplan circuits; two apiece operated by Nate Fisher in Minneapolis and George Granstrom in St. Paul. The list also includes the Hamline and Radio, neighborhood houses in the Montgomery-Dale-Rydeen circuit, St. Paul; and one each owned by Max Torodor and Bill Levy, Minneapolis, and Sol Torodor, Sam Zuckman and Art Stevens, St. Paul.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 75 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 1946 TEN CENTS

D. of J. Raps All Firms' Decree Plans

'Better Dismissal Than These,' Wright Wails

By TOM LOY

Condemning the decree proposals submitted by the five major film companies in the New York anti-trust suit as "a rather complex device for conferring upon those defendants privileges and immunities which they do not now possess," the Department of Justice yesterday filed seven pages of comments in Federal District court here, declaring that these decrees merit summary rejection.

"If forced to choose between the decree proposed by the major defendants and a decree of dismissal, we should unhesitatingly cast our vote for dismissal," Robert L. Wright and

(*Continued on page 7*)

SIMPP Asks Exemptions

Moving on behalf of its 21 affiliated members, the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers yesterday asked the New York Federal District Court to state in the final decree in the industry anti-trust suit that "independents have a clear right to dispose of their product upon such terms as they see fit," as well as to make clear that "the rights of independents with respect to road shows are not interfered with."

Petitioning for leave to file a brief as *amicus curiae,* Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, acting for the society through attorneys Loyd Wright,

(*Continued on page 10*)

D of J Asks Films Fight Youth Crime

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Emphasis on motion pictures which dramatize the tragedy of juvenile crime was urged today by Attorney General Tom Clark, as it was disclosed that Justice Department officials held conferences last week with Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, on means of industry-government cooperation in its juvenile delinquency program.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Exhibitors Raise Million for 16 for Screen Guild Prod.

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—Two separate exhibitor groups—one in Boston and the other in Detroit—have each raised $500,000 and will each release a group of eight pictures through Screen Guild productions, it was revealed here following a Screen Guild meeting held at the Blackstone Hotel. The Detroit group, comprising exhibitors headed by Jack Broder, will be called Melrose Productions and will have Sam Decker in charge of production. The Boston group is headed by Arthur Lockwood and Sam Gordon. To date no name has been selected by the latter group.

(*Continued on page 10*)

Stamatis Named in Percentage Action

Loew's-M-G-M yesterday charged George Stamatis and his Brooklyn theatre corporations with alleged improper box-office reports on percentage pictures since Jan. 1, 1941, in a suit filed in New York Supreme Court.

The plaintiff, in asking damages, further charges that it was induced to lower flat-rental fees because of the returns on percentages.

The suit was filed by Louis Nizer of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim.

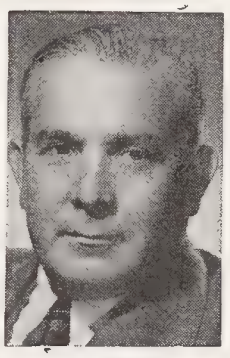
The Stamatis theatres involved are the Apollo, Momart and Lyric, all in Brooklyn.

'U's' 39-Week Net Is $3,206,354

Universal Pictures' consolidated net profits for the 39 weeks ended Aug. 3, 1946, aggregated $3,206,354, after all charges, including Federal taxes based on income. This compares with $2,955,829 for the corresponding period of the preceding fiscal year.

Skouras Starts New Medical Campaign

America's newest major medical crusade, the National Arthritis Research Foundation, was presented publicly last night at an inaugural dinner marking the opening of the Foundation's nationwide campaign, at the Hotel Astor, New York, with Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century - Fox, presiding. Bob Hope, making a special trip from the coast, was toastmaster. Speakers invited included Postmaster General Robert E. Hannegan; Dr. Thomas Parran, surgeon general of the U. S. Public Health Service; Monsignor Francis X. Shea, who read an invocation by Cardinal Spellman; A. B. Frey, St. Louis, the Foundation's president; Louis Kran-



Spyros Skouras

(*Continued on page 10*)

280,000 of 'U's Common For Internat'l

Subject to Reductions Of 5 Million at Market

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 14.—Universal Pictures Co., Inc., will acquire all of the property, assets and business of International Pictures Corp. in exchange for 280,000 shares of Universal common stock, according to a copy of agreement and plan of reorganization on file with the Securities & Exchange Commission here.

(Closing price of Universal common on the New York Stock Exchange last night was $31.50 per share, equivalent to $8,820,000 for 280,000 shares.)

The agreement is subject to the lia-

(*Continued on page 7*)

'IA' Locals Aid Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14.—The ability of the IATSE International officers to control the Hollywood locals faced its severest test tonight as studios struggled against the crippling effect of virtually a complete halting of film processing due to the IATSE laboratory workers' decision to respect Conference of Studio Unions picket lines.

The CSE regarded the development as favorable in every respect, while IATSE officers said an announcement of their next step might be forthcoming tomorrow.

A majority vote by IATSE Film Technicians Local No. 683 to ob-

(*Continued on page 10*)

Television on Billboards For Films and Other Items

Use of television on billboards is being studied preparatory to filing formal application with the Federal Communications Commission by John Donnelly and Sons, New England member of the Standard Outdoor Network, with headquarters in Boston, the SON's office here discloses. Theatres and film firms are large users of billboards.

Edward C. Donnelly, Jr., president of Donnelly made known that manufacturers are being consulted as to the availability of equipment needed for

(*Continued on page 7*)

Virginia Morris on Para. Advertising

Virginia Morris has been named to Paramount's publicity-advertising staff today by Curtis Mitchell, the company's national publicity-advertising director. Miss Morris will work on Paramount advertising projects under Stanley Shuford, advertising manager.

Before her association with Paramount, which became effective yesterday, Miss Morris was in charge of trade paper advertising for 20th Cen-

(*Continued on page 10*)

Taplinger Plans 5 Publicity Offices

Robert S. Taplinger will establish five of his own offices for public relations in cities both in this country and abroad by Jan. 1. Currently associated with Paramount in a production capacity, Taplinger will remain with the studio for a month to complete preliminary preparation of the picture, "World Cruise."

Mapping plans for offices in New York, Hollywood, Washington, Chi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, will leave here today for a week's visit at the studios.

•

A. E. MEYER, manager of the projection equipment department of National Theatre Supply, is en route to the Coast from New York, to attend the SMPE convention there.

•

J. J. FITZGIBBONS, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., will leave for his Toronto headquarters tonight after home office conferences.

•

NATHAN D. GOLDEN, chief of the motion picture bureau of the U. S. Department of Commerce, and MRS. GOLDEN, will leave Washington for the West Coast Thursday.

•

JOHN DAVIS, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, is due to arrive in New York today by plane from London.

•

NORTON V. RICHEY, president and DAVID D. HORNE, assistant treasurer of Monogram International are in Hollywood from New York.

•

JOSEPH ADORNO, son of the owner of the Palace Theatre, Middletown, Conn., has been nominated for State Treasurer on the Republican ticket.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager for Warners, will leave New York today for New Haven and Boston.

•

JOE DILORENZO of Daly Theatres, Hartford, is at home there recuperating from an illness.

•

JOHN CORFIELD, J. Arthur Rank producer, is due to arrive in New York shortly from England.

•

FRANK ARTICOLA of M-G-M's sales department, returned to New York yesterday from Baltimore.

•

LLOYD L. LIND, vice-president and assistant sales manager of PRC, left New York yesterday for Canada.

•

GEORGE HARVEY, Paramount's press-book editor, is back from a week's New York-Pennsylvania trip.

•

ROBERT BLUMOFE, a member of the Paramount studio legal staff, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

WILLIAM LEBARON is ill with bronchial pneumonia.

•

DAVE A. EPSTEIN, Coast publicist, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

PAT O'BRIEN is in New York from the Coast.

•

JACKIE COOGAN is in New York from the Coast.

•

STEPHEN SLESINGER has left New York for the Coast.

Ableson Promoted By Film Classics

Robert P. Ableson, Film Classics' Los Angeles branch manager, has been named supervisor of the company's branches in Portland, Seattle, San Francisco, Denver and Los Angeles, with headquarters in Los Anbeles. Eugene Arnstein, secretary-treasurer, reported here yesterday. Also, Edward E. Spiers, branch manager of the Milwaukee branch, will also supervise sales in Chicago, which was formerly headed by Harry L. Mandell, whose resignation becomes effective on Nov. 1. The promotion of Ableson was brought about by the recent resignation of L. E. Goldhammer.

Arnstein said the company is now negotiating with Edward Small and Alexander Korda for 50 re-issues with additional plans calling for distribution of new product.

Shuberts File Suit Against 'Jolson' Film

Suit for $500,000 plus an accounting of profits was filed yesterday in New York Supreme Court against Columbia Pictures in connection with "The Jolson Story." The plaintiffs, Lee and Jacob J. Shubert and the Trebuhs Realty Co., which owns the Winter Garden, have also asked for an injunction to restrain the exhibition, advertising and promotion of the film.

Objecting to the use of the Winter Garden name, to the reproduction of the interior and exterior of that theatre, and to the use of their own names in connection with the picture, the plaintiffs contend that the film biography leads the public to believe they have authorized and approved linking their own and the Winter Garden names with the film.

Klein and Weinberger are the attorneys for the Shuberts.

20th-Fox Plans Big Outdoor Ad Drive

During the last three months of the "Spyros Skouras Sales Drive," 20th Century-Fox will inaugurate the biggest billboard advertising campaign in its history, covering key cities from Boston to Los Angeles, according to Charles Schlaifer, the company's advertising-publicity head. Supplementing the intensive press advertising planned for "The Razor's Edge," "Margie" and "My Darling Clementine" the promotion will get under way next week in New York for "The Razor's Edge."

Bergman to Address Virginia Managers

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International's Eastern advertising-publicity director, will address the managers of Neighborhood Theatres tomorrow at a meeting at the Hotel John Marshall, Richmond, Va., in connection with preparations for the circuit's 20th anniversary celebration which will be held during November.

Bergman's topic will be: "Selling the Show," outlining aims and purposes of theatre advertising today.

US-Czech Contract Effective Today

By JOSEPH B. KANTUREK

PRAGUE, Oct. 10 (By Airmail).—The recently-concluded agreement between the Czechoslovak monopoly and the Motion Picture Export Association goes into effect Oct. 15. Three days later the premiere of "Wilson" will be held. President Benes of Czechoslovakia, American Ambassador, Lawrence S. Steinhardt, and other diplomatic and government officials will attend the opening.

Meanwhile, the Czech Socialist Party is demanding changes in the film monopoly's practices. Primarily, the party demands that politics be kept out of the industry and that production and distribution not be politically one-sided. The Socialists ask that the social interests of the employes be safeguarded by democratic elections and that costly celebrations be eliminated. Further, they want to complete the purge of those elements which aided the enemy during the war.

The plenipotentiary of the Ministry of Cinematography for the production of Soviet films in Czechoslovakia has signed an agreement with the Czech monopoly for using the stage of the Prague-Barrandov studios.

Rabinovitch to Make Six for Columbia

Gregor Rabinovitch, producer, has joined Columbia International as a partner for the production of Continental films. Currently in Europe arranging details, Rabinovitch will produce six pictures, the first of which will be "Manon Lescaut" starring Danielle Darrieux.

Before coming to the United States in 1941 as producer for United Artists, Rabinovitch was associated with Cine-Alliance and UFA. Among his better known successes were "Michael Strogoff," "Casanova," "Be Mine Tonight" and "Heartbeat."

Schaefer in Para. Puppet Negotiations

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 14—George Schaefer, president of Equity Capital Corp., has arrived here from New York to negotiate a release with Paramount of Lou Bunin's proposed cartoon puppet production of "Alice in Wonderland."

Acceptance of the French Government's offer of facilities and financing for production of the Lewis Carrol story, as well as distribution in its own and foreign versions, will depend on the outcome of negotiations with Paramount.

Agnew Back from Europe

Neil F. Agnew, vice-president and distribution head of Vanguard Films, arrived in New York by plane yesterday after a five weeks' European business tour. Agnew conferred in England with William Erbb, Vanguard representative there, and with Paris representatives of the company on premiere and sales plans for David O. Selznick's forthcoming "Duel in the Sun."

Coming Events

Tomorrow — American Veterans Committee, New York Motion Picture Chapter, nominations meeting, New York.
Oct. 17—Associated Motion Pict. R. Advertisers meeting, Town H..., New York.
Oct. 21-24—Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention, Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood.
Oct. 25—Paramount Pep Club dance, Hotel Astor, New York.
Oct. 28-29—Meeting of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, Des Moines.
Oct. 28-29—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas meeting, Dallas.
Oct. 28—Testimonial for Dave Miller and Lester Zucker, Statler Hotel, Cleveland.
Nov. 21—Dinner for Barney Balaban given by Joint Defense Appeal, Hotel Astor.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL & ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE
ON SCREEN
M-G-M's TECHNICOLOR MUSICAL
'HOLIDAY in MEXICO'
IN PERSON
Milt Britton and His Band
EDITH FELLOWS
Extra!
PAUL HAAKON

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
in Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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EVERYTHING GREAT
THE WEST
WAS!

EVERYTHING THAT
BOXOFFICE
GREATNESS
IS!

THAT'S



INTO THE WEST CAME..CLEMENTINE!

To set it living bolder . . .
loving harder! Thrill-
directed by John Ford . . .
of Academy Award
winning fame!

Lift the Lady's Shoulder!



OUT OF THE WEST IT COMES

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

Starring HENRY FONDA · LINDA DARNELL · VICTOR MATURE

with WALTER BRENNAN
TIM HOLT
CATHY DOWNS

Directed by JOHN FORD · Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL

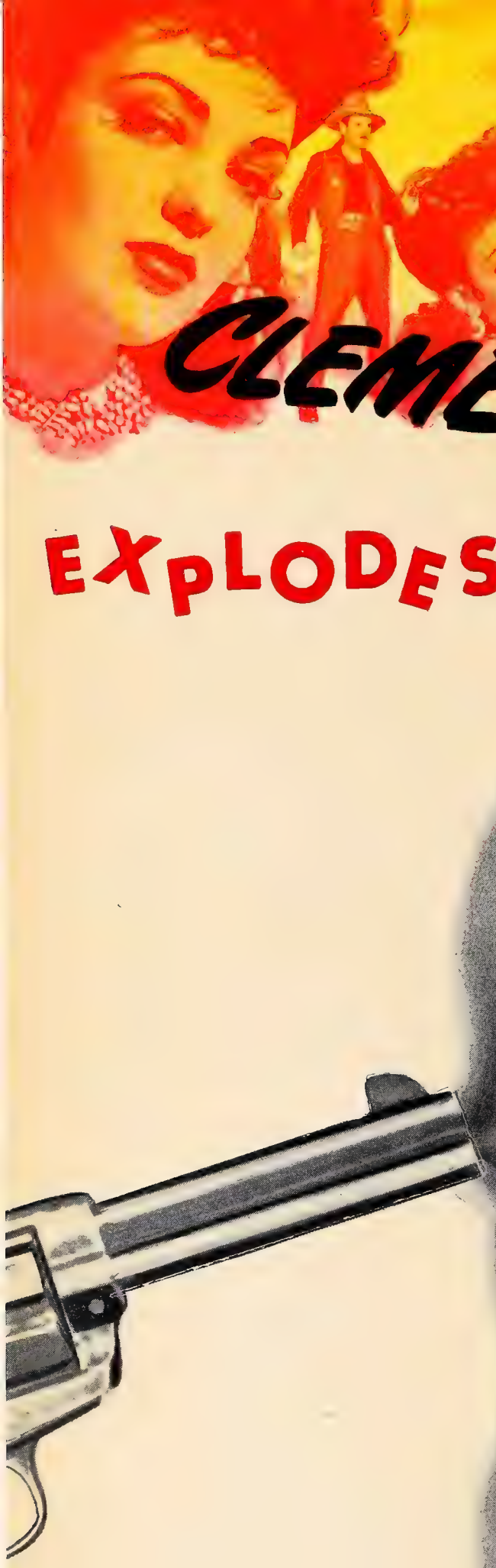
and Ward Bond · Alan Mowbray · John Ireland · Roy Roberts · Jane Darwell
Grant Withers · J. Farrell MacDonald · Russell Simpson

Screen Play by Samuel G. Engel and Winston Miller · Based on a Story by Sam Hellman · From a Book by Stuart N. Lake



CLEMENTINE

EXPLODES IN THE WEST TOMORROW!



GOLDEN GATE

WORLD PREMIERE

FOX THEATRE

SAN FRANCISCO!

TO BE FOLLOWED BY 100 GOLDEN CALIFORNIA DAY-AND-DATES!



THE **DARLING** OF EVERY SHOWMAN IS

CENTURY-FOX

WB to Release 19 In Australia

Warners will release 19 pictures this year in Australia, said Stanley Higginson, managing director of WB's operations in Australio, here, yesterday. He added that next year the company would increase its Australian distribution there to 24 features.

Higginson said that Australian business is better than ever before. He pointed out that there is a tax of 25 per cent, passed on to the ticket buyer, and a shortage of materials to build theatres confront exhibitors there.

U. S. pictures are favored in Australia; however, he said that British features were gaining due to a "great improvement in quality." Australia's own production will not exceed six features this year, Higginson stated.

New Zealand, unlike Australia, is "strong" on single features, Higginson added. The former has the largest motion picture attendance per capita of any country in the world, according to Higginson.

Censorship in his territory, said Higginson, "is along the same lines as in the U. S."

Higginson, after a six-week stay on the Coast, will return to Australia.

U-I Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

bilities of International and, in addition, is subject to a reduction to 125,000 shares ($3,937,500 market value at yesterday's closing price) upon delivery by Universal to International of waivers of the former's rights as the owner of the preferred and Class A of the common stock of International.

Filing of the agreement is the first disclosure of the terms of the pending Universal-International merger which was agreed upon last Aug. 6:

The agreement further provides for the exchange by International of its 280,000 shares of Universal common in these proportions: 30,000 shares to Universal as the owner of International's preferred stock, and 62,500 shares to William Goetz and a like number to Leo Spitz as owners of International's Class B common stock.

The agreement also provides for the dissolution of International.

Upon consummation of the Universal-International plan, the agreement declares, it is anticipated that all of the 280,000 shares of Universal common will be issued and that, upon liquidation of International, Universal will receive 155,000 shares of its common stock in exchange for its stock ownership in International.

In the plan, the stockholders of International represent that the stock of the company to be received by them upon liquidation of International will be taken with the intention of investment and not with a view to the distribution or re-sale thereof.

The obligation of International under its employment agreements with Goetz and Spitz will become the obligations of Universal upon consummation of the plan.

Steiner Gets Powell

Joseph Steiner's new Broadcast Pictures has engaged Eleanor Powell to appear in its first production, "Rhythm Rhapsodies," when filming starts here after Jan 1.

D. of J. Raps

(*Continued from page* 1)

Philip Marcus, Special Assistants to the Attorney General, told the court in yesterday's document.

Also recommended for rejection were the decree proposals of the three minor defendants—United Artists, Columbia and Universal—which, it was noted, "simply call for dismissal of the suit."

The Department charged that the proposals of Paramount, M-G-M, 20th Century-Fox, RKO and Warners would enable them to retain control of the admission price structure, to assure control of clearance and run, to minimize the illegality of master agreements, to treat profit-sharing leases "simply as formal deviations subject to correction by 'revision'," to eliminate pooled interests only after further litigation, to exploit films at advanced admission prices and to expand their control over exhibition through further acquisition of theatres.

Auction Selling

With regard to auction selling, the Government declared: "The defendants are obviously not disposed to adopt the one simple rule under which auction selling would be fairly conducted, that is, the requirement that all bids be in terms of a flat sum. Such a rule would mean depriving the distributors of the right to audit the exhibitor's books on percentage pictures and thus gaining an accurate knowledge of his business, which gives them an advantage in bargaining as to future terms. The alternative to a flat rental system of auction selling is a public audit of the receipts of the winning bidder. While their decree does not so specify, we assume the defendants' rule would make them available to the losing bidders inspection of the winning bid, but if it were stated in percentage terms, the losers would still not have sufficient information to know whether that bid was actually high."

'Unlawful Control'

The companies' proposed decree, according to the Government, "would permit the defendants to continue unlawful control of the film market in a form which gives only lip service to prohibitions which the (court's) opinion suggested might make that market fee. Admission price restrictions are to be eliminated from license agreements, but control of the price structure is to be retained through admission price representations accompanying bids for runs, plus their consideration as a basis for clearance agreements and granting runs. The distributors' control of the run and clearance structure is further assured by protection of 'the licensor's revenue' as an alternative to the licensee's protection specified in the opinion in granting clearance, and the runs bid for are to be only those 'designated by the distributor'. Runs are to be awarded not only to the highest bidders but to such other persons as the distributor may select under criteria not recognized by the opinion, in accordance with such rules and regulations as the distributor may adopt."

Further regarding the distributors' run-and-clearance proposals, the Government said: "No penalty for noncompliance is contemplated other than an award of such compensatory damages as the exhibitor may win in an arbitration proceeding to be financed by and established for the benefit of the defendants over the objections of the Government. No matter how flagrant a clearance violation may be, the remedy is a mere direction as to how to avoid a penalty in the future," the Department contended.

Of master agreements, the Government commented that their illegality, according to the defendants' proposals, "is to depend entirely on their form."

Hitting at the distributors' road-show proposals, the Department declared: "Whenever a distributor-defendant believes it will be advantageous to exploit a film at advanced admission prices set by it, it is free (according to the defendants' proposals) to do so, provided only that the form of agreement used is one which grants the distributor the use of the exhibitor's theatre for the run of the picture instead of the conventional license by which the distributor grants the exhibitor the right to use the film for the same period."

Likewise attacked by the Government were the defendants' proposals for "acquisition of theatres on a permanent basis, as distinguished from the run-of-the-picture basis noted above." This, the Department commented, the distributors wish to have authorized "as a means of expanding control over exhibition. The only limitations are that the expansion must occur in the course of acquiring the interests of an existing partner or to protect a defendants' investment or to enter a competitive field. Since any expansion in a competitive field where they now operate would apparently protect an existing investment, there appears to be no form of expansion prohibited," the Government held.

Austrian to Mexico On Video Trip

Ralph B. Austrian, president of RKO Television Corp., has left here by air for Mexico City. While there he will inspect the new RKO Mexican motion picture studios as well as several television enterprises which are under way there. He will next go to Hollywood to attend the SMPE fall conference and will deliver a paper entitled, "The Showmanship Side of Theatre Television." Austrian plans to return to New York around Nov. 12. He will make several stops on the way to address advertising clubs in several Western cities.

Mochrie Calls a Meeting for Oct. 23

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of domestic distribution, will preside at a Western district sales meeting to be held in San Francisco, Oct. 23-24. Others in attendance will be Walter Branson, Western division sales manager; J. H. MacIntyre, Wesgtern district manager and the following branch managers: H. C. Cohen, Los Angeles; N. P. Jacobs, San Francisco; E. A. Lamb, Seattle; J. P. Smith, Portland.

Also from the home office will be William Zimmerman, sales executive, who will act as chairman.

Overman to PRC

Milton Overman, veteran theatre and film exploitation and publicity man, has been named to the exploitation staff of PRC Pictures, to cover Dallas, under exploitation manager Lige Brien.

Overman, who will have headquarters at the Dallas exchange, will begin his new duties on Oct. 21.

Chinese Payments Total 4 Millions

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—Living up to an agreement to remit currency for films, the Chinese Government has agreed to immediately pay an estimated $4,000,000 to U. S. distributors to cover payment for pictures from Aug. to Dec., 1945, George Canty of the U. S. State Department disclosed here today.

Canty said the U. S. Consul General at Shanghai has informed the Department that American representatives there are now working with the Chinese Central Bank for a "permanent agreement on remittances to take effect as of Jan. 1.

Billboard Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

projecting television on billboards. Donnelly pointed out that television would enable outdoor advertising to carry a greatly expanded volume of public service messages and would provide many more local and small businesses with the opportunity of employing outdoor advertising on the same scale as national advertisers.

It is proposed to have television billboards located at "nerve-centers" of outdoor movement and there to present a variety of public service and advertising messages, as well as news.

Youth Crime Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

Clark asserted that among the greatest contributions to the war on juvenile delinquency, has been good films. The Attorney General, praising the Production Code, urged that all producers strictly follow the requirements of the production code administration.

In praising the Code, a Department spokesman asserted that producers should not only follow it, but keep pictures on the highest possible level in order to influence the future generation against crime.

Clark Lauds Industry

Clark also praised the industry over a nationwide radio hookup Friday.

"It will be the dramatization of the tragedy of juvenile crime, from a corrective angle, that will bring the lesson home to youngsters everywhere," Clark stated.

Speaking of the industry, Clark said: "The motion picture industry has seen its responsibility and used the screen to emphasize the adage that crime doesn't pay."

5 Taplinger Offices

(*Continued from page* 1)

cago and London, Taplinger and associates will emphasize exploitation and publicity representation for motion picture and radio accounts.

Taplinger, who formerly headed his own public relations offices in key cities until he joined Warner Brothers, as publicist, was also formerly in charge of publicity and special events broadcasts with Columbia Broadcasting System. He was executive assistant to Harry Cohn, president of Columbia Pictures, at the time he entered the Navy, where he served with the industrial relations division and combat photographic services.

UNITED ARTISTS is not alone in its appreciation of the money-making phenomenon consisting of placing an actor in Western garb on a white horse chasing another actor similarly dressed on a black horse, while the pair exchange bullets, fists and sometimes girls in front of impressive Western mountains and deserts. So it has been since films were invented; so it shall be when pictures are three-dimensional. But when the cowboy on the white horse is Bill Boyd, and the character he portrays is Hopalong Cassidy, is it any wonder why, with the releasing of "The Devil's Playground" and "Dangerous Venture", UA deems it money in the bank when it says

Hopalong Cassidy Productions releases thru United Artists.



THIS IS THE ELEVENTH OF A SERIES OF UNITED ARTISTS ADVERTISEMENTS TO THE TRADE


BACK HOME ON
THE UA RANGE

SIMPP Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

James M. Barnes and Morris L. Ernst, supported the requests set forth by stating that the independents are "innocent of any attempt to restrain trade or foster monopoly" but that, "as a matter of economic necessity, they are compelled to use the defendants as distributors—retaining to themselves, however, control over the terms and conditions of contracts made with exhibitors."

The petition stated that "none of the members of the society exercises any actual or potential power over the motion picture market by ownership or leasing of theatres." Nevertheless, it added, "the court's failure affirmatively to protect the independent producers may well place them in a worse competitive position vis-a-vis the defendants than they occupied prior to the institution of the present action."

Independents' Actions

So long as each of the independents acts individually, the petition declared, "he should be at liberty to do anything which the owner of a copyrighted article may normally and lawfully do." But, it went on, "if the court does not clarify its rulings, there is serious danger that the exhibitors may decline to deal with the independents on any basis different from that allowed by the Court in dealings between exhibitors and guilty defendants." Moreover, "it would seem, for aught the (court's) opinion says, that the independent is now to be saddled with all the burdens which attach to the defendants," the petition continued.

SIMPP seeks for its members freedom "to provide or contract for exhibition of their own films on such terms, including provision for the maintenance of minimum admission prices, as they may individually establish. . . . This includes the freedom to exhibit their own films in any theatre which they may own or lease on terms agreeable to themselves. It includes the freedom to license their own films for exhibition in theatres owned by any of the defendants, and here the independents may, if they choose, disregard auction and insist upon minimum admission prices, clearance, etc., not necessarily in conformance with the rules laid down for the defendants as licensors," the petition stated.

The society held that, "if independents are not protected, they will be restrained more severely than the defendants owning theatres. The opinion grants that such a defendant may establish and maintain admission prices in its own theatres despite the fact that it may be showing pictures produced by itself in combination with pictures produced by others. But, if it is held that an independent, in making a contract with a defendant for exhibition, cannot establish as a condition that the defendant must maintain minimum prices, the inequality of bargaining position as between the independent and the theatre-owning defendant is exaggerated to the independent's obvious disadvantage," SIMPP declared.

Supporting the plea with regard to road shows, the petition said they are "peculiarly important in connection with the films of independent producers. An independent normally creates only two or three pictures a year, and hence any 'special' film takes on added significance in his budget," SIMPP explained.

SIMPP, at this time, is taking "no position on the question of divorce of production and exhibition or on the dissolution of affiliated chains," the petition added.

'Mast' Bows in at 23 Theatres Nov. 23

Pre-release engagements of "Two Years Before the Mast" in 23 spots have been set by Paramount for Nov. 23; in advance of general release, Charles M. Reagan, the company's vice-president in charge of distribution, discloses.

The pre-release dates follow: Metropolitan, Boston; Great Lakes, Buffalo; State, Cleveland; Broadway-Capitol, Detroit; Chicago, Chicago; Norshor, Duluth; Indiana, Indianapolis; Palace, Superior; Majestic, Dallas; Criterion, Oklahoma City; Jefferson, Beaumont; Strand, Port Arthur; Paramount, Los Angeles; Fox, San Francisco; Paramount, Seattle; Centre, Salt Lake City; Alabama, Birmingham; Paramount, Beach and Sheridan, Miami; Palace, Washington; and a theatre in Philadelphia to be decided upon.

'Pioneers' Here Get Five Applications

Five applications for membership in the Picture Pioneers, an organization of individuals who have spent 25 years or more in the industry, will be considered at an executive committee meeting tomorrow at the Waldorf-Astoria, here. The applicants are Philip Abrahams, William H. Fass, Harry Lawrenson and Leonard Schlesinger, all of New York, and Harry E. Weiner, Philadelphia.

Skouras

(*Continued from page* 1)

itz, St. Joseph, Mo., chairman of the national campaign committee, and Simon H. Fabian, president of Fabian Theatres, co-chairman of the dinner.

Announcement of the goal of $2,500,000 to establish the Foundation's research program was made in February of this year following a meeting between sponsors of the Foundation and President Truman. Last night's dinner marked the opening of the national campaign to raise this budget.

Lionel Barrymore is chairman of the national board of sponsors, and David Weinstock, president of Raybond Theatres, chairman of arrangements. Another campaign leader is Jack E. Flynn, Chicago, Western division sales manager of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, chairman of the amusements division.

It was revealed by the Eastern regional office of the Foundation that a group of anonymous donors contributed the cost of last night's dinner. Attendance was by invitation only.

Skouras to Launch Greek Campaign in Chicago Oct. 19

CHICAGO, Oct. 14.—Spyros P. Skouras, president of the 20th Century-Fox, and national president of the Greek War Relief Association, is expected in Chicago on Thursday to launch the association's $12,000,000 fund-raising campaign.

Skouras will preside at a meeting at the Palmer House Saturday and Sunday with 1,032 representatives from the United States and Canada expected to attend, including Charles and George Skouras; George Xantohahy, association vice-president; Harry Dipson, New York Upstate exhibitor; Van A. Nomikos, regional director in Chicago, and Chicago exhibitors James Coston, John Manta, Alex Manta, S. J. Gregory, John Semadalis, John Charuhas and Harold Abbott.

Exhibitors Raise

(*Continued from page* 1)

Apart from the aforementioned 16 features, Affiliated Productions, headed by Decker, will release eight pictures and combined with Golden Gate's additional pictures, which are now being distributed, will give Screen Guild 31 features for 1946-47. William Berke, formerly with RKO and Monogram, will be associated with Decker as producer-director.

The company also held its board of directors meeting, with Johnny Jones, president, presiding. It also held a franchise holders sales meeting, with Frances Bateman, sales manager, presiding. Also among those present were: Nat Beirer, recently appointed Eastern sales manager; William Pizor, foreign sales representative, and Harry Allen, who controls all Canadian franchises of Screen Guild. All franchise holders were present at the Saturday session except Carr Scott of Oklahoma City, who was unable to attend.

Virginia Morris

(*Continued from page* 1)

tury-Fox for two and a half years. She went to 20th after 11 years with United Artists, for which she handled trade paper and consumer advertising. Prior to her UA connection she served for four years on the advertising staff of Warners.

High Court Denies 'Alexander' Appeal

WASHINGTON, Oct. 14.—The U. S. Supreme Court today denied the petition of Marie Dickhaus to appeal from the decision of the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York in her action against 20th Century-Fox charging plagiarism in its production of "Alexander's Ragtime Band."

John Caskey of New York was attorney for 20th-Fox in the litiga[illegible]

'IA' Locals Aid

(*Continued from page* 1)

serve CSU's picket lines marked the first defection from the IATSE anti-strike stand maintained throughout last year's strike and the current studio labor conflict. Followed by immediate orders from IATSE International representative Brewer to individual laboratory workers to report for duty, regardless of the local's decision, the development placed workers in a personal dilemma, promising the first real showdown on the long-contested question of whether International or local orders are first.

Membership May Split

Indications were that the membership would split regarding procedure, some reporting for work, other staying away. Brewer said this morning that International was prepared to enforce its instructions, but he did not specify the measures to be taken. At mid-day, Paramount reported its laboratory functioning at nearly normal capacity, but other laboratories were virtually shut down, informed quarters said a general shutdown of laboratories would be the most crippling blow thus far experienced, depriving producers of an opportunity to screen daily "rushes" and, if it continued, slowing production due the fact that exposed film deteriorates if it is long delayed in development.

Following a Sunday night mass meeting, the CSU defied a court order issued last week and threw a mass picket line around the Columbia studio, resulting in mass arrests. CSU said this procedure is designed to test legality of court orders limiting pickets.

Today the CSU agreed to withdraw pickets from the Williams Laboratory so that the plant can handle film from independent producers unaffected by the strike. A similar agreement was made with Cinecolor after the latter agreed not to handle film from struck studios. Pathe Consolidated, in common with all studio laboratories, except Paramount's, did not function today. The CSU said measures to stop Paramount would be taken tomorrow.

Meanwhile, the 200 pickets arrested today chose to remain in jail overnight and face arraignment tomorrow.

We are pleased to announce that

MR. WILLIAM KLINE

formerly in charge of outside producer accounting

at First National and Columbia

has joined our staff in the capacity of

SUPERVISOR OF DISTRIBUTOR AUDITS
FOR INDEPENDENT PRODUCERS

HACKER and JARVIS

Certified Public Accountants

Members American Institute of Accountants

50 Rockefeller Plaza New York 20, N. Y.

Outstanding rare opportunity for HIGHEST RATE MANAGER qualifying for metropolitan, key, first run independent de luxe, exclusive motion picture house. Salary commensurate with qualifications. Give details of past performance, analysis of past experience and photograph accompanying description of personality. Confidential.

BOX 388
MOTION PICTURE DAILY
1270 SIXTH AVE., NEW YORK 20

LET'S HAVE A FRANK TALK ABOUT THE BEES AND THE DAISIES!

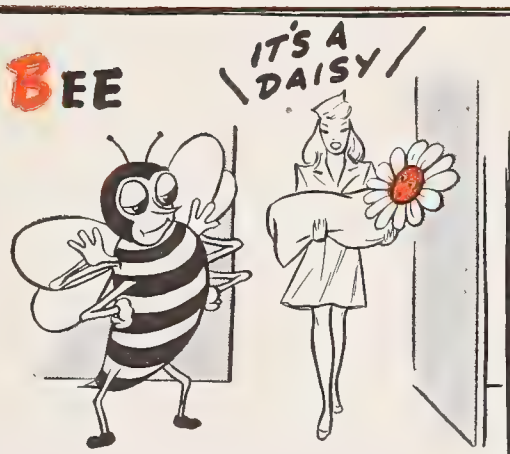


Nature says one can't do without the other

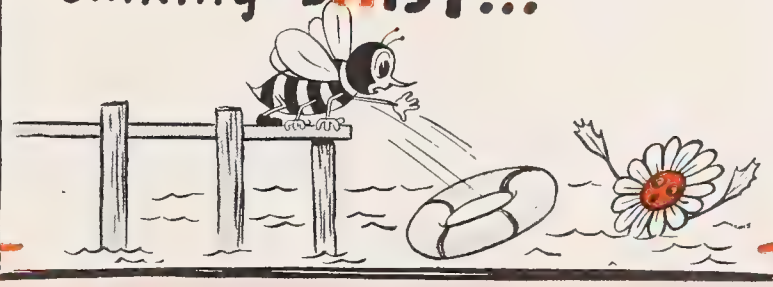
–AND THOUSANDS OF SHOWMEN KNOW THE FACTS OF LIFE, TOO



Sometimes a BEE turns out to be a DAISY or vice versa



–And You'd be amazed how often a good BEE saves a sinking DAISY...



Monogram gives its DAISIES loving care, but we're also darn proud that we have THE BEST BEES ON THE MARKET!

MONOGRAM'S GOLDEN BEES ARE ENTERTAINMENT HONEYS!



AUDIENCE RIOTS FROM START TO FINISH! ASK THE MEN WHO PLAY 'EM!

LEO GORCEY and THE BOWERY BOYS

with **HUNTZ HALL** · Bobby Jordan
Gabriel Dell · Billy Benedict
JAN GRIPPO PRODUCTIONS



FOR 17 YEARS THE MOST POPULAR MYSTERY SERIES ON THE SCREEN!

CHARLIE CHAN

starring **SIDNEY TOLER**

Based on the character created by Earl Derr Biggers
Produced by JAMES S. BURKETT



HIS NAME ON THE MARQUEE STANDS FOR ADVENTURE AND ROMANCE!



The Cisco Kid

starring **GILBERT ROLAND**

Based on the character created by O. Henry
Produced by SCOTT R. DUNLAP

THE SWING SET ON PARADE! CO-ED CUTIES! HIT SONGS!

The Teen Agers

with
FREDDIE STEWARD
JUNE PREISSER
Ann Rooney · Warren Mills · Noel Neill
Frankie Darro · Jackie Moran
Produced by SAM KATZMAN

2 BIG NAME BANDS IN EVERY RELEASE!



FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 76 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA, 28 WEST 44TH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. (3 COPIES)

Names . . . in Today's News

ARTHUR W. KELLY on Friday will reveal details of a new production project in association with Ludwig Berger and Alexander and Lasar Kipnis; Berger, feature director, was last with Paramount; Alexander Kipnis is the concert singer.

Kelly was for years a sales executive of United Artists, until he resigned in 1944 to join J. Arthur Rank's U. S. Eagle-Lion Films, from which he resigned early this year to form Signet Films, and for which he has been at work on Hollywood plans to produce. The company in which he will be associated with Berger and the Kipnises is understood to contemplate production of musical films, probably of classical nature. Releases may be through United Artists.

Arthur Mayer to Make 4th Trip for Red Cross

WASHINGTON, Oct. 15.—Arthur L. Mayer, operating New York's Rialto Theatre, will leave the U. S. soon to survey American Red Cross installations in Europe, for suggestions for possible changes in Red Cross services to the Armed Forces. He will have headquarters in Berlin, consulting there with Gen. McNarney, and later visiting Vienna for consultations with Gen. Mark Clark. This will be his fourth European trip for the Red Cross.

Meanwhile, Mayer this afternoon here, received the American Medal of Merit, the nation's highest civilian award, presented by Secretary of War Patterson.

Curtiz Heads New Company, To Continue at Warners

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Michael Curtiz, directing for Warners since 1927, is establishing his own production organization, Michael Curtiz Productions, Inc., and today signed a contract with Jack L. Warner, WB's production vice-president, to release through that company.

Hugh Dalton Curt to Critics of US Films

London, Oct. 15.—Questioned in the House of Commons as to why in view of the critical British food situation part of the American loan to England is used for the payment of Hollywood films, Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer curtly replied, "Because British people like American films!"

AFL Rejects Dispute Plan

CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—Any prospects of immediate settlement of the Hollywood jurisdictional dispute at the American Federation of Labor convention were squelched here today when the convention, although approving the Screen Actors Guild arbitration resolution, rejected the Waterloo, Iowa, pending plan and other proposals which call for a specific arbitration board within the AFL to handle such disputes.

The resolutions committee, headed

(*Continued on page 9*)

N.Y. 'Lab' Workers Would Aid Coast

Officers of the New York laboratory technicians union, Local No. 702, IATSE, are understood to have informed Hollywood laboratory technicians of Local No. 683 that New York members will not handle any film shipped Eastward for processing. Reports that each day's "takes" might be flown to New York laboratories for developing arose yesterday after the Hollywood local voted Monday to respect picket lines maintained by the

(*Continued on page 9*)

JDA Aid Pledged At Kick-off Meet

Well attended by leaders in motion picture and other entertainment fields, the "kick-off" luncheon held here yesterday at the Astor Hotel, to plan for the Nov. 21 testimonial dinner to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, and given by the Joint Defense Appeal, pledged support of the campaign to be conducted by the latter. Co-chairmen Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia; Leonard Goldenson, vice-pres-

(*Continued on page 9*)

Brisson Group Will Have RKO Release

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Frederick Brisson, president of Independent Artists, Inc., new production company whose officers also include Rosalind Russell, Dudley Nichols and Frank W. Vincent, determined here today that the company will release through RKO Radio. Under the deal, RKO

(*Continued on page 9*)

3,000 Independent 'A's' Seen Facing Increased Rentals

Some 3,000 class "A" independent theatres will be principally affected by increased film rentals under auction selling, which, as proposed by the U. S. District Court, here, in the anti-trust case, will mean a considerable increase in distributors' film rentals, but will not necessarily cause a general overall rise in rentals to all theatres.

This opinion was expressed here yesterday by Bernard P. Day, president of Joseph P. Day, Inc., one of the country's largest real estate auctioneers, which submitted a plan last Aug. 23 to the court, to distributors and to the Department of Justice for establishing a central system for handling bids under the decree.

To date, the distributors have been non-committal on the Day plan, a spokesman for the auctioneering or-

(*Continued on page 9*)

Kentucky Owners To Meet Tomorrow

The value of exhibitor groups as agencies through which individual showmen can cope with public affairs and legislative problems will be discussed by Claude F. Lee, Paramount's public relations director, at the annual banquet of the Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners at the Brown Hotel, Louisville, tomorrow, the opening day of the exhibitor organization's convention, which will run through Friday.

Guthrie F. Crowe, president of the

(*Continued on page 9*)

MPEA Takes Films From Jap Circuits

The Motion Picture Export Association has withdrawn its product to the numerous Toho and Shochiku theatres in Japan because of the latter's unwillingness to give the association's product a sufficient number of playdates, according to Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president.

Toho and Shochiku, engaged additionally in production and distribution, maintain that additional outlets for American films would be at the expense of the native industry, it is reported, and consequently MPEA will favor independent theatres. Toho and Shochiku have a combined production capacity of four films a month.

Exemption of Road Shows Is Petitioned

Vanguard Would File as Amicus Curiae on Issue

David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films yesterday filed a petition in U. S. District court here to be heard as *amicus curiae* in the industry anti-trust suit in order to request the exemption of road shows from the final decree to be entered by the court.

The brief accompanying the petition advances three possible remedies to safeguard the interests of independent producers in costly pictures which they already have undertaken, such as Selznick's "Duel in the Sun," or similar productions which they may wish to undertake in the future.

The suggestions are that road shows be exempted from the decree's prohibitions against the setting of minimum admissions in license agreements (1) as they were under the consent decree but with the further conditions that a road show production should have a negative cost at least one and one-half times that of the average cost of "A" features (excluding road show pictures) for the previous sea-

(*Continued on page 9*)

Criticize Companies For Sales Policy

DULUTH, Oct. 15.—Distributors were criticized here yesterday by independent exhibitors for a reputed lack of sales consistency, in selling the same pictures in some areas on percentage, and in others on flat rentals. The owners met at the Duluth Hotel, here, called by North Central Allied, with Clarence Kaake, local exhibitor, presiding, and Don Swartz, NCA executive secretary, representing that group.

Local checkers employed by Confidential Reports and M-G-M's action in using the Wilmark Detective Agency to "blind-check" percentage pictures at theatres also received a

(*Continued on page 3*)

In This Issue

"Nocturne" is reviewed on page 3. Estimates of key city grosses are on page 8.

Languages for Loew International Staff

Noting a desire on the part of its workers to study various languages, Loew's International has made available to all of its employes free language instruction. The courses include any language selected by a minimum of eight Loew International workers. Participation is entirely voluntary.

Lessons will be given after office hours and at company expense. An overwhelming majority has signified its intention to study Spanish. French, Portuguese, and German have also been selected.

Para. Continues N.Y. Talk on Sales

Another contingent of Paramount branch managers was in town yesterday, or are due to arrive for conferences with divisional sales managers on the new method of selling.

Already here conferring respectively with Hugh Owen, the company's Eastern and Southern division sales manager, and Earle W. Sweigert, Mid-Eastern division sales manager, are E. W. Ruff, Boston branch manager, and D. Kimelman, Pittsburgh manager. Also in town is R. M. Copeland, Kansas City manager, who is huddling with George A. Smith, Western division sales manager.

Maurice Schweitzer, St. Louis manager, is scheduled to arrive tomorrow for talks with Smith. At the same time, M. A. Brown, Buffalo manager, is due to confer with Owen.

M. R. (Duke) Clark, Dallas district manager, and Fred Larned, manager in that city, have arrived for conferences with James J. Donohue, Central division sales manager, starting today. Ulrik F. Smith, Philadelphia manager, is scheduled to confer with Sweigert tomorrow.

Report Mayer Would Buy St. Louis Cards

ST. LOUIS, Oct. 15.—Film personalities' interest in organized baseball was indicated further today with publication by *The Sporting News* of a report that Louis B. Mayer, Loew's production chief, is one of two active bidders for the St. Louis Cardinals and would move the club to Los Angeles.

Bob Hope and Bob Goldstein were members of a syndicate which purchased the Cleveland Indians last summer and Bing Crosby participated more recently in the purchase of the Pittsburgh Pirates.

Brooker Address Today

Floyd E. Brooker of the U. S. Office of Education will be the principal speaker at the first fall luncheon-meeting of the New York Film Council, to be held today in the Hotel Sheraton, here.

Personal Mention

GEORGE L. CARRINGTON, Altec Service president, has returned to the Coast after two weeks of business in New York.

•

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, will arrive here today from his Pittsburgh headquarters.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International Southern and Canadian sales manager, left New York yesterday for Toronto and will return today.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M film reprints and importations, will leave Salt Lake City for Denver today.

•

HARRY GOLDBERG, Warner Theatres' director of advertising-publicity, left here last night for Chicago, Milwaukee, Cleveland and Pittsburgh.

•

LEONARD S. SCHLESINGER, Warner Service Corp. president and general manager, is visiting Chicago, Milwaukee, Oklahoma City and Memphis.

•

FRANK J. DOWNEY, M-G-M Detroit manager, is due in New York today for home office conferences.

•

NAT D. FELLMAN, Warner Circuit executive, will be in Cleveland today, returning to New York tomorrow.

•

JOHN E. FLYNN, M-G-M Midwestern sales manager, will leave here today for his Chicago headquarters.

•

J. E. FONTAINE, Paramount's Washington branch manager, has arrived in New York from that city.

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal-International assistant general sales manager, will leave New York by plane today for Los Angeles and San Francisco.

•

DAVID STREET, film actor, will be guest vocalist at the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' convention-luncheon at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, on Monday.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, and HERBERT NUSBAUM of the home office legal department, have arrived in Los Angeles from New York.

•

JOCK LAWRENCE, public relations director for the U. S. J. Arthur Rank Organization, returned to his New York office yesterday after a week on the Coast.

•

ARTHUR TOURTELLOT, executive assistant of The March of Time, has become the father of a son, JONATHAN BERNON, born to MRS. TOURTELLOT at Harkness Pavilion, here.

•

JOE VERGESSLICH, Warner's New York short subjects sales manager, has become a grandfather for a second time, a daughter CAROLYN being born to his daughter, MRS. WILLIAM ZIPP.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, assistant exploitation manager of 20th Century-Fox, is in San Francisco from New York.

•

ARTHUR B. KRIM, president of Eagle-Lion, is in Hollywood from New York.

Cinema Lodge Plans United Nations Night

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith will salute the United Nations Organization at a "UNO Night" at the Hotel Astor, here, on Tuesday evening, Oct. 29, Jack H. Levin, Cinema president, announces.

UNO officials invited to be present to receive the tribute include Benjamin Cohen, Chile, UNO assistant secretary general; Dr. Isidor Lubin, president of Confidential Reports, who is the United States member of the economic and social council of the UNO Economic and Employment Commission, and Christopher Cross, U. S. radio liaison officer of the UNO. Marvin Kirsch, Cinema vice-president, is program chairman.

Berlin to Get Medal

Irving Berlin will receive the "Theodore Roosevelt Distinguished Service Medal for 1946" at a dinner on Oct. 27 at Theodore Roosevelt House, New York. Conferred for distinguished service in fields associated with the career of Roosevelt, the medal is being conferred on Berlin with the citation that he has "contributed powerfully to maintain the morale of the men in the Armed Forces and inspired the civilian public also."

M-G-M's Product for La Salle in Chicago

CHICAGO, Oct. 15.—Lack of available first-run playing time in the Loop has forced M-G-M to negotiate with the Jones, Linick and Schaefer circuit here to play product in the circuit's downtown La Salle Theatre. First of M-G-M's product to play there is "Boy's Ranch," currently showing. Next Metro film scheduled to be shown at the La Salle is "Courage of Lassie" and there is a possibility that a third film, "Faithful in My Fashion" also will run there.

Kalmenson Promotes Larry E. Leshansky

Larry E. Leshansky of Warners' home office contract department, has been named assistant to Bernard R. Goodman, supervisor of exchanges, by Ben Kalmenson, WB's vice-president and sales manager.

Kline Joins CPA Firm

William Kline has joined the staff of Hacker and Jarvis, industry certified public accountants, to take charge of distributor audits for independent producers. Kline was formerly in charge of outside producer accounting at Columbia and the old First National.

Newsreel Parade

THREE subjects appear in all current newsreels: President Truman lifting price controls on meat, Hollywood stars urging the end of the studio strike, and highlights of key football games. The S.S. Queen Elizabeth, *refitted as a passenger luxury liner, appears in reels; complete synopses follow:*

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 14—President Truman lifts controls on meat prices. Hollywood stars seek arbitration in motion picture strike. News reports from abroad: *S. S. Queen Elizabeth* seeks speed title, demonstration in Trieste over Paris parley, Gen. Stillwell dies in California. The "Pigskin parade": Army 20—Michigan 13, at Ann Arbor; Pennsylvania beats Dartmouth, 39-6, at Philadelphia.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 212—Truman ends meat controls. Queen Elizabeth starts steamer namesake on new career. Film stars ask arbitration in jurisdictional strike. Columbia defeats Yale, 28-20; Army 20-Michigan 13.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 15—Truman in speech abolishes meat price controls. Film stars urge arbitration. Nation's two top football teams win tough games: Texas over Oklahoma, and Army over Michigan.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 17—Truman lifts meat price controls. Actors urge end of film strike. Texas and Columbia win football thrillers.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 546—Truman ends controls on meat prices. Stars urge motion picture strike arbitration. Football highlights: Army 20-Michigan 13; Pennsylvania 39-Dartmouth 6.

Depinet Finds New RKO Picture Abroad

Odd thing about Ned E. Depinet's European travels. What seems to interest him most are the RKO productions he encounters in preparation abroad and his enthusiasm for all of them. First discovery was made in England.

His most recent round-robin letter arrived this week from Paris telling of work in progress on Rene Clair's first RKO-Pathe production, "Golden Silence," which will star Maurice Chevalier. Picture will be made at Pathe Studios, Joinville.

"I know enough about Rene's plans to predict that the showmanship company will startle you again," Depinet writes.

Depinet, accompanied by Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, is scheduled to leave London for New York by plane today.

AVC Nominates Tonight

The motion picture chapter of the American Veterans' Committee will nominate officers at a meeting in the Film Center here tonight. Chairman is Walter T. Brown. Elections are scheduled for Nov. 13.

Renie Riano Reception

Renie Riano, who plays "Maggie" in Monogram's forthcoming "Bringing Up Father," will be guest of honor at a Monogram-sponsored reception to be held on Friday at the Warwick Hotel, here.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres. International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Production on Coast Is Off; Only 4 Start

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Mass picketing at M-G-M, Warners and Republic hamstrung production, with only four new films facing cameras while eight went to cutting rooms; the shooting index stood at 46.

Columbia

Finished: "Lone Hand Texan," "Inside Story," "Last of the Redmen."
Started: "The Hunter Is a Fugitive," with Richard Dix, Karen Morley, Regis Toomey, Mark Dennis, John Kellogg.
Shooting: "The Lady from Shanghai," "Twin Sombreros," "They Walk Alone," "The Guilt of Janet Ames."

Enterprise

Shooting: "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Merton of the Movies," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "This Time for Keeps," "Summer Holiday," "Unfinished Dance," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Finished: "Cisco and the Angel."
Shooting: "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Paramount

Finished: "Dear Ruth," "Adventure Island" (Pine-Thomas).
Started: "Variety Girl," with Mary Hatcher, DeForest Kelly, Paramount stars.
Shooting: "The Big Haircut," "Golden Earrings," "Desert Town" (Wallis); "Unconquered" (DeMille).

PRC

Finished: "Philo Vance's Gamble."
Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Banjo," "They Won't Believe Me," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Outlaws of Sioux City."
Started: "Web of Danger," with Adele Mara.
Shooting: "Hit Parade."

20th Century-Fox

Shootings "Boomerang," "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "The Homestretch."

United Artists

Shooting: "Red River" (Monterey); "New Orleans" (Levey); "Vendetta" (California); "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Universal-International

Started: "The Egg and I," with Claudette Colbert, Fred MacMurray.
Shooting: "I'll Be Yours," "Slave Girl."

Warners

Shooting: "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed," "Pursued" (U.S. Pictures).

Review

"Nocturne"

(RKO Radio) *Hollywood, Oct. 15*

JOAN HARRISON could give plenty of pointers to some of the industry's masculine producers. Her latest picture, taut as a drumhead, moves through a series of arresting situations to a smashing climax. She has, moreover, freed herself from the peculiar Hollywood dictum that a melodrama must be told in flashback. This one starts with a puzzle, and ends with the satisfactory and surprising solution of that puzzle. To judge from the reaction of the preview audience at the Pantages Theatre in Hollywood, it should do well at the box-office.

George Raft is at his believable best in the role of a detective who refuses to accept the coroner's verdict that the death of a Hollywood songwriter is suicide. Despite circumstantial evidence to the contrary, Raft clings to the belief that the man was murdered by one of a number of young ladies. Chief among these, and singled out by Raft for suspicion, is Lynn Bari, whose sophisticated portrayal is a fine foil for the characterization of Virginia Huston, cast as Miss Bari's youngest sister. Others who move through the well-plotted story include Myrna Dell, Bernard Hoffman and Mabel Paige. Each contributes a fine performance, and Miss Paige, in particular, steals every scene in which she appears.

It would be unfair to reveal the continuity and final outcome of Jonathan Latimer's screenplay, based on a story by Frank Fenton and Rowland Brown. Suffice it to say that the dialogue is crisp and clever, the situations novel, and the whole given an air of authenticity by the use of familiar scenes and place-names. Edwin L. Marin's direction gets every possible ounce of suspense from the material, and excellent acting from all of the players. The picture was filmed under the supervision of executive producer Jack J. Gross.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release in block No. 2.

THALIA BELL

Detroit Deadlock on Operators' Wages

DETROIT, Oct. 15.—Although concessions have been made by both projectionists and theatre operators, here, discussions over wage demands by the local projectionists' union are still deadlocked. Latest offers find the theatre operators proposing a $4 weekly increase for the first year, and $2 per week for the second year, for projectionists in houses having more than 750 seats; houses under 750 seats would pay $2 for the first year, and a $1.50 increase for the second year. Although the union has rejected this proposed two-year contract, it has reduced its original demand for a blanket 25 per cent increase to 20 per cent.

Following publication in local newspapers of reports that the projectionists were scheduled to strike this week, the union denied this, declaring a workable formula was near.

Criticize Companies

(Continued from page 1)

"going-over" by the area independent exhibitors.

Swartz declared a number of complaints on checkers were filed at the meeting, "following the same pattern we have encountered at every regional meeting."

A report of the National Allied convention at Boston was outlined to the meeting by Swartz.

North Central Allied's mid-year meeting date has been postponed to Nov. 18.

Iowa Meeting Postponed

Meeting of Allied of Iowa and Nebraska, originally scheduled for this week at the Fort Des Moines Hotel, Des Moines, has been postponed to Oct. 28 and 29, at the same place.

Wage Talks Advance With NY SOPEG

Both sides reported "progress" in continuing discussions yesterday between representatives of the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild and exchange negotiators representing Columbia, United Artists, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and 20th Century-Fox, with spokesmen for both parties observing that they expected a new wage clause to be concluded by the early part of next week.

Clarence Hill, 20th-Fox; Hank Kaufman, Columbia, and Harry Buckley, UA, are representing the exchanges, while John Cunniff, Loew's; Pat Di Blasi, 20th-Fox; Otto Langer, SOPEG representative, and Sid Young, United Office and Professional Workers' national representative, are negotiating for the union.

Raibourn to Discuss Video Promotions

Paul Raibourn, president of Television Productions, Inc., subsidiary of Paramount Pictures, here, will discuss the role of television in advertising at a two-day symposium opening today in the radio studios of Ruthrauff and Ryan, Chicago. Paul Mowrey, national director of television for American Broadcasting, will also be among the speakers.

Michel Joins CBS

Werner Michel, chief of the radio program branch of the State Department, has joined the Columbia Broadcasting System as producer-director. During the war Michel was assistant chief of the Office of War Information's radio program bureau.

Baldridge with Flexer

MEMPHIS, Oct. 15.—Thomas Oscar Baldridge is resigning as United Artists press agent to handle promotion for David Flexer, Memphis, who is converting his Ritz Theatre into a first-run house for Prestige (Rank) Pictures, starting tomorrow.

Short Subject

"Operation SOS"

(Joint Distribution Committee-General Film Corp.)

"Operation SOS" is a forceful one-reel document produced for the SOS (Supplies for Overseas Survivors) collection of the Joint Distribution Committee, under the supervision of Joseph Fields, and narrated by Myron McCormick. JDC, major agency for the relief of 1,500,000 surviving Jews in Continental Europe, tells its story effectively in this 10-minute reel.

Utilizing the medium of the screen to the utmost, the film depicts in human-interest overtones the plight of the persons it seeks to help. "Operation SOS" is a dramatic documentary.

The production, filmed by General Film Corp., was capably directed by Benjamin Parker. It will be made available for screening throughout the nation, beginning next week.

150 from the East To SMPE Meeting

The biggest Eastern delegation of members of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers ever to attend a meeting of the SMPE on the Coast will be on hand for the 60th semi-annual convention at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, Oct. 21-25, according to Don E. Hyndman, president of the organization. Up to yesterday, more than 150 from the East had signified their intention of attending.

Those En Route

Officers en route today to the Coast include Hyndman; John A. Maurer, engineering vice-president; Earl I. Sponable, treasurer; M. R. Boyer, financial vice-president; William C. Kunzman, convention vice-president; A. C. Downes, editorial vice-president, and the following members of the board of governors: Paul J. Larsen, John I. Crabtree, Frank E. Carlson, Clyde R. Keith and Abe Shapiro. Harry Smith, Jr., executive secretary; Boyce Nemec, engineering secretary, and Harold Desfor, convention publicity chairman, also are Coast-bound.

The number of papers to be delivered, according to C. R. Daily, chairman of that committee, has increased to 62, an all-time record.

Disney Trade Showing

RKO Radio has scheduled a trade showing of Walt Disney's newest, "Song of the South" at the Normandie Theatre, New York, on Monday, Oct. 28. Screenings will also be held on the same days in Los Angeles and Albany. Trade showings will be held in all other exchange centers on Nov. 20, except in Cleveland, where it will be filmed Nov. 21.

N. W. Variety Party

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 15.—First of the fall season's events on the program of Northwest Variety club will be held at club headquarters in the Nicollet Hotel here on Saturday, it was announced by Casper Chouinard, of the entertainment committee.

BIG!

M-G-M's "THRILL OF A ROMANCE"



BIGGER!

M-G-M's "EASY TO WED"



BIGGEST!



M-G-M Presents
The Topper To The Great
Van Johnson Musical Hits!

"NO LEAVE, NO LOVE"

starring

VAN JOHNSON

with

KEENAN WYNN

PAT KIRKWOOD

XAVIER CUGAT AND HIS ORCHESTRA • **GUY LOMBARDO** AND HIS ORCHESTRA

and

EDWARD ARNOLD • MARIE WILSON • LEON AMES

Original Screen Play by Charles Martin and Leslie Kardos

Directed by **CHARLES MARTIN**

Produced by **JOE PASTERNAK**

A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Picture

GREAT



CENTURY-FOX

GREAT PICTURES

THE RAZOR'S EDGE

MARGIE IN TECHNICOLOR

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

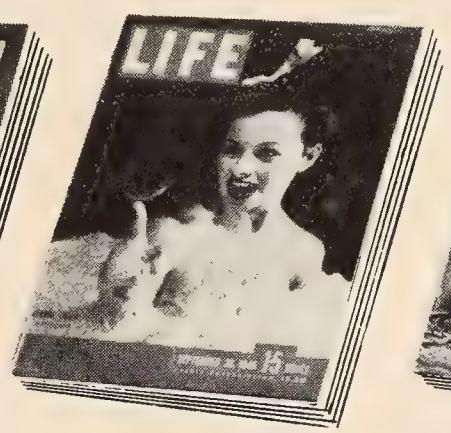
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE IN TECHNICOLOR

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM

GREAT PRE-SELLING!















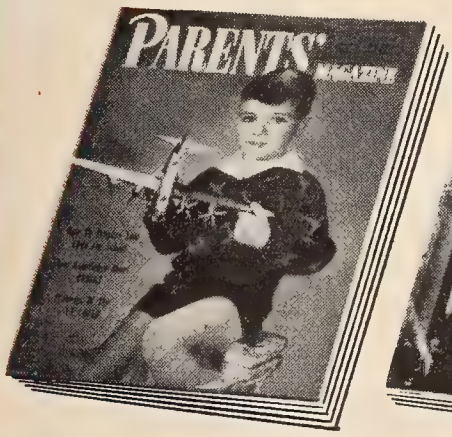


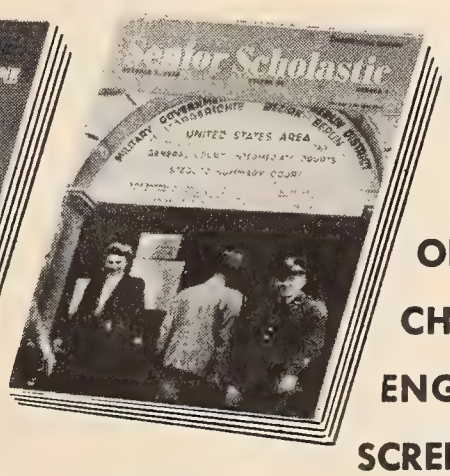












and! **AMERICAN GIRL • BOYS' LIFE OPEN ROAD FOR BOYS • YOUNG AMERICA CHILD LIFE • WORLD WEEK • PREP • PRACTICAL ENGLISH • SCREEN ROMANCES • MODERN SCREEN • SILVER SCREEN • SCREENLAND • MOVIE SHOW • PHOTOPLAY-MOVIE MIRROR • MOTION PICTURE • MOVIE STORY • MOVIELAND MOVIE LIFE • MOVIES • MOVIE STARS PARADE • SCREEN GUIDE • SCREEN STARS**

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Of three new films opening at first-run theatres here this week, "The Killers" did the best business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16:

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,900)
A LADY SURRENDERS (U)—CARTHAY CIRCLE (1,516) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $19,000)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $14,000)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,700)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,700)
THE KILLERS (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,000)
SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,700)
THE KILLERS (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $26,200)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $24,600)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,100)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,800)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and APOLOGY FOR MURDER (PRC)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,000)
SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $23,100)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.) and G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $30,700. (Average: $24,100)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $15,400)
THE KILLERS (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $9,300)
THE KILLERS (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,000)
THE KILLERS (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $15,100)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,500)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $8,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,700. (Average: $21,600)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,700. (Average: $16,100)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,700)

PHILADELPHIA

"Nobody Lives Forever" opened strong, leading all other first-runs by a wide margin. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 15-17:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $11,200. (Average, $14,100)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $7,250)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average, $22,800)
WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days of vaudeville starring Star and Garter Revue. Gross: $24,700. (Average for 7 days: $28,000)
IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $28,000)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $26,000)
CAESAR AND CLEOPATRA (UA)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,800)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,500)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $43,500. (Average: $28,300)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $15,700. (Average: $24,900)
THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $16,200. (Average: $11,200)

MINNEAPOLIS

Favorable fall weather failed to help spotty theatre business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 17:

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Radio City. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,500)
HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from Century. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500)
HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from RKO Orpheum. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500)
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $2,500)

CLEVELAND

Good weather and a minimum of outside competition have boosted business somewhat after a two-week drop. "Cloak and Dagger" is leading the new releases. Top admission prices have been bosted from 70 to 75 cents on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 15-16:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,800)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,000)
OPEN CITY (Mayer-Burstyn)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,000)
BLACK ANGEL (U)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Three Stooges and vaudeville. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $30,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $22,600)
TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $3,650)

BALTIMORE

Only the major attractions are drawing capacity audiences, which makes business somewhat spotty. In a few instances, box-offices are busy and in others figures are scarcely average. Rainy weather greeted openings, but the weekend cleared favorably. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 17:

SUSPENSE (Mono.)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,500)
THE KILLERS (U)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)
HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,750)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $17,500)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, with a stage show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)
DEAD OF NIGHT (U)—MARYLAND (1,400) (35c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
OPEN CITY (Mayer-Burstyn)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,500)
IT SHOULDN'T HAPPEN TO A DOG (20th-Fox)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

OMAHA

Business is running slightly over par. The city had its first snow, followed by clear weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 15-16:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $8,600)
THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.) and CUBAN PETE (U)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,500)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $11,000)
CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—RKO-BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 5 days. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,700)

ATLANTA

Attendance benefited from cooler weather and no other attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16:

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th Century-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,500)
CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,200)
CANYON PASSAGE (U)—ROXY—(2,446) (55c-60c) 2nd week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,600)
WHY GIRLS LEAVE HOME (PRC) and COME AND GET IT (Film Classics)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,600. (Average: $4,200)
BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

N.Y. First-Run Grosses Vary

New York's first-run box-office business varies this week with some holdovers weakening, others still holding up fairly well, and newcomers similarly varied in their performances.

Champion of the week is the Music Hall's "The Jolson Story," which, with a stage show, will bring in a very impressive $144,000 for its first week. Other newcomers are: "The Westerner," a reissue, which is headed for a good $23,000 for the week at the Victoria, and, at the Criterion, "Gallant Journey," which probably will bring in a modest $18,500; the latter will be replaced Friday by "Dark Mirror."

Other new pictures to open this week include: "Blue Skies," at the Paramount, starting today; "Margie," at the Roxy, also today; "No Leave, No Love," tomorrow, at the Capitol; "Deception," at the Hollywood, Friday, and "Angel on My Shoulder," at the Globe, Saturday.

'Killers' Record

"The Killers" continues to show strength at the Winter Garden where it will do in the neighborhood of $33,500 for a seventh week. Universal yesterday reported that "The Killers" had drawn 350,000 persons in its first seven weeks, establishing an attendance record at the Winter Garden.

At the Palace, "Sister Kenny" is good for $37,500 for a third week, and will continue. "Night and Day" has lost some ground at the Hollywood where the 12th and final week's gross is figured at $12,500. "Caesar and Cleopatra," at the Astor, is not too good with $20,000 on the books for a sixth week.

The third and final week of "Three Little Girls in Blue," with Maurice Rocco and Beatrice Kay, on the stage gave the Roxy a satisfactory $77,000. "Two Years Before the Mast" looks good for $60,000 for a third week at the Rivoli. At the Strand, "Cloak and Dagger," with Alvino Rey's orchestra on the stage. will gross about $66,000 for its second week.

Other Films

"Monsieur Beaucaire" and Charlie Spivak's orchestra, at the Paramount, drew a modest $60,000 in its sixth and final week. Business at the Capitol was spotty during the third week of "Three Wise Fools," with $50,000 in sight.

"The Raider" will finish a third week at the Rialto with a healthy $7,500 and it will continue. "Fantasia" is going along profitably at the Republic, where it should take in about $9,000 for a third week.

The third week of "Mr. Ace," at the Globe, is fair at $17,500. The Gotham is doing fairly well with "The Bachelor's Daughter," which should get about $9,000 in a second week. "Henry V" is still an adequate money-maker; the film originally played 12 weeks at the City Center and, now at the John Golden Theatre, will gross about $13,500 for a sixth week.

Road Shows

(*Continued from page* 1)

son; that the road show admission charge be at least one-third more than that ordinarily charged by the exhibitor for first run "A" pictures; that no producer shall road show more than two pictures during each 12-month period, and that a road show picture shall not be exhibited with any other feature film during the road show period.

(2) Otherwise, that the court exempt road shows distributed by the three non-theatre owning defendants, Columbia, United Artists and Universal, whether their own or from an independent producer. (This is suggested to offset the ability of theatre owning defendants to exhibit films under any terms, including advanced admissions, in their own theatres, according to the brief.)

(3) Or, that the court exempt from the judgment the road showing of any costly picture undertaken by a producer prior to June 11, last, the date of the court's opinion. (This was suggested to permit Selznick to proceed with road show plans for "Duel," which was in production more than a year before the court's opinion was made known.)

'Duel' Cost Cited

The petition recites that Selznick produces only two or three pictures annually, releasing through United Artists. It states that the investment in the negative cost of "Duel" prior to June 11 was $5,500,000 and that an additional $1,000,000 has been spent for advertising and another $500,000 expenditure for the same purpose is scheduled.

It discloses that a world premiere had been planned for the film on Dec. 15 at Dallas, to be followed by road shows first in Los Angeles and San Francisco, then in New York and other leading cities.

The brief points out that if United Artists or any other defendant distributor were enjoined from licensing costly productions at advanced admissions for road show engagements, Vanguard and other independent producers who are not parties to the suit would be effectively barred from road showing their pictures. In consequence, it is stated, producers of the finer pictures could not hope to recoup high negative costs and would be discouraged from further production of better product, to the detriment of the further development of the screen and to the detriment of the public interest.

'Film Ambassador'

The brief also argues that the road show type picture is the best film ambassador of this country abroad and that to curtail it here would be a disservice to the American industry in its competition for foreign exhibition in already curtailed and regulated markets abroad.

Vanguard points out that road shows were exempted from the consent decree and that legal precedents indicate they should be exempted from the final judgment in the New York case, so long as the admission price to be charged for them is not tied in with another film. It points out that the court in its present opinion did not single out road shows but merely held illegal those minimum admissions which were set through a conspiracy or combination.

Samuel S. Isseks and Milton A. Kramer are attorneys for Vanguard.

AFL Rejects

(*Continued from page* 1)

by Matthew Woll, wants disputes settled by conferences, but does not want to give power to any person or group to settle them.

The Waterloo plan was printed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Friday.

While an SAG spokesman was jubilant over passage of the guild's resolution, he admitted it could not solve the immediate jurisdictional squabble in Hollywood. He said Hollywood unions could now sit down together, work out a plan and have the AFL executive council approve it. This, he said, might take weeks or a month or two. As for immediate action in Hollywood the spokesman said guild officials were serving as intermediaries and that a solution may be effected within 24 hours.

Arnold Speaks

Immediately after the SAG resolution was passed, calling for the executive council of the AFL to "set up machinery which will insure the peaceful settlement, without work stoppage, of all jurisdictional disputes within the structure of the motion picture, amusement and all other industries," Edward Arnold of the SAG addressed the convention and said: "We must protect our right to have our own family quarrels by keeping them within the federation. Members in Southern California are particularly concerned with the question because there are working in the motion picture studios the members of 54 different AFL unions, most of whom come in daily and close association one with the other."

Increased Rentals

(*Continued from page* 1)

ganization disclosed here yesterday, presumably because of the uncertainty of a final decree providing for auction bidding.

"The increase in film rentals," Day said, "will come principally from the approximately 3,000 class 'A' independent theatres which have been unable to get class 'A' product against the competition of volume buying by circuit theatres and buying combines.

"The District Court found that free competition does not exist in this area (independent 'A' houses versus circuits and combines) and its decree proposes to restore such competition. Through volume buying, chain theatres and buying combines have been getting class 'A' product at prices much below what the 3,000 'A' independents would gladly have paid.

Increased Profits

"What progressive exhibitor, who in the past saw his opposition play a finer quality of product not available to him at any price, would not willingly pay more to get more, when better pictures mean an increased gross and increased profits?," Day asked.

"The increase in distributor revenues will arise from the now nonexistent competition in bidding for 'A' pictures between the 3,000 'A' independents, the circuits and the buying combines. Furthermore, the increased prices offered by the independent theatres for 'A' product will cause chain theatres and buying combines to boost their offers. This is where the rise in distributor revenues will come from," he added.

N. Y. 'Lab' Workers

(*Continued from page* 1)

striking Conference of Studio Unions. A spokesman for No. 702 here yesterday said, however, that no decision had been made on action to be taken, declaring that the local will act if instructed to do so by its parent, the IATSE.

Meanwhile, executives of the two largest film laboratories in New York indicated that local facilities not only would be taxed severely but foresaw "further complications" if the West Coast studios were to attempt to fly "rushes" here. The latter reference is understood to have alluded to further "labor complications."

'IA' Moves to Discipline Striking Coast Workers

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—With laboratory workers for the most part still remaining off their jobs in compliance with IATSE Local No. 683's decision to respect Conference of Studio Unions picket lines, production continued as usual today while IATSE international officers moved to discipline the members, whose action poses the first doubt of the organization's frequently-pledged ability to keep the studios functioning under any and all circumstances.

President Richard F. Walsh notified international representative Roy Brewer by phone from Chicago that he had declared that a state of emergency exists and that this declaration freezes the operations of Local 683 for 48 hours, with an IATSE examiner on the way to try officers of 683 Thursday morning on charges now being prepared.

Would Nullify Vote

Local IATSE officers said this doubtless will result in the international's taking over control of Local 683, probably dismissing its officers and nullifying the local's vote against crossing the picket lines, which the international claims was taken at an illegal meeting. Meanwhile the international officers summoned members of 683 to a mass meeting tomorrow night.

The Paramount laboratory operated full strength for the second day, with manufacturing getting going with about half the staff, while other picketed laboratories remained inoperative.

Kentucky Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Kentucky group, will address it on the topic of "The Regional Exhibitors' Association in Public Relations." The speaker also will discuss how a coordinated plan of community relations is the foundation for statewide defense against regulation or discriminatory tax burdens and how public relations of the whole industry must rely upon the theatre's direct contact with the people.

Lee will leave here for the convention this afternoon.

Brisson Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

Radio will furnish studio space and production facilities. Brisson and his staff will move to the studio, on Oct. 25.

The new producing unit has set a $17,000,000 overall budget for its program of two pictures a year for five years.

Monogram Net Rises 129%, to $379,474

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 15.—Monogram's net profit for year ended June 29, amounted to $379,474, an increase of slightly more than 129 per cent over the previous year's earnings of $165,161, Steve Broidy, president, reports. Gross earnings, before taxes and other deductions, amounted to $779,315, compared to $401,764.

The net profit is equivalent to 52 cents per share on 721,118 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of the fiscal year. Conversion of preferred stock increased the common stock to that figure.

In its report to stockholders the company places the 1946 gross income after deduction of distributors' and agents' selling commissions, and before tax deductions, at $6,235,228, an increase of 29.7 per cent over the previous year's $4,807,445.

Monogram lists total current and working assets at $5,747,941 and liabilities at $3,639,779. Net working capital at the end of the year amounted to $2,108,162, which compares with $1,842,868 for the previous year.

Stockholders' Meeting

The company's annual stockholders' meeting will be held in Hollywood on Nov. 13 to elect the board of directors, to authorize an increase in common stock from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000 shares, and to vote on an executive bonus for Maurice Goldstein, general sales manager. If the latter resolution is ratified, Goldstein would receive one per cent of the company's net profits in excess of $200,000, before taxes, for the year ended June 29. This would amount to $7,241.

The directors, all of whom are renominated, consist of W. Ray Johnston, chairman; Steve Broidy, George D. Burrows, Howard Stubbins, Charles Trampe, Herman Rifkin, William Hurlbut, Arthur C. Bromberg and Edward Morey. Morey was named to the board last August to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Trem Carr. He is a vice-president of the company.

JDA Aid Pledged

(*Continued from page* 1)

ident of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler, president of Randforce Theatres, discussed plans of the drive.

Goldenson yesterday reviewed the background for the need of the appeal, sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee, and called on the approximately 70 present to set the pace in that work.

Louis A. Novins, executive assistant to Barney Balaban, recounted situations that influenced the drive and its need. Others on the dais, besides Novins and the three co-chairmen, were: Will H. Hays, Spyros Skouras, Max A. Cohen, Philip Chasin, executive director of the Jewish defense Appeal, and Malcolm Kingsberg of RKO.

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This has been the experience of theatre managers throughout the country. In fact, so effective is this type of projection in boosting admissions that no theatre can afford to be without it.

For example, consider what One-Kilowatt High Intensity Projection means to even the smallest theatre! It means prestige ... admissions ... profits. Its cost? Even if it fills but a few extra seats a day, High Intensity Projection will pay for itself.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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N.Y. Bookings Of 'Outlaw' Are Cancelled

UA Plans to File Suit Today to Force Showing

Broadway opening of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," scheduled for Oct. 26 at the Rialto, Gotham and Republic theatres, simultaneously, has been cancelled as a result of official and public pressure.

In consequence of the cancellation, United Artists, distributor of the Hughes' picture, will institute legal action in an effort to compel compliance with the exhibition contract. The action is scheduled to be filed in State Supreme court here today by O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, attorneys for UA.

The picture was booked for the three theatres by the Brandt organi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sperling, President Of U.S. Pictures

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Milton Sperling today became president and production head of United States Pictures.

Reconstitution of United States Pictures, from which Joseph Bernhard withdraw as president and treasurer after the production of one picture, has now been completed. Sperling was formerly vice-president.

Donald Hyde, formerly story editor, is announced as vice-president and general manager, with Oliver Schwab as secretary and Charles Yoss, treasurer. "Pursued," the company's second production for Warner release, is nearing completion.

Shuford to Coast on New Product Ads

Initiation of advertising plans for Paramount product now in production or recently completed awaits the arrival on the Coast of Stanley Shuford, the company's advertising manager, here, who will leave New York for the studio tonight.

Among the films that will occupy Shuford's attention will be "Desert Town," "Unconquered," "Golden Earrings," "Variety Girl," "Blaze of Noon," "Dear Ruth," "The Emperor Waltz" and "My Favorite Brunette."

Shuford, who will be on the Coast

(*Continued on page 7*)

CIEA Decree Brief Urges Divorcement

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16. — Incorporating, as expected, proposals for conducting auction bidding exclusively on a flat rental basis, supporting the Department of Justice's proposed ban on cross-licensing by affiliated theatres and urging divorcement, the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations made public here today its petition to be heard as *amicus curiae* in the New York anti-trust suit.

CIEA pointed out in its brief, pre-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Test Prestige of 'IA' In Struggle on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—IATSE prestige and power were under a stern test tonight as studio cameras ground steadily on. Only two among the struck companies—Paramount and M-G-M—were able to process film,

(*Continued on page 3*)

COURT HOLDS LOOP RUNS TO 2 WEEKS

CSA Files Formal Brief to Intervene

The Confederacy of Southern Associations yesterday filed with the Federal Court here its formal brief in support of a motion for leave to intervene in the New York anti-trust suit for the purpose of eliminating auction selling in any final decree. The brief is the same as the organization's original petition to intercede, details of which were in *Motion Picture Daily* on Sept. 20. American Theatres Association's similar brief is expected to be filed today.

The three-judge statutory court will hear arguments on both moves to intervene here on Monday.

Decree in Jackson Park Case Upsets Chicago Clearance; Appeal Likely

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, Oct. 16.—A final decree in the Jackson Park Theatre's anti-trust suit was entered in U. S. District court here today by Judge Michael F. Igoe in virtually the same form as submitted by plaintiff's attorney, Thomas C. McConnell, on Aug. 20, the highlight of which is the limitation of Loop theatre first runs to a maximum of two weeks and subsequent runs to one week. In addition, important adjustments in the Chicago clearance system are ordered.

Defendants in the case, who include five major distributors and the Balaban & Katz and Warner Bros. theatre circuits here, announced through Miles Seeley, of defense counsel, that while they may accede to certain of the clearance adjustments ordered by the court, other clearance adjustments and the two-week limitation on first run Loop films will be appealed to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

Defendants will appear before Judge Igoe tomorrow to ask for time in which to make the clearance ad-

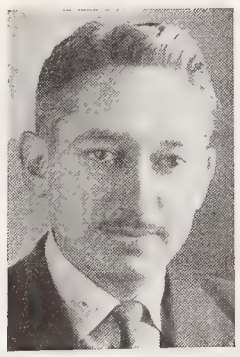
(*Continued on page 6*)

Bergman Cites 10 Basic Theatre Ad Objectives

'U'-Int'l Merger Completed in Month

The Universal-International merger will be completed in about a month, at which time signatures will be affixed to the formal documents, Charles Prutzman, Universal vice-president and general counsel, said here yesterday. A large volume of formal stock transfers and other legal paper work is now being handled. Acquisition of 125,000 Universal shares of stock by Leo Spitz and William Goetz under the merger and exercise of warrants by others have brought J. Arthur Rank's holdings in the company down to 17 per cent from 25 per cent. Spitz and Goetz will own 13 per cent when the merger is completed.

RICHMOND, Va., Oct. 16.—This is the time to rehabilitate our point of view on theatre advertising while business is good and we can afford to be experimental and do different things, Maurice A. Bergman, Universal-International Eastern advertising and publicity director, told managers of Neighborhood Theatres, Inc., at their meeting at the Hotel John Marshall, here, today, in outlining 10 basic objectives for theatre advertising.



Maurice A. Bergman

Bergman's 10 objectives follow: To get advertising back into the theatres where it belongs; to localize its point of view; to create an institutional pattern; to abandon the common denomi-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Mosque Approves Cross-License Ban

Radio Centre, Inc., operator of the Mosque Theatre, Newark, yesterday filed a brief in U. S. District Court here for leave to appear as *amicus curiae* in the industry anti-trust suit in support of the Department of Justice proposal to ban cross-licensing of each other's films by the theatre owning defendants in the suit.

The brief relates that the petitioner favors the auction bidding system as promising "free competition" in situations such as the Mosque finds itself,

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Margie" is reviewed on page 6; "Deception," 7. Estimates of key city grosses are on page 8.

Personal Mention

NATE SPINGOLD, Columbia vice-president, is due in New York Monday from England on the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

NED E. DEPINET, RKO Radio executive vice-president, and PHIL REISMAN, foreign distribution vice-president, have been delayed until today in their scheduled departure by plane from London for New York.

•

CHESTER FRIEDMAN, editor of *Motion Picture Herald's* "Managers' Round Table," attended the 20th anniversary meeting of the managers of Neighborhood Theatres in Richmond, Va., yesterday.

•

WILLIAM B. LEVY, Walt Disney Productions international sales supervisor, and TERRY TURNER, RKO Radio exploitation manager, left here yesterday for Atlanta.

•

SAM DEMBOW, JR., president and treasurer of Edward Golden Productions, has delayed his return from Brussels to New York for three weeks.

•

BERT GRANET, RKO producer, will leave New York by plane for London tomorrow, returning here late in November, after visiting France and Germany.

•

JACK COHN, Columbia executive vice-president, is scheduled to leave New York on Saturday for Mexico City and will proceed from there to Hollywood.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal-International vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for Chicago and Minneapolis.

•

MIKE SCHMIDT, manager of M-G-M's theatres in Brazil, has arrived in New York for a two-week visit.

•

SID MESIBOV, Paramount assistant exploitation manager, is in Cincinnati from New York and plans to return Monday.

•

RICHARD MORGAN of Paramount's home office legal department has left here for Seattle.

•

PHIL GERSDORF, RKO Radio Coast publicist, is in New York.

•

EDWARD HORWITZ, Coast independent distributor, has arrived here from Los Angeles.

•

ARTHUR JEFFREY has returned here from Detroit and Chicago.

New Deal for Siodmak

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Robert Siodmak, director, was re-signed today by William Goetz, Universal-International production head, to a new contract, under terms of which Siodmak will be assigned exclusively to the company's more important productions.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

THE current situation, reported from London, is interesting and somewhat amazing. There, the British Board of Trade rules England's three major circuits must play six strictly independent U. K. films a year. The six, however, cannot be selected from any of J. Arthur Rank's companies.

Rank is the biggest single figure in the British industry, of course. His lines now encircle much of the globe. In America, they lead significantly into Universal, Universal-International, Eagle-Lion, etc. He is viewed by many as Britain's stalwart and her chief hope for international film recognition.

He is popularly credited with ready entry into important government offices. He also has a number of strictly British producing units, working in the home country with finances largely subscribed by the British investment public. If anyone's films are English, they are Rank's. Yet he fails to qualify under this curious decision.

Is an independent any the less so because he has interests in theatres or alliances with other film companies?

■ ■

Like a breath of spring is the straight-line comment of a studio spokesman who remarked the other day that RKO Radio may go into a lull, but will not abandon "B" product. Peter Rathvon keyed this policy when he took over after Charlie Koerner's death, declaring then the company will always make some minor product.

Like a breath of spring because this represents the situation for what it is, not as someone imagines or, perhaps, would like to see it. As long as X [for unknown] thousands of houses play double bills, producers will make the "B's." It's a market requirement, and the alert merchandiser always meets the demand. When he stops, someone else steps in.

There's always someone ready, moreover.

■ ■

Now that Vivien Leigh has signed with Metro and Laurence Olivier with Universal-International, it reminds of that $1,000,000 offer made to them to play the leads in "This Side of Innocence." The story about that story is this: It smacked like something snatched out of a publicity man's dreambook. Now, the insistence is the offer was on the square; that $500,000 had been put up as token money. Such a token!

■ ■

Say what you like and think what you think. But it must be acknowledged Allied is consistent in arguing for generous cancellations. Now that a flyer into production is being considered with organizational blessing, first draft of the playing-time pledge which members are being asked to sign covers 12 pictures, with the right to eliminate eight. That's 66⅔ per cent.

Distributors ought to feel slightly better.

■ ■

BEST STORY OF THE WEEK: "Failure of the Toho and Shochiku circuits to provide a sufficient number of release outlets for American-made product in Japan has impelled the M. P. Export Ass'n to terminate distribution through these two powerful chains in favor of independent circuits and exhibitors, it was disclosed today by MPEA vice-president and general manager Irving Maas."

■ ■

The Mary Pickford-Lester Cowan production alliance is non-exclusive as to United Artists because the distributor has releases lined up like soldiers waiting to get into the battle. The probability is a separate corporation will be formed to handle whatever attractions go to another company.

■ ■

Bob Hope, "m.c." at National Arthritis Research Foundation dinner:

"Before I got into show business, I thought Spyros Skouras [who guffawed] was the name of a tropical disease. Later, I found it was Darryl Zanuck spelt backwards....

"Once I made the mistake of giving Spyros a slight hello in Hollywood. Next thing I knew my picture was playing backwards in 1,700 theatres. And you'd be amazed to learn it was better that way. . . .

"My, my! Can you imagine a rhumba band at an arthritis dinner? . . .

"Barney Balaban is here, I see. He's the head of Paramount. You know, that subsidiary of Crosby. . .

"I had a pet charity once, too. Then Mrs. Hope found out about her. . . .

"On the square, tho', I've been at Paramount nine years and they've treated me fine. Of course, those slaps on the back are getting lower and lower. . . .

"I'm happy to be here. I love Central Park this time of the year with its gold and orange leaves and Westbrook Pegler poking around for red ones."

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

A GOOD PART of Nuremberg Execution Day, yesterday, (Nuremberg time), was taken up in Britain's House of Commons with the banning of reports that the newsreels were a-shootin' the hangings of the Nazi war-lords, to the point where British Prime Minister Clement Attlee was moved to issue an official statement from his official residence at 10 Downing Street, London, that newsreels would not be permitted to film the hangings. Attlee did disclose that a single military photographer was assigned to take pictures after death, for the record only, not for publication.

Coincidentally, the neatest Nuremberg trick of the week was accomplished by that ever-accurate *New York Times,* aided and abetted by the United Press, both of which contributed to a headline in the Wednesday midnight edition of the *Times,* which declared: '11 Nazi Leaders Hanged in Nuremberg." Seems that UP had an enterprising correspondent stationed on a death watch with powerful binoculars in an attic in a nearby building, to "scoop" an eye-witness story for the news-wires. He thought he saw 11 hangings, in the haze of the night, but there were only 10—because Goering took that advance anti-hanging poison capsule.

▽

Noting a desire on the part of its workers to study various languages, Loew's International has made available to all of its New York home office employes free language instruction—in Spanish, French, Italian, Portuguese, German, or whatever. "Possibly the greatest surprise," a company press release solemnly discloses, "is the number who desire to study English."

The industry sure is progressing.

▽

For sheer lack of bias we report Russian journalist Ilya Ehrenberg's Moscow Radio broadcast of his experiences at Hollywood during his recent tour, in which he said that Hollywood deliberately turned out "idiotic films," adding that, "if by chance a good film is turned out, it must be hidden from the bosses lest they destroy it."

All of which gives a good idea of what Secretary of State Byrnes has to contend with in trying to do business with Vladimir (The Muller) Molotov.

▽

Eleven carloads of police (count 'em) responded to a riot call from a San Francisco neighborhood film theatre the other night to find the patrons loudly clamoring for return of their admission payment. The dismayed manager, Henry Pincus, explained that the projectionist had fallen asleep. Patrons said sequences of the film were mixed up, and when they started to protest—evidently awakening the projectionist—he popped his head out of the booth and bawled them out. When order was restored the show went on—with a new projectionist.

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Keep Sedalia Houses Closed in Tax Fight

Sedalia, Mo., Oct. 16. — This city of 24,000 has not seen film here since Aug. 17 because the mayor and city council are standing pat in a feud with theatres over a five per cent municipal tax.

The council passed the tax on theatre receipts because Mayor Julian H. Bagby said that real estate is carrying too big a load in the city tax structure. The theatre owners, two circuit houses and an independent, promptly closed their doors in protest of the tax.

'Jury' to View 'Amok' At Screening Here

For guidance in its effort to compel the New York State Board of Regents, the official censor board, to remove its ban from the public showing of "Amok," William Brandt's Distinguished Films, importer and distributor of the French film, have invited a "jury" of editors, film critics, and leaders of women's organizations to a screening at the Preview Theatre, here tomorrow.

Brandt said his company will proceed further with its appeal if the panel dissents from the Board of Regents' opinion that "Amok" is "indecent and immoral."

Johnston Presides At MPEA Meeting

Representatives of member companies of the Motion Picture Export Association discussed at length problems confronting the organization in its 13-country theatre of operations, at a meeting held here yesterday at the office of the Motion Picture Association. Eric Johnston, president of both the MPEA and MPA, presided.

Thompson Opens L.A. Film Ad Department

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 16.—A new department has been established at the local office of J. Walter Thompson to service motion picture accounts, according to an announcement by Norton W. Mogge, vice-president and manager here. The film staff includes W. C. Lewellen, service representative; Leon Benson, copy and production; and Charles W. Meggs, art director.

General supervision will be by Robert M. Gillham, vice-president in charge of motion pictures and television at Thompson's New York office.

Kalmenson, Lapidus Hold Toronto Session

TORONTO, Oct. 16.—Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Brothers, and Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, are here for a conference with Haskell Masters, Canadian district manager, and other Dominion sales executives.

The two home office executives expect to return to New York on Friday.

Poland Now Has a Film Monopoly

By JOSEPH B. KANTUREK

PRAGUE, Oct. 12 (By Airmail).—A single national motion picture enterprise has been formed in Poland under the name of Film Polski. Its director general, Aleksander Ford, offered a full report on conditions in Poland during his recent visit to Prague to negotiate with the Czechoslovak monopoly.

Film Polski includes within its organization all branches of the industry and it is concerned not only with production plans, but with plans for the reconstruction of Poland's destroyed studios, theatres, laboratories and other installations.

The organization is controlled by the Polish Ministry of Information, through a Film Council composed of 33 members. This council is headed by the Minister of Information and two deputies named by him. Fifteen members of the council are industry representatives named by the Ministry of Information. The other 15 members were delegated to the council by youth organizations, cultural institutions and trade councils.

NY 'Lab' Local Will Follow 'IA' Lead

John J. Francavilla, business representative for the New York laboratory technicians union, Local No. 702, IATSE, yesterday labeled as "erroneous" a report printed in yesterday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY that the New York local was "understood to have informed" Hollywood laboratory technicians of Local No. 683 that New York members would not handle film shipped Eastward for processing.

The question of flying daily "takes" to New York laboratories in order to resume production schedules at most of the studios arose Monday after the Hollywood local announced that it would respect picket lines thrown up by the Conference of Studio Unions.

Francavilla denied, furthermore, that information of the New York local's alleged action was issued by his office. "So far as Local No. 702 is concerned," he declared, "we are abiding by the directives of our International."

Feldman Buys Rights To 'Glass Menagerie'

Screen rights to "The Glass Menagerie," the Tennessee Williams play, have been purchased by Charles K. Feldman, producer, for $400,000, plus 8 2/3 per cent of the film's net profits. Arrangements provide, in addition, for 1 1/3 per cent of any gross over $400,000.

Half of the base price will be paid when the contract is signed, according to the agreement, and the remainder on next Jan. 15. The play was produced by Eddie Dowling and Louis J. Singer.

Cornel Wilde Suspended

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—20th Century-Fox has suspended Cornel Wilde for refusal to play a role in "Forever Amber" without a salary increase, according to the studio, which pointed out that the actor was given a new contract embodying an increase a year ago and asserts he timed his demand to the eve of the start of shooting on the new film.

MGM Executives at 6 Exhibitor Meets

Three M-G-M home office and field executives will appear before six theatre owner conventions to be held within the next few weeks.

Maurice N. Wolff of Boston will attend the Texas Allied Theatre Owners' meeting to be held in Dallas Oct. 28-29, while on the same dates Walter Brooks of the home office, will be on hand for the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska sessions at Des Moines. On Nov. 11-12, H. M. Richey, head of exhibitor relations, will appear before the Michigan exhibitor convention at Detroit. On Nov. 19-20, Brooks will attend the Associated Theatre Owners' meeting at Indianapolis.

Also, on Nov. 23, Richey will appear before the ITOA of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan when the sessions are held at the Schroeder Hotel in Milwaukee. On Nov. 25-26, Brooks is slated to be in Pittsburgh for the Allied of Western Pennsylvania gathering.

'IA' Prestige

(*Continued from page* 1)

due to observation of Conference of Studios Unions picket lines by a majority of the members of IATSE Local No. 683's laboratory workers.

IATSE's declared ability to keep the studios operating has been the foundation of its stand in all CSU strikes, but this is the first time the organization has been faced with the possible necessity of supplying replacements for its own workers.

Expressing confidence that the situation will be coped with successfully, resident "IA" international representative Roy Brewer made plans to talk to Local 683 members in a closed meeting tonight, discussing, among other things, terms of a new contract nearing the signature stage and understood to provide substantial wage increases.

Officers Hold Fort

Meanwhile, officers of 683, who have barricaded themselves in union headquarters in anticipation of an attempt by the international officers to take over control of the local, urged members to stay away from tonight's meeting.

Brewer said the actual take-over by the international, if it becomes necessary, will follow hearings tomorrow morning at which charges will be brought against the local's officers. Access to headquarters can be obtained through the duly empowered sheriff, he said.

CSU executives, pleased by the laboratory workers' stand, see in the IATSE local's defection a possible hastening of the end of the strike, pointing out that laboratory workers are specialists not readily replaced from any source.

Meanwhile, reports mounted that IATSE's costumers' local might follow the laboratory workers' action in refusing to cross picket lines. Brewer said such action would be dealt with similarly.

Addison with PRC

H. M. Addison, formerly with Loew Theatres, the Schine Circuit, United Artists, has been named to handle exploitation for the PRC in the Atlanta territory, under exploitation director Lige Brien.

Hollywood

By THALA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 16

THE vice-president of Rampart Productions will be starred in that company's initial picture for U-I release. The vice-president in question is Joan Fontaine, whose husband, William Dozier, is president of Rampart. Sheridan Gibney wrote the original story, tentatively titled "Possession"; she will also produce.

●

Over at Paramount plans are underway for the filming of "Road to Rio," which will star the trio which appeared in earlier "Road" pictures: Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour. To add to the confusion of the U. S. Bureau of Internal Revenue, the film will be produced by Bing Crosby Enterprises and Bob Hope Enterprises. Norman McLeod has been borrowed from Rainbow Productions to direct.

●

RKO Radio plans a sequel to "Badman's Territory," to be titled "Return of the Badmen." Like its predecessor, it will be produced by Nat Holt, under the executive supervision of Jack J. Gross. Every outlaw worthy of the name will be included in the film, which will present the James brothers, the Dalton boys, Billy the Kid and others, besides the requisite touch of femininity in the character of Carrie Nation, famed saloon-smasher and prohibitionist.

●

Producer Hal E. Chester has had his Monogram contract extended for another year. In addition to two more "Joe Palooka" films, he will make a pair of high-budget features for that studio. . . . Edward Small has signed Archie Mayo to direct "The Life of Rudolph Valentino," which will be released through United Artists. . . . In his first screen role since his discharge from the Navy, Bob Stack will co-star with Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven in "The Other Love," now shooting at Enterprise.

●

Spencer Bennet, who has directed serials for Republic for several years, has been promoted to feature films. His first assignment under the new arrangement will be the Trucolor musical Western, "Along the Oregon Trail," starring Monte Hale and Adrian Booth. . . . Producer William Pereira has signed a new contract with RKO Radio. . . . "Archangel on Horseback," original by Marcel Klauber and John Wesley Grey, has been purchased by Columbia and assigned to Arnold Albert as his initial production for the studio.

●

Agnes Moorehead, now playing in Warners' "Woman in White," has been signed by that studio to a multiple-picture contract. . . . Harry Carter has been assigned a supporting role in "Forever Amber," now before cameras at 20th Century-Fox. . . . Sidney Salkow will direct "Millie's Daughter" for Columbia. Gay Nelson is set for the feminine lead. . . . Producer Seymour Nebenzal has signed Michele Morgan to a term contract.

●

Alan Curtis has been engaged by PRC to portray "Philo Vance" in a new series of films.



BETTE DAVIS

PAUL HENREID

CLAUDE RAINS

ANOTHER TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY Warner OF TALKING PICTURES **ACHIEVEMENT!**



THIS WEEK THE GREAT "DECEPTION" IN NEW YORK

AT THE LONG-RUN HOLLYWOOD THEATRE

NEXT WEEK

OKLAHOMA CITY
JOHNSTOWN
ALBANY
ST. LOUIS
PHILADELPHIA
MILWAUKEE

Directed by IRVING RAPPER

Screen Play by John Collier and Joseph Than
Based on a Play by Louis Verneuil
Music by Erich Wolfgang Korngold

Produced by HENRY BLANKE

CIEA Brief

(*Continued from page* 1)

pared by Abram F. Myers, general counsel of Allied States, that it is "completely for divorcement of affiliated theatres" and urged the court to postpone any order, including competitive bidding for films, from becoming effective pending the outcome of any appeal.

The CIEA brief contained a seven-point plan for carrying out the decree. The suggestions were (1) Competitive bidding to be effective must be accompanied by a ban on cross licensing. (2) Competitive bids to be comparable must be on a flat rental basis. (3) Restricting bidding to flat rentals will eliminate the evil incidents of percentage engagements. (4) Films should be offered on some run and on reasonable terms. (5) Competitive bidding if it is to prevail even as interim relief, should be made as workable as possible. (6) Complete divestiture, not competitive bidding, is the appropriate and effective remedy. (7) Operation of the final judgment, if it involves competitive bidding, should be stayed pending the outcome of an appeal.

Not in Conflict

CIEA stated that it is not in conflict with the Attorney General whose mission it is to secure the complete and permanent and effectual separation of the production and exhibition branches of the film industry. Myers expressed belief that the government will not oppose the submission of CIEA's views to the court. Taking issue with the defendants' right to retain their theatre chains and cross-license each other, Myers said that no bidding system can possibly work under such circumstances.

In urging that the ban on cross licensing be adopted by the court CIEA said: "Any claim by the theatre-owning defendants that they cannot operate their theatres without cross-licensing must be taken as an admission (1) of the magnitude of their distribution monopoly, and (2) the feebleness of the competition offered by the independent first-runs in metropolitan areas who rarely have more than one of the big five products and often have none."

No Just Method

In argument favoring the flat rental basis of bidding, Myers said that there obviously is no accurate or just method by which the higher of two competitive bids on a percentage basis can be determined.

"Any method of predetermining the yield on a percentage engagement must necessarily be arbitrary and speculative, and will leave the door open for discriminatory practices," CIEA will tell the court.

Pointing to the necessity of having some run on reasonable terms, CIEA said that it is obvious that no bidding system or other reform can be effective if the defendants are permitted arbitrarily to refuse to license an exhibitor on any run either by failing to make an offer or by quoting prohibitive terms.

Urging that the court make competitive bidding, if it prevails, as workable as possible, the CIEA gave a three-point plan of execution:

1. To prevent uncertainty and manipulation, the bids should be sealed and should be submitted within 10 days after the offer is made. They should be opened on the 11th day (Sunday and holidays excepted) and made available to the inspection of the bidders on that day.

2. National release date. In order to overcome territorial discriminations and otherwise to add definiteness to the system, the Conference suggests that the distributors be required to announce a national release date for each picture they intend to license and to offer the film in all territories within a period thereafter.

3. Successive licensing of runs. It occurs to the Conference that unless runs are licensed successively a subsequent run exhibitor who is the unsuccessful bidder for a picture on a prior run may be deprived of the opportunity to bid for that picture on his customary run. Therefore, CIEA suggested that no offer on the next succeeding run should be made until a license has been granted on the pending run.

Loet Barnstyn Distributing Corp.
Exporters—Independent Distributors
Major Company Releases for Europe
141 West 54th St., New York 19, N. Y.
Telephone CI. 6-6060 Cable: LOETSIE

Review

"Margie"

(20th Century-Fox)

RIGHT off, "Margie" is chock full of genuine entertainment values and seems a certainty to draw good business at theatres all over the land, once the good word gets around. It is merchandise that theatre men can personally endorse as being fine and fitting for any member of the family.

The picture sparkles with a pristine freshness as it brings its audience back to high school, circa 1928, and takes into account the day-to-day trials that beset the charming young miss, Margie, and the ecstatic joys that compensate for those trials. Margie is Jeanne Crain and with her are Glenn Langan, Lynn Bari, Hattie MacDaniel, Esther Dale, Hobart Cavanaugh and Don Haydan, among others.

Discerning color photography and camera work, Henry King's unerring direction, and sets and costumes that are wholly adequate endow every scene with warmth and naturalness.

Gay, but never frivolous; rich but never lavish and with a nostalgic flavor that carefully avoids the pitfalls of gushy sentiment, Hugh Herbert's screenplay, based on the original story by Ruth McKinney and Richard Brandston, and its expert screen treatment, are calculated to make every one of Margie's little ups and downs seem very important, and delightfully humorous.

At the outset fate is cruel to Margie; she is "out" of the crowd, the school's glamor boy does not give her a tumble and her outspoken grandmother wants her to be president, a repulsive idea, thinks Margie. Asides to the little story, too numerous to mention, are vastly amusing. Before the film runs its course, fate does an about face so far as Margie is concerned. She wins the heart of the handsome young French teacher, she is the envy of everyone at the senior prom, where she appears in a chic evening gown, instead of her usual drab attire, with three orchids, her hair no longer in braids, and with high heels; these are all important. But, alas, once again Margie has an embarrassing experience; her bulky underdress slips to her ankles. It happens so often. Miss Crain is a sweetheart as Margie. Others in the cast are all splendid. Walter Morosco produced. The popular songs of the period are heard throughout the film, with the one of the title played mostly.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification. Release in November.

GENE ARNEEL

Korda to Distribute French Films Here

"Les Enfants du Paradis" ("Children of Paradise"), described as the first French picture to be completed since the Liberation of France, will be presented in this country under the auspices of Sir Alexander Korda. The film, now in its second year in Paris, is the first of several Gallic pictures to be shown here under Korda's auspices.

The picture will have its American premiere before Jan. 1, after which it will be released throughout the country.

'Darling Clementine' In 'Frisco Premiere

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 16.—Over 100 Pacific Coast showings of 20th Century-Fox's "My Darling Clementine" are scheduled for the next 10 days following a gala world premiere of the film at the Fox Theatre here today.

Making personal appearances during the day was a galaxy of Hollywood stars headed by George Jessel and including Linda Darnell, Victor Mature, Cathy Downs, Vivian Blaine, Lon McAllister, Peggy Ann Garner and Kurt Kreuger. Producer Sam Engel and director Gregory Ratoff also were on hand.

A saturation advertising campaign via newspaper and radio was handled by Charles Schlaifer, 20th-Fox advertising head, plus an exploitation staff under the direction of Eddie Yarbrough and Frank Jenkins, with Fay Reeder of Fox West Coast Theatres.

RKO Getting 3 More From Lasky-McEwen

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Jesse L. Lasky-Walter McEwen Productions, which produced "Without Reservations" for RKO Radio, today contracted to produce three more pictures for RKO in the next 18 months.

Poling Luncheon Today

William Dozier, Universal-International production executive associated with William Goetz, head of production, will introduce James W. Poling, the company's newly-appointed Eastern story editor, to members of the trade press at a luncheon at 21 Club here today.

MGM Starts Recording

Lauritz Melchior, the Metropolitan Opera star, and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer have inaugurated the new M-G-M Records division of Loew's, with four recordings.

Loop Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

justments. Indications are that Judge Igoe will set a bond for the defendants which will be applicable as payment to the Jackson Park in the event the theatre suffers damages in consequence of any delay on the part of the defendants in putting into effect the clearance changes ordered by the court today.

Highlights of the final decree are: That no picture play any longer than two weeks in its initial (Loop) run; that no picture play any longer than one week on any subsequent run; that the present "dead" time of three weeks between the conclusion of Loop runs and the start of "A" week outlying runs be entirely eliminated; that the practice of move-overs be discontinued entirely; that price fixing be eliminated and that the playing of double features, when such doubling prevents the Jackson Park from obtaining product it desires on the open market, be eliminated.

Seely said that Judge Igoe's decree was ambiguous in that it told the defendants exactly what they could not do but did not tell them just what they could do.

Left in Doubt

"In other words," he said, "under the terms of this decree we do not know what procedure to adopt which the court might not consider as illegal."

One spokesman for the Jackson Park hailed the victory as one of "the little fellow beating the big fellows."

One interpretation of the two-week limitation on Loop runs by the Jackson Park spokesman was that if enough prints are available for showing of the films, a picture could be played in the Loop longer than two weeks provided that at the beginning of the third week another print was available for the Jackson Park Theatre or whatever outlying theatre succeeded in buying the film. The spokesman said that lack of prints was one of the factors keeping pictures in the Loop and unavailable at the same time to outlying theatres.

Loew's, RKO-Radio, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Bros. are the distributor defendants.

Still to be disposed of is the Jackson Park's $600,000 suit for damages allegedly sustained from July, 1942, to July, 1946. This suit will be heard by a jury in U. S. District Court here.

One of the provisions in Judge Igoe's decree gives the Jackson Park playing time ahead of the Balaban & Katz Maryland Theatre, but does not indicate whether the Jackson Park is to play day and date with the Warner Jeffrey Theatre. Seeley said it was not certain yet whether the defendants would concede the Jackson Park's shift to playing ahead of the Maryland or whether this point would be fought, with a bond posted by the defendants to cover any possible losses suffered by the Jackson Park if Judge Igoe's decree is upheld by a higher court.

Monogram Names Judd

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 16.—Monogram has appointed Forrest Judd, scenarist, as story editor, succeeding Steve Healey, resigned.

Cancel 'Outlaw'

(*Continued from page* 1)

zation, which operates the Gotham and Republic; Arthur Mayer is operator of the Rialto. Although Brandt officials could not be reached late yesterday for questioning, it is understood that the cancellation applies to the Rialto as well as to the two Brandt houses, because the deal was so made. Mayer was out of town yesterday and could not be reached.

Decision to cancel the bookings is reported to have been made after high city officials advised the Brandt office that numerous and vigorous complaints had been received against the proposed exhibition of the picture and that is was feared that public disorders in the Times Square area might follow its showing. This report, however, could not be confirmed at either the office of Mayor William O'Dwyer or of License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding yesterday.

It was reported that the exhibitors will stand on their rights to cancel a picture which is found to be locally objectionable, a concession made in virtually all license agreements.

No Legion Protest

An official of the National Legion of Decency said yesterday, when questoined, that the Legion has made no official protest to city authorities over the planned showing of the picture. The spokesman added that the Legion had been advised by Harry Brandt that he hoped to obtain authorization to have cuts made in the picture prior to its Broadway exhibition which would result in the picture being removed from the Legion's "condemned" classification.

Presumably the authorization was not obtained.

"The Outlaw" has been banned in numerous cities throughout the country and has been shown in numerous others. In a number of instances in the latter case, its exhibition has stirred up religious, civic and censor organizations and resulted in some agitation for the establishment of local and state censor boards. The Production Code Administration seal was withdrawn from the picture several weeks ago.

Warners Sets 8 Films For Release in UK

Eight pictures have been set by Warner Brothers, for general release in Great Britain between now and the end of March, schedule including: "The Big Sleep," Oct. 21; "The Man I Love," Nov. 18; "The Verdict," Dec. 2; "Night and Day," Dec. 30; "A Stolen Life," Jan. 20; "Janie Gets Married," Feb. 10; "Of Human Bondage," March 3, and "Never Say Goodbye," March 24.

"Night and Day" is now having a pre-release run at the Warner Theater in London, while "The Big Sleep" is playing simultaneously at the Tivoli and New Gallery in the British capital.

Shuford to Coast

(*Continued from page* 1)

for several weeks, will confer with Henry Ginsberg, vice-president in charge of production and studio operations; George Brown, studio publicity director, and other Coast executives.

Review

"Deception"

(Warner)

BETTE DAVIS' latest vehicle is tailored for her fans. Essentially, these are women who, in all probability, will sweep this attraction into office.

But "Deception" is not the star's best. How closely the drama resembles the play by Louis Verneuil, on which it is based, or how good that play was, happens to be outside the knowledge of this reviewer. The screenplay, by John Collier and Joseph Than, therefore, may be faithful to its source. Perhaps the key resides in the film's length—112 minutes which overshoot the mark and dilute the drama.

The background is the world of music, and its chief characters are decidedly neurotic. There is Miss Davis, successfully established in a lavish New York penthouse through the benefactions of Claude Rains, arrogant and strutting composing genius. Their circle is fully aware of the relationship. But not so Paul Henreid, Miss Davis' Old World flame who shows up unexpectedly after brushes with the charms of European dictatorship. He is suspicious, and she knows it. She also knows she is still in love with him. So they marry.

Rains, more out of pique than sincerity, becomes the continuing menace threatening the couple's happiness. He deliberately takes Henreid under his musical wing, malevolently projects him toward fame through a hoity-toity concert and, at the celebration following the successful New York debut, intends dropping enough tidbits of his and Miss Davis' former past to blast the marriage. Miss Davis appeals, meets rejection and shoots Rains dead. Thereafter, she repairs to the concert hall in time for Henreid's successful solo and, as the final scene fades, is prepared to give herself up to the police.

It takes a long time to reach the finish. Between the start and end, there is a great deal of dialogue and, consequently, little action to progress the plot. Many sequences overdraw on footage. Performances are variable in value. Miss Davis displays flashes of her undeniable dramatic powers, but in this instance falls into a habit of gesturing. Henreid is made out to be stubborn, somewhat dense, and often stodgy. Rains, in a role which structurally allowed dramatics and ham, takes advantage of the state of affairs, yet within the limitations of the characterization, he again shows he is an actor. Irving Rapper directed. Henry Blanke produced.

Running time, 112 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 26.

RED KANN

Bergman on Ads

(*Continued from page* 1)

nator and superlative; to keep advertising on a family or cultural level; to make the theatre the focal point of the advertising; not to be afraid to be different; to be truthful and reveal what the picture is about; not to let our prejudices influence our advertising, and to condition the community to better pictures.

"The creative advertiser knows the value of an interesting format but unfortunately the amusement pages generally look the same all the time," Bergman said. "The first prerequisite of advertising is to be as entertaining as the commodity you are advertising, but unfortunately we have failed in this respect," he opinioned.

Bergman's topic, "Selling the Show," was delivered in connection with preparations for the circuit's 20th anniversary, during November.

Holding New Patrons

Bergman stressed that the industry has gained new audiences and the question arises as to whether or not it can hold the new patrons when strong competition develops for the entertainment dollar.

The industry is now entering an era of public service, culture and information as its fourth important era, according to Bergman. He characterized the three previous stages as the "storeroom era," "ballyhoo era" and the "boom era."

"You in theatres should rebel against the stereotyped," he added. "To sell your show you must be imaginative. You must repudiate the cliche in advertising," he suggested.

"Where to sell the picture is just as important as how to sell it," Bergman declared. "Theatre men should start selling a picture with the screen and the lobby, advancing the institutional factors of the motion picture industry," he proposed.

Dee Lowrance Resigns

Dee Lowrance has resigned from M-G-M's home office publicity department to complete a novel.

Mosque Approves

(*Continued from page* 1)

"provided the major theatre-owning defendants are not permitted, through their theatre ownership, to enjoy an unfair competitive advantage."

The brief contends that this could be accomplished by including in the final decree the Department's proposed ban on cross-licensing among affiliated theatres.

The brief describes the Mosque (3,365 seats), as "the largest and one of the best appointed theatres in downtown Newark." It contends that from its opening in 1925 until 1930 it was highly profitable but has since become "a white elephant."

Brown Nominated to Head AVC Chapter

Walter T. Brown was nominated for chairman of the Motion Picture Chapter of the American Veterans Committee at a meeting in the Film Center here last night.

Others named were: John Guerard, first vice-chairman; Rose Elgart, second vice-chairman; Arnold Karter, third vice-chairman; George Fiedler, secretary; Herb Steinberg, treasurer, and Dave Weisman, sergeant-at-arms. Delegates elected to the Metropolitan Area Council were: Stan Hode, chairman; Sam Gieson, Ethel Moldbauer, William Raynor, Steinberg and Fiedler—with Jack Zenkler, Jack Jenkins and Fred Goldberg chosen as alternates.

Foy Signs Tone

Franchot Tone has been signed to a two-picture deal by Bryan Foy, vice-president of Eagle-Lion.

A. M. P. A.
OPEN MEETING
TOWN HALL CLUB
(UPSTAIRS)
123 West 43 Street
(WEST OF SIXTH AVENUE)
TODAY, THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17
12:30 NOON
Principal Speaker
RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT
Producer, March of Time
"THE EUROPEAN FILM MARKET"
CLAIRE TREVOR
RHONDA KELLY ("Miss Australia")
RUTGERS NEILSON, Presiding
PHIL WILLIAMS, Member Guest MC
LUNCHEON: $1.75

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

The bus strike and competition from football games, rodeos and other attractions is causing a temporary slump at the box-office. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16-17:

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox) — APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,250) (65c-95c). On stage: Larry Adler. 3rd week. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40). Twice daily, 10th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) — GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO-Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $18,000)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and SHADOWS OVER CHINATOWN (Mono.) — LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: No estimate. Just starting new first-run policy.)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $45,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U) — PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $24,000)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $29,000)

EASY TO WED (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO-Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)

CINCINNATI

"Three Little Girls on Blue" is outdistancing all competitors by a wide margin at the RKO Grand, with slightly over double the house average in sight. Otherwise, returns range from below average to fairly good. Weather is cool but comfortable. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 15-18.

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — RKO ALBEE (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)

UNDER NEVADA SKIES (Rep.) and SHADOWED (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (39c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,600)

SHADOWS ON THE RANGE (Mono.) and THE DARK HORSE (U)—RKO FAMILY (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $900. (Average: $1,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $8,000)

SPECTER OF THE ROSE (Rep.)—KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

BLACK ANGEL (U) and CUBAN PETE (U)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

PITTSBURGH

With the street car operators and bus drivers voting to cross picketlines established by the power strikers, to partially restore transportation that has been lacking for three weeks, business among first-run houses in the downtown district is on the upswing, although still off, with "Till the End of Time," at the Stanley doing exceptionally well over the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 17:

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.) and MY PAL TRIGGER (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $9,700)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para. reissue)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,000)

A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA (UA) — PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO-Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 2nd week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $25,000)

DENVER

Business has been good at nearly all first runs, with fine fall weather prevailing. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 16:

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

O.S.S. (Para.) and ALOMA OF THE SOUTH SEAS (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,500)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and THE INNER CIRCLE (Rep.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and THE INNER CIRCLE (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (743) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $3,500)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M) and FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE WIFE OF MONTE CRISTO (PRC) and I RING DOORBELLS (PRC)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and THE INNER CIRCLE (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business is variable, the weather mild and pleasant. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 15-16:

O.S.S. (Para.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,700)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,800)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $14,400)

CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox) and RENDEZVOUS 24 (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days on a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,700)

BOSTON

Most grosses are above average, despite competition. Excellent weather and heavy retail promotions in the downtown district has kept matinee business up nicely. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 16:

CRACK-UP (RKO-Radio) — BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.00). Stage show: Bob Crosby and orchestra, Tommy Riggs. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $27,400)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and DECOY (Mono.) — FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,900)

NOTORIOUS (RKO-Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 4th week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $25,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.) and THE LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.) — METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.) 3 days. **RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue) and SHADOWED (Col.)** 4 days — ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $23,500)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB) and DECOY (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $16,300. (Average: $15,100)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.) 3 days. **RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue) and SHADOWED (Col.)** 4 days.—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,900)

BUFFALO

Business has been healthy despite rainy weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20:

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and DARK ALIBI (Mono.) — BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and HER ADVENTUROUS NIGHT (U)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and PASSKEY TO DANGER (Rep.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $6,000)

SUSPENSE (Mono.) and BOWERY BOMBSHELL (Mono.) — TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,000)

KANSAS CITY

The week was fair at most houses, considering pleasant fall weather, with other theatrical competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 15-17:

THE BLACK ANGEL (U) — ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE BLACK ANGEL (U) — FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,750)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

ONE MORE TOMORROW (WB)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO-Radio) and GENIUS AT WORK (RKO-Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

UNDER NEVADA SKIES (Rep.) and WILD BEAUTY (U) — TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,750. (Average: $5,500)

THE BLACK ANGEL (U) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

This week brought an unexpected slump in business generally, despite no important counter-attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 16-18:

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U) — ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $1,200.

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $32,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO-Radio) — GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M) and THE INNER CIRCLE (Rep.) — PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $23,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SUNSET PASS (RKO-Radio)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) 7 days, (55c-85c) 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000)

TO EACH HIS OWN (Para.) and TRAFFIC IN CRIME (Rep.)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 2nd week on moveover from St. Francis. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $1,500.

YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $14,000)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $27,000)

TORONTO

Thanksgiving Day for Canada, on Oct. 14, brought added impetus to Toronto theatre attendance, but Saturday business was off because of steady rain. Competition on the holiday consisted of gridiron games and horse racing at the Long Branch track. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 17-18:

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,200. (Average: $4,700)

SMOKY (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $14,300)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $13,300)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $19,600. (Average: $14,600)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $13,400. (Average: $11,400)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $6,800)

U. S. Mission Reports German Film Plan

WASHINGTON, Oct. 16.—A recommendation that the Film Institute of Germany for Visual Aids should be attached to a central institute for research to service all schools in the American Zone has been made by the U. S. Education Mission to Germany. Special attention must be paid to films which demonstrate the functioning of democratic institutions, the Mission said. However, no attention was paid in the report to the possible purchase of commercial American pictures for the German market.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 79. NO. 78 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 18, 1946 TEN CENTS

MPTOA Avers Court Did Not Mean 'Auction'

Brief in Amicus Curiae Disdains Divorcement

The contention that the New York Federal Court in its opinion in the industry anti-trust suit last June did not intend to impose "auction" selling on the industry, and if it did, that system was not intended as the only legal selling method, is advanced in the brief filed in U. S. District Court here yesterday by Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America.

The brief accompanied MPTOA's motion for leave to be heard in the New York suit as *amicus curiae* and was filed by

(*Continued on page 6*)

Studio Peace Talks Futile

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—With the Screen Actors Guild acting as mediator, the Richard F. Walsh (IATSE head), William Hutcheson (carpenters' union) conferences here this week ended in failure to settle the Hollywood jurisdictional strike dispute.

Walsh said today, "Hutcheson simply has not kept his word. He is not living up to the settlement made last December. He has not lived up to his agreement and as long as he's not living up to his word it looks like there just won't be any peace in Hollywood."

Walsh said he is satisfied with the way things are in Hollywood today and is not going to the West Coast. Instead, he is returning to New York tomorrow, following the close of the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Screen Guild Stock Is Increased 50%

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—Increased production and distribution of Screen Guild Productions will be financed by a 50 per cent increase in the company's stock, to be purchased by the present stockholders and franchise holders, it was announced by John J. Jones, president, upon his return here following this week's board meeting in Chicago.

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA Challenges Brandt, Mayer On 'Outlaw'

United Artists yesterday obtained a New York State Supreme Court "show cause" order, returnable Monday, directing Harry Brandt, operator of the Republic and Gotham Theatres, and Arthur Mayer, operator of the Rialto, all on Broadway, to explain their position in cancelling Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," for which they had contracted and which was scheduled to open in the three houses on Oct. 26. The first report of the cancellations of the picture was given in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

Efforts to obtain comment from Brandt and Mayer yesterday were unsuccessful.

Edward C. Raftery, UA president, in an affidavit filed in court, contended that the three contracts were made (on Sept. 19) for exhibition of the picture, that the film complies with the law of the state, and accordingly, is licensed for exhibition in all theatres in the state, and that the plain-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Zukor to Install Perkins, Nathan

Adolph Zukor will go to London and Paris to install James E. Perkins and John B. Nathan in their new posts as Paramount International's managing director for Great Britain, and division manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, respectively. He will be accompanied by George Weltner, Paramount International president; the trip will be Zukor's first to Europe since 1939.

Perkins, former division manager for the Far East, Weltner and Zukor will leave New York on Oct. 25 on

(*Continued on page 7*)

Lee Stresses Role Of Owners Locally

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 17.—The task of fostering "good community relations" as a means of safeguarding the interests of the motion picture industry to the benefit of all elements in the business was urged upon showmen tonight by Claude F. Lee, Paramount's director of public relations, speaking at the annual banquet of the Kentucky As-

(*Continued on page 7*)

COMPANIES ATTACK U. S. PROPOSALS

Hughes Returns Code Certificate

Howard Hughes Productions, through its local attorney, Charles Poletti, yesterday returned to the Motion Picture Association the Production Code certificate of approval granted to Hughes for his film, "The Outlaw," in May, 1941, subsequently revoked.

In a communication to United Artists, distributor of the film, Poletti directed that a new credit title supplant the code seal on prints of the film.

Major Phases of Its Decree Held Contrary To Court's Opinion

Wholesale segments of the government's proposed decree in the New York anti-trust suit were labeled "contrary to the Federal court's opinion" in a document commenting on the proposals which was submitted to the Federal District court here yesterday by the five theatre owning defendants, Loew's, Paramount, RKO, 20th Century-Fox and Warners.

Included in the government's proposals so labeled were the most spectacular of the suggestions advanced by the Department of Justice, such as its proposed outlawing of cross-licensing among affiliated theatres; its plan for the selling of exclusive runs; its proposal to limit film buying to six months in advance of release; the provisions for the dissolution of outlawed theatre holdings; provisions denying defendants the right to acquire additional theatre holdings, and the proposal that runs must commence within 30 days of availability.

The document, however, showed the Department and defendants to be in substantial agreement on the following decree proposals: for the elimination of pooling agreements, franchises,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Williams Will File For the SCTOA

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 17.—A challenge of judicial authority to prescribe a sales system and a full-dress attack on the auction bidding method of film licensing recommended by the decision in the New York anti-trust case will feature the bid of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association for intervention jointly with the American Theatres Association when hearings open Monday in New York.

This was indicated here today as Paul Williams, SCTOA general counsel, prepared to depart tomorrow for the East, to present the local association's petition and argue for its acceptance.

Williams is cited as having consistently regarded the method of competitive bidding devised by the court in its decision as exceeding the power of the judicial branch of govern-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Gov't Findings of Fact Are Due Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—The Department of Justice's findings of fact and conclusions of law with regard to the defendants in the industry anti-trust suit will be filed in the New York Federal District Court tomorrow, Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, said here today.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Stay of 30 Days In Loop Ruling

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre's anti-trust suit this morning sought and received from Judge Michael Igoe in U. S. District Court, here, a 30-day stay of yesterday's revolutionary Chicago clearance injunction, during which time they will file an appeal to the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals, protesting certain sections of the court's decree, including a two-week limitation of Loop runs.

A large undetermined bond will probably be set by Judge Igoe for the defendants as security for the Jackson Park for any possible damages suffered by the theatre between the time of the injunction and final disposition of the case.

Miles Seeley, an attorney for the

(*Continued on page 7*)

U-I to Compete for Plays on Top Level

Universal-International's new Eastern story department will be in competition for the best story and play material available with every other New York story department, William Dozier, vice-president and production executive, told trade press representatives at a luncheon at 21 Club here yesterday, at which James W. Poling, U-I's new Eastern story director, was introduced.

Dozier said that U-I will give financial backing to Broadway plays and will engage in pre-production deals with Broadway producers in line with its new plans to actively engage in the competition for the best play and story material in the East, which he described as the best market for both.

"We are committed to produce 22 major productions for the new season," Dozier said. "Obviously, we want as many story properties as we can get. We want big ones and we will pay for them proportionately."

Miss Florence Odets, formerly with the Paramount studio story department, also was introduced at the luncheon. Miss Odets will be assistant to Poling in New York.

Maurice Bergman, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity director, represented U-I at the luncheon.

Goldstein Acts for U-I Studio in East

Robert Goldstein will be coordinator of Universal-International studio activities in the East under his new assignment with the combined companies, it was stated here yesterday by William Dozier, vice-president and studio executive.

Goldstein, former Eastern executive representative of International Pictures, will operate in the field of Eastern story, play and talent material for U-I.

Tierney In Sales Post

Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, has appointed James J. Tierney as service manager. Tierney returns to the business after having been in U. S. Government service for a number of years. Some years ago, he was an executive of Ritchey International, and later was service manager of Republic Pictures early in the existence of that company.

Warner Club to Elect

Annual meeting of the Warner Club, organization for Warner employes, will be held at the home office tomorrow, it was announced by Stuart H. Aarons, secretary. Election of a new president, to succeed Martin F. Bennett, who has left Warners for a post with RCA Victor, will be part of the business of the session.

$10,242 for 'Clementine'

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 17.—An 18-year box office record for the Fox Theatre, here, is claimed for 20th Century-Fox's "My Darling Clementine," which had its world premiere yesterday, grossing $10,242 on the opening day.

Personal Mention

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, is scheduled to return here from the Coast on Monday.

•

WILLIAM DOZIER, Universal-International vice-president and associate head of production, will leave New York for Hollywood over the weekend, with a stopover at Omaha.

•

CHARLES GOLDSMITH, Loew's International coordinator for the British Empire, has arrived in Sydney, Australia, from New York.

•

WILLIAM SATORI, Monogram's Continental European representative, has returned to London from Holland, Belgium and France.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, M-G-M's director of advertising-publicity, has postponed his scheduled trip to the Coast from New York until mid-November.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, M-G-M publicity manager, is slated for discharge from St. Clair Hospital, here, today, following an appendectomy.

•

ROBERT WEITMAN, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, here, and MRS. WEITMAN are the parents of a daughter, their third child.

•

JOHN BERGIN, Philadelphia salesman for Paramount, is a New York visitor.

•

LEONARD BERCOVICI, playwright-scenarist, arrived in New York yesterday by plane from the Coast.

•

WILLIAM LYON of M-G-M's studio publicity department, is in New York from the Coast.

•

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, will leave here today for Pittsburgh.

•

IRA SIMMONS is in New York from California.

FRED WEHRENBERG, MPTOA president, will arrive in New York from St. Louis on Sunday.

•

HERBERT NUSBAUM of M-G-M's home office legal staff, is due back in New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

HERMAN LEVY, MPTOA general counsel, who returned to New Haven from New York yesterday, will be back here Sunday.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner's short subjects sales manager, will leave Burbank for San Francisco, Portland, and Seattle on Sunday.

•

A. W. COOK, member of the board of governors of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, left Binghamton, N. Y., yesterday for the Coast.

•

M. L. SIMONS, editor of the M-G-M sales publication, *The Distributor*, will return to New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

LEONARD SATZ, Century Theatres' purchasing maintenance chief, will fly to the Coast from New York tomorrow.

•

MAURY ORR, United Artists Western sales manager, has returned to New York from the West.

•

R. M. SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, will leave New York for Hollywood next week.

•

JOSEPH T. O'SHEA, Vanguard president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

JOSE GUSTAVO PALACIOS, Venezuela exhibitor, has arrived in New York from Caracas.

•

JOHN E. FLYNN, M-G-M Midwestern sales manager, has returned to Chicago from New York.

•

HARRY EDINGTON, Hollywood agent, is here from California.

Petrillo Asks New Scale on Records

Ten major record and transcription companies, including the new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer record subsidiary have received new wage demands from James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians; the current wage agreement expires on Monday. Proposed wage scales, estimated to increase prevailing levels on popular discs by 533 per cent and on symphonic records by 233 per cent, are being negotiated in Chicago by the union's executive council and officers of the 10 companies.

Frank Walker, general manager of M-G-M Records, is representing his firm. Other companies involved are Decca, Columbia, RCA-Victor, Majestic, Musicraft and Signature in the record field.

British Filming Is At a High Peak

In contrast to the curtailed production activity in Hollywood, due to the jurisdictional strike of AFL workers, studios of England are going at full speed, the J. Arthur Rank Organization said here yesterday. "Every available foot of floor space is occupied, with producers waiting their turn to start filming. No sooner does a production leave the floor than another is on its way," it was said.

"Aside from studio space, Technicolor cameras are at a premium, and the few available in England move from one picture to the next as quickly as a transfer can be made. The Technicolor output of the various producing organizations affiliated with the Rank Organization amounts to more than 25 per cent of the total output," the company statement continued.

Greenthal's Agency Begins Operations

Monroe Greenthal and Co., advertising agency, swung into operation yesterday, starting with Universal-International's "I'll Be Yours."

The name of the outfit is a new one; originally it had been Monroe and Co.

Branch to Study Boston

Houston Branch, whose "The Big Haircut" is being filmed by Paramount, will leave here for Boston on Sunday to continue research on a new novel, "The Raiders." He is also working on "Feather in Her Crown," a play slated for next season.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

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"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

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LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
VAN HEFLIN
'The Strange Love of MARTHA IVERS'
IN PERSON
JOE SMITH and CHARLIE DALE
SUSAN MILLER
Extra!
HAL LeROY

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
in Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

JEANNE CRAIN as
"MARGIE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus on Stage — Frances Langford - Jon Hall
Carl Ravazza - Harmonica Rascals
Extra! AL BERNIE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Films on Composer Conference Agenda

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—The subject of motion pictures will consume a considerable portion of the time at the five-day meeting of the Conference Internationale des Societes d'Auteurs et Composers, which will start here on Monday. The role of films in American relations with international organizations will be studied. ASCAP is the American affiliate of the international group.

Working out a formula for the inclusion of copyright clauses in peace treaties will be a keynote of the meeting. Other problems to be considered are: legislative recommendations for the confederation to control royalties and other rights of authors and composers in enemy countries during war, extension of copyright periods on account of the war, measures taken by some governments concerning seizure, blocking or confiscation of copyrights, claims against the German Society Stagma, revision of the Berne convention and the Pan-American convention plans dealing with copyrights and an analysis of the copyright situation in the USSR, Lebanon and Sweden, which are believed to be backward in the copyright field.

Handling arrangements for the meeting are John G. Paine, general manager of ASCAP, and Leslie Boosey of England, head of the Confederation Internationale. The conference is the first international one of its type ever held in the U. S.

Harry Warren Signs M-G-M Contract

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—Screen music writer Harry Warren has signed a long term contract at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, by which he becomes vice-president of Harry Warren, Inc., a new music publishing house. Charles C. Moskowitz, treasurer of Loew's, is also president of the new firm.

Harry Warren, Inc., joins the Loew-Metro-Goldwn-Mayer family of music publishing companies, which include Robbins, Feist, and Miller.

Roth Succeeds Gould In U.A. Post Here

Leon Roth, press book editor for United Artists, has been named to succeed Joseph Gould, who has resigned as national promotion manager, it was announced here yesterday by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising-publicity director. Roth's successor has not yet been announced.

To Talk on Censorship

HARTFORD, Oct. 17.—Richard Griffith, executive director of the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, will speak on "Censorship," at the meeting tomorrow of the Springfield Motion Picture Council of Springfield, Mass. Other film executives slated for talks include Harold Hendee, director of research, RKO Radio, on Nov. 15, and Charles S. Steinberg, director of Warner Brothers' educational bureau, on Feb. 21.

Rogers Signs Buchanan

Buchanan and Co., advertising agency, will handle the ads on Charles R. Rogers' "The Fabulous Dorseys," a United Artists release.

Air Views on U. S. Films Abroad at AMPA Forum

The U. S. industry should forget the "quick dollar" but take a long-range view that U. S. films will benefit and America itself will gain prestige abroad by proper selection of feature films for foreign distribution, Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, declared at a meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, held here yesterday in the Town Hall Club.

"Too many pictures are misleading," he told the audience, adding: "The American way of life must be properly presented if we are to retain the confidence of war-torn countries abroad."

In an open forum following de Rochemont's talk, David Blum, Loew's International publicity director, argued that feature pictures are primarily for entertainment and should not be used as a medium for propaganda, as Russian pictures are.

Arnold Stoltz, national advertising and publicity director for PRC, questioned how "equitable" the manner of de Rochemont's suggested method of selecting films for foreign distribution would be in practice.

Martin Quigley, Jr., vice-president of Quigley Publishing Co., pointed out that there could be no argument over the question of sending to Europe only the pictures which would give the best possible impression of America and the American film industry. And that, he added, is now being done by the companies themselves. But Quigley, agreeing with Blum's contention, said there is a wide area of disagreement over the direct production of pictures for outright propaganda purposes. He added that, in August, 1946, Byron Price had been named head of a committee, now functioning, in advising on the choice of pictures for European distribution.

Claire Trevor and Rhonda Kelly (Miss Australia), with A. G. Hard, of the Australian Trade Commission, were also on the dais, along with Rutgers Neilson, AMPA president; Max Stein, AMPA secretary; Stoltz; and Phil Williams, vice-president, who conducted the forum.

Williams announced that the premiere of "Abie's Irish Rose," on Nov. 21, at the Ambassador Theatre, New York, would be held as an AMPA benefit for the association's relief fund.

Navy Chaplains Plan 'Democracy' Films

WASHINGTON, Oct. 17.—Selecting "decency and the over-all values which underlie the American way of life" as the theme of a series of at least five two-reel motion pictures on Democracy the Navy Chaplain Corps announces that it will probably sign with an independent New York producer "within a few days." Chaplain Monroe J. Drew, Jr., USNR, is technical adviser on the project.

The Chaplain Corps is planning to have at least 35 35mm. prints and 150 16mm. prints prepared to serve the Navy Motion Picture Service on shore and on ships, but no decision has yet been made on release of the films to civilian audiences. Although budgets have not been set, a top limit of $30,000 has been planned as the cost of production for each film.

Chaplain Drew explained that the films will combine narrative and documentary techniques, telling their stories through characters and definitely will not be sermons or lectures from the screen. First of the films will treat with the principle of democracy.

Materials Show To Be Held in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Oct. 17.—Methods of handling materials in the amusement industry will be on exhibit at the first national Materials Handling Exposition, to be held at the Public Auditorium, here, Jan. 14-17.

Systems and machinery for receiving, loading, warehousing and shipping film prints, scenery, carnival equipment, etc., will be shown.

RMA Meeting in Chicago

The Radio Manufacturers Association will hold its second industrial relations meeting Oct. 31-Nov. 1, at the Hotel Bismarck, Chicago.

Dutch Claim Three Dimensional Device

WASHNGTON, Oct. 17.—A new method of projecting three-dimensional motion pictures is claimed by a Netherlands inventor, according to word received here by the motion picture section of the U. S. Department of Commerce. The apparatus and technique is said by the inventor, Stanislav Burianek, to be low in cost, and adaptable to black-and-white and color films, and television.

It is described as being installed on the back of each seat, eliminating the need for colored glasses, prisms, mirrors, or visors.

Legion of Decency Classifies 5 Films

The National Legion of Decency has classified two new pictures as unobjectionable for general patronage, two as unobjectionable for adults and one as objectionable in part. The classifications are as follows:

Class A-1—"The Jolson Story," Columbia, and "Rio Grande Raiders," Republic; Class A-2, "Dick Tracy" and "Lady Luck," both RKO Radio; Class B, "Temptation," U.

Filmack, Music Co. Sign

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Filmack Trailers of Chicago has signed a contract with the Sam Fox Music Publishing Co. of New York, to furnish all of the music to be used in the production of Filmack's special trailers as well as the organization's new prevue trailer, which is now in preparation.

Carl Danahey Dies

Carl Danahey, a member of Warner's tax department, here, suffered a fatal heart attack at the home office here yesterday afternoon. He had been with the company 25 years.

Davis in Toronto For Odeon Meetings

TORONTO, Oct. 17.—Plunging directly into a week's work without the formality of a press conference, John Davis, emissary of Arthur Rank, arrived here today on his semi-annual trip from London to Odeon Theatres' headquarters. He was met at the airport by Earl Lawson, president, and George Peters, secretary of the Canadian circuit.

Arrangements have been made for a luncheon-conference with executives and department managers tomorrow at the Royal York Hotel, here, where Davis is stopping. The only public appearance of Davis is scheduled for the annual meeting next Tuesday of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players Canadian Corp., and other high representatives of the Canadian film industry will also address the meeting.

Davis plans to return to New York next Thursday and will fly to England from there on Oct. 28. During his Toronto stay there is the prospect that the directorate of Odeon of Canada will elect a vice-president and treasurer to fill the vacancy created by the recent death of Thomas J. Bragg. There has been no indication regarding the appointment of a new director to complete the board.

Warner Club Annual Meet Here Tomorrow

Eight delegates from out of town will attend the annual meeting of the Warner Club, to be held here tomorrow at Warner's home office; they include: Leo Rosen, Albany; Richard Barry, Chicago; Francis Flood, New Haven; J. Brodsky, Philadelphia; S. Bragin, Pittsburgh; S. Hoffman, Washington; Richard Wright, Cleveland; Arthur Manfredonia, Newark.

CBS Affiliates to Meet in Chicago

Columbia Broadcasting's affiliates advisory board will meet for the third time this year in the Ambassador East Hotel, Chicago, on Sunday evening, Oct. 20, on the eve of the National Association of Broadcasters' convention in that city. Mutual problems of affiliates and the network will be discussed by the board members, who reperesent the 153 independently-owned stations affiliated with Columbia.

L. A. Operators' Fees Due

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 17.—Independent operators in the motion picture and other professions, who are not listed employes of any company, are warned by the city clerk's office to pay license fees before Nov. 1 to avoid a penalty. A boost of 10 per cent will be added after Oct. 31, with five per cent per month accumulating thereafter until a total penalty of half of the fee is reached.

'Bel Ami' Ads to Fertig

Lawrence Fertig and Co. has been given the advertising account for "The Private Affairs of Bel Ami," Loew-Lewin production for United Artists, and for which the producers have allocated $300,000 to be spent in magazines, newspapers and radio.

IN THE EAST

MARGIE

IN TECHNICOLOR

"The Sweetheart of 1946" raves the N. Y. Daily News—and the Boxoffice!

Roxy opening tops 20th's Biggest Technicolor Hits—

"Dolly Sisters,"

"Smoky,"

"Diamond Horseshoe"!



ALL OVER IT'S

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE
Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS
AUG. 25th - DEC. 28th

WITH HIT AFTER HIT BREAKING RECORD AFTER REC

IN THE WEST

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

BROKE EVERY RECORD

IN THE HISTORY OF THE

TREMENDOUS

FOX THEATRE,

SAN FRANCISCO!



CENTURY-FOX

D IN THE SPYROS P. SKOURAS DRIVE!

Companies

(*Continued from page* 1)

formula deals, tie-ins and master agreements; for the establishment of some phases of competitive bidding; for the Department's inspection of defendants' books; for the application of the decree to the continental United States and on the retention by the court of jurisdiction in the case.

The defendants' comments reveal that even where the Department's proposals are not expressly branded as being contrary to the court's opinion, the five defendants and the Department are far from agreement on a wide variety of major proposals for a decree.

Among the latter are: the retention of certain theatre holdings; the setting of clearance schedules; knowledge of minimum admissions to be charged; major phases of competitive bidding procedure; distributors' right to road show pictures; cancellation percentage to be allowed; the method of disposing of theatre interests of less than 95 per cent and the time allotted for disposal of such interests.

In addition, defendants' memorandum indicates no agreement with the Department on the effective date of the decree; a stay pending appeal; continuation of the consent decree pending final adjudication; recovery by the government of costs from the defendants, and the holding of joint theatre interests with an "independent."

On the subject of minimum admissions, the memorandum observes that while they are to be set by the exhibitor, the distributor is entitled to knowledge of them in order to determine reasonable clearance, offers of best bids and other factors.

On clearance, defendants contend the government would eliminate it *per se;* whereas the court recognized the validity of reasonable clearance not resulting from concerted action.

Licensing Limitation

On the government's proposed limitation of licensing more than six months in advance of release, defendants state this "is conceded to be contrary to the court's opinion."

Exclusive runs are branded contrary to the court's opinion; would be prohibitive in cost because of the large number of prints required, would increase rentals and admission prices and would deprive the distributor of his right to designate run and reasonable terms.

In competitive bidding, defendants state some government proposals are contrary to the court's opinion and would result in "compulsory uniformity, the very antithesis of competition." It is also contended that the court did not intend that competitive bidding should apply to non-competitive situations.

The memorandum brands the government proposal that runs commence within 30 days of availability as a "straight-jacket" for both exhibitors and distributors.

Defendants recommend that competitive bidding be made effective at least six months after effective date of the decree, rather than on Jan. 1, as proposed by the Department. It withholds a recommendation on cancellation percentage. The government proposed 25 per cent.

Arbitration is defended in the memorandum as a "remedy" to exhibitors who wish to avail themselves of it, not, as the government contends, "a substitute for judicial enforcement of the decree by contempt."

Defendants ask the court to specify a substantially greater period of time than the two years proposed by the government for the dissolution of outlawed theatre interests.

The proposed cross-licensing ban was described as having "no support in the opinion" and as "purely punitive and not remedial." It is contended that the penalties to defendants, should it be adopted, would be so severe "that its obvious purpose must be to force by indirection complete divestiture, relief which the court refused to grant."

Companies' Plea to Hold Some Houses

Following is the explanation of the proposal in the decree draft of the five theatre owning defendants which would grant them the right to retain certain theatre interests in which they hold less than 95 per cent ownership:

"Provision is made by the defendants in this section (d) for an application to the court for permission to continue certain joint relationships in those few cases in which a defendant at one time owned a 95 per cent or more interest and in which it parted with a partial interest by sale, transfer or other disposition, to the joint owner who was not in competition with such defendant in the particular place or places involved.

"Some of these relationships were created under economic stress during the depression or during bankruptcies in an effort to preserve for the creditors a partial interest in operating subsidiaries. The disposition by a defendant of such a partial interest was not unlawful when made and the retention of the balance, although now less than 95 per cent, involves no restraint of trade. We believe, therefore that it was not the court's intention to dissolve such a joint relationship and that, upon a proper showing of the facts, these defendants should be permitted to retain them."

U. S. Findings

(*Continued from page* 1)

Expressing strong objections to the "practical legality" and "workability" of the recommendations submitted to the court last week by the theatre-owning defendants, the U. S. brief will contain a detailed analysis of the impact of these proposals.

Already on record in support of a flat-rental plan, recommended as a companion to the auction plan fostered by the court, the Government intends to back up its contentions on this point with facts and more conclusions of law if the court will permit such evidence during oral argument.

Other major recommendations made by the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, too late for inclusion in the Government's final decree proposals, already are a part of the Government's latest papers. They include a ban on cross-licensing and a guarantee of reasonable run.

Wright, who will leave here at the weekend to appear before the court on Monday, is expected to assert that monopoly would be fostered if the distributors set minimum terms for bids on films, as outlined in their proposed decree.

MPTOA Brief

(*Continued from page* 1)

Herman M. Levy of New Haven, MPTOA general counsel, on behalf of the independent membership of the association only.

The MPTOA brief is concerned with only five phases of the contents of the final decree to be entered by the court in the anti-trust suit; they are: competitive bidding for films, which the brief opposes; the inclusion of safeguards in the decree against overbuying and backlogging of product by exhibitors; a guaranty in the decree of some run; an endorsement of the 25 per cent cancellation right proposed by the Department of Justice, and the continuation of industry arbitration without the exclusive financial support of the five theatre-owning defendants and with industry men as arbitrators.

Included in the brief is a final report on MPTOA's poll results on questions raised by the court's opinion, the highlight of which was the exhibitor vote of 261 to 19 against the court's plan of competitive bidding for films. Final results of the poll were published in detail in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 7.

The MPTOA brief points out that the words "auction selling" and "auction bidding" do not appear in the court's opinion. (The term "competitive bidding" is used in the opinion, as well as the term "to the highest bidder.")

The brief sets forth that the MPTOA does not believe that "auction selling" was intended by the court, nor that competitive bidding for films was contemplated by the court as the only legal method of selling. If, however, the court did so intend, the brief says, the method is economically unsound because it would increase film rentals and theatre admission prices.

Agrees on Divorcement

MPTOA states that it holds "no brief for divorcement," and agrees with the court that divorcement is no remedy for the evils complained of but, if applied, would create a new set of evils.

The brief contends that competitive bidding may be unworkable and asserts that no complete procedure for conducting it has been advanced yet by either the defendants or the Department of Justice.

MPTOA asks for inclusion in the final decree of safeguards against overbuying and backlogging of product, endorsing Government proposals in this respect, but asking that a run commence within 45 days after availability of a print, rather than the 30 days proposed by the Government, "since the shorter period might act to keep the exhibitor from fulfilling all of his commitments and to prevent him from properly varying the type of pictures played."

A guaranty of "some run" is requested as in the industry consent decree and the Department's proposal on the subject is approved by MPTOA.

MPTOA originally had proposed a 20 per cent cancellation right but in its present brief endorses the Department's proposal for 25 per cent cancellation.

The brief expresses MPTOA's "keen disappointment" in the Government's willingness to liquidate the industry arbitration system, averring that it believes the Government's reasons therefor are unsound. MPTOA asks that arbitration be continued with experienced industry men as arbitrators; that the procedure be simplified and made less costly and that exhibitors be given a voice in the establishment of its details.

ATA to File Monday In the N. Y. Suit

American Theatres Association's formal brief to intercede in the industry anti-trust suit, planned to be filed in Federal Court, here, yesterday, was deferred, probably to Monday, because of difficulty in having the document printed.

'Outlaw' Row

(*Continued from page* 1)

tiffs have "no remedy in law."

Raftery states that he was first notified of the plaintiffs' intention not to show the picture by Brandt on Oct. 11. Brandt, in a letter, wrote that the License Commissioner, the City Corporation Counsel, and the New York Police Department told him he would be prosecuted under the penal code if he persisted in exhibiting "The Outlaw." He further said that he had informed that the licenses to operate the theatres would be revoked.

In his affidavit, Raftery further argued that UA could not agree to cancellation of the booking agreements because it has an obligation to producer Hughes not only to distribute the picture but to enforce all contracts it makes for exhibition; that in excess of $130,000 had been expended or committed for advertising in advance of the opening of the film, adding this would be a total loss. He concluded that "no exhibitor has the right to repudiate a contract because he is threatened by some public official who is in no way connected with the State Board of Censors."

Contract Terms

In the action, instituted by the law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery, terms of each of the three contracts were disclosed. At both the Gotham and Rialto United Artists would receive 25 per cent of the gross up to $10,000 and 75 per cent of receipts over that mark. The Republic would turn over 25 per cent up to $6,000 and 75 per cent in excess of that figure. Each week would be regarded as a separate entity in the computations. UA would handle all promotion costs.

Additional affidavits filed by Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of UA distribution, and J. J. Unger, sales manager, are to some extent similar to Raftery's. Sears declares that favorable public reaction to the film is established in the fact that it has brought in outstanding grosses around the country. He said that $1,433,000 has already been realized by UA in film rentals in the U. S. and Canada.

Unger declared that the cancellations would not only mean loss of immediate revenue from the first-runs here, but UA would also be unable to "set up approximately 1,000 other houses in this area." Additionally, he said, the company would lose the prestige of having a three-theatre engagement on Broadway.

An affidavit by Paul N. Lazarus, advertising-publicity chief, listed the promotional monies spent or committed at $137,320.

Studio Talks

(*Continued from page* 1)

American Federation of Labor convention here today.

Regarding a "rebellion" of the Coast laboratory technicians against the IATSE by respecting studio picket lines, Walsh said an emergency has been declared insofar as the technicians are concerned and that Tom Murtha, special "IA" representative, is now in Hollywood and has started to conduct hearings at the Hollywood-Roosevelt Hotel. It is reported that another member of the trial board appointed to work with Murtha is Richard Green, former secretary-treasurer of the IATSE and also former business manager of the Chicago stagehands' union.

Walsh bluntly stated that if the laboratory technicians do not obey IATSE laws, they will be suspended, adding: "We'll supply workers to the studios while they (the technicians) are under suspension, to keep production going." He said that the laboratory technicians had returned to work to two studios, M-G-M and Paramount.

Gene Atkinson, business manager of the Chicago projectionists' and laboratory technicians' unions, said: "If Hollywood and New York technicians won't develop the necessary prints, they can all be flown here and we'll take care of all of them. In fact, if everything in Hollywood moved here, the industry would be much better off, as we don't have any disputes here."

Returning with Walsh tomorrow is Tommy Green, business manager of the Newark stage hands' union.

Green, Hutcheson and Woll Reelected to AFL Posts

CHICAGO, Oct. 17.—Delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention here have unanimously reelected William Green to serve a 24th term as AFL president. William Hutcheson, head of the Carpenters' Union, and Matthew Woll, vice-president of the Photo-Engravers Union, also have been reelected AFL vice-presidents. San Francisco was selected as the scene of the 1947 convention.

Screen Guild

(*Continued from page* 1)

Plans call for the immediate establishment of four major sales districts, with a manager in charge of each, under the supervision of F. A. Bateman, general manager.

New five-year contracts have been given to Jones and Robert L. Lippert, distribution vice-president.

SGP's program includes 20 new pictures—nine recently completed—by eight producing units turning out product exclusively for the company. This is in addition to the 12 "Hopalong Cassidy" films to be released each year.

Two separate exhibitor groups, one in Boston and the other in Detroit, have raised $500,000 each, and each will make eight of the features, as previously reported. The Detroit group, Melrose Productions, comprised of three exhibitors, is headed by Jack Broder, with Sam Decker in charge of production, and William Berke, formerly of RKO Radio and Monogram, signed as producer-director. The Boston group is headed by Arthur Lockwood and Sam Gordon.

Production Sinks To March's Level

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 17.—The over-all direct and indirect effect of the Conference of Studio Unions' strike against the major studios manifested itself statistically today when MOTION PICTURE DAILY's weekly check-up on production revealed only 41 features shooting. This total is the lowest since last March when another labor crisis depressed production to this same level.

Although the studios uniformly report that camera work is in progress on all pictures in work, a disposition to postpone the start of new pictures until the labor situation levels off is general.

The laboratories continued inoperative today, with the exception of Paramount's and M-G-M's. IATSE International representative Roy Brewer urged members of Local 683 at a mass meeting this evening to return to their jobs this morning, with the severest test thus facing an IATSE International officer's ability to control the Hollywood locals.

Murtha Hearings

Special Examiner Thomas Murtha, representing Richard Walsh, opened hearings today on a long list of charges preferred against officers of 683, with 683 rank and file members for the most part standing firm on the local's decision to respect CSU picket lines. The expectancy was that International officers would move next to take over the local's headquarters and operation. The question in informed circles was whether the International takeover would result in the laboratory workers obedience to its order. A further possibility is that IATSE costumers and cutters might duplicate 683's action and respect picket lines was not discounted, with chances for weekend settlement of the strike considered slim by all factions. Meanwhile the possibility that solution of the basic jurisdictional dispute between CSU carpenters and the IATSE set erectors might eventuate from Chicago conferences between Walsh and the Carpenters International president William Hutcheson was regarded as the most promising prospect.

AFL executive councils, meeting tomorrow, are expected to take up this dispute for finalistic disposition.

Loop Ruling

(*Continued from page* 1)

defendants, explained to Judge Igoe that conferences will be held in New York and that time was needed to effect an appeal.

Thomas C. McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park, said he does not think the defendants will take the case to the U. S. Supreme Court. "They took a terrific shellacking the last time we were up there, and I'm confident they won't like to receive another beating there again," he declared, adding: "The decree as it now stands affects the distribution set-up in the Chicago area. If taken to the Supreme Court and we were upheld, it might well affect the distribution set-up throughout the country."

(In New York, attorneys for distributor defendants said yesterday: "You can be sure we will appeal.")

Chicago newspapers gave front-page coverage to Judge Igoe's decree.

Lee at Kentucky Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

sociation of Theatre Owners, here, tonight. The KAT today opened its two-day convention at the Brown Hotel.

"Good community relations are the foundation of sound state-wide public relations for the theatre business," Lee told the theatre men, whom he addressed at the invitation of Guthrie F. Crowe, president of the Kentucky group.

"The administrative and legislative forces of the state are drawn from its villages, towns and cities. Their official conduct in matters affecting motion pictures can be expected to reflect a cross-section of public opinion, including the identity which the theatre has made for itself in its locality.

Public Estimate

"By the same token, theatre owners play a vital part in the public estimate of our industry as a whole. You are the industry's personal contact with the people and it is you who can most effectively interpret our business to the people. All this involves the element of public confidence, and your neighbors, of course, regard you as the most reliable source on the subject. Therein lies a responsibility and an opportunity. You can do much to reassure people generally that the authority in motion picture production is a socially responsible one.

"More people properly can be made to understand our codes of self-regulation and the loyal support given to them by producers generally. Much misunderstanding about Hollywood itself can and should be dispelled if it is not permitted erroneously to be judged by the much publicized exception to the rule, instead of the unpublicized rule itself.

"Production must be constantly alert to its own responsibility to society, with you as its principal character witnesses in your respective communities.

"The greater the public understanding and confidence, the less the inclination toward unsound political regulation and punitive discrimination in tax burdens. In this we have an important common interest and a strong

Kentucky Association Will Vote on Officers by Mail

LOUISVILLE, Oct. 17.—The Kentucky Association of Theatre Owners, meeting here at the Brown Hotel for their first convention, will not hold election of officers during the sessions but will conduct a mail poll election following the conclave, it was announced today.

The business to be weighed at this convention includes an organized effort to gain repeal of the present state admission tax, planning against harmful legislation in the next legislative session, consideration of possible litigation against local checking, and holding of preliminary discussion on affiliation with a national theatre association. Freeman Smith, chairman of the organizations board and Sam Swintow, of Modern Amusement Co., Louisville, will be among the speakers at the concluding luncheon tomorrow.

Wilten in New PRC Post

Max A. Wilten, formerly exploiteer with Loew Theatres and United Artists, has been named to handle exploitation for PRC in the St. Louis area, and has assumed his new post under direction of Lige Brien.

Coast Owners Meet On Racing Bill

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 17.—A joint meeting of exhibitor associations here has mapped the strategy for the trade's fight in Southern California against the proposal to legalize dog racing in the state. Presiding were Robert H. Poole, executive director of the Independent Theatre Owners of Southern California and Arizona, and Paul Williams, general counsel of the Southern California Theatre Owners Association. Independent and affiliated executives attended the session.

A program was finalized for the delivery to the field of trailers, publicity material, bumper-strips and other accessories.

Jury for Chaplin Suit

New York Federal Court yesterday granted a jury trial in the plagiarism suit of Konrad Bercovici against Charles Chaplin. The suit which involves Chaplin's "The Great Dictator" has been pending for over a year. Louis Nizer has been retained by the plaintiff as trial counsel and has moved for the court's reconsideration of its original decision denying a jury trial.

Zukor To Install

(*Continued from page* 1)

the *S.S. Queen Elizabeth.*

Zukor is expected to be gone about five weeks.

Traveling on the *Queen Elizabeth,* also, will be Ray Milland, Paramount star; Roland Culver, of the company's "To Each His Own"; Maurice Newton, a member of the firm's board of directors, and Frank LaGrande, who is in charge of Paramount's Long Island laboratory. Henry Ginsberg, Paramoun vice-president in charge of production, who was scheduled to go to England with Zukor, has cancelled his trip.

Williams Will File

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment. He contends that this power is limited to interpreting the law and to prescribing a remedy in the form of constraints against actions found by the court to be illegal. His argument hold that the court can tell the industry what it cannot do, but that it goes out of bounds when it tells the trade what it must do, or how it must do it.

Competitive Bidding

The opinion held by Williams and shared by his board of directors is said to be that competitive bidding cannot be made to work as suggested by the court, and that the Department of Justice is not adequately representing the interests of the nation's theatre owners. The purpose of the intervention petition, he declares, is to see that the voice of exhibition is heard in the drafting of the final decree in the case.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 21	GALLANT JOURNEY Glenn Ford Janet Blair Charles Ruggles D—86 mins. (2004) (Rev. 9/5/46)		TRIGGER FINGERS Johnny Mack Brown O—56 mins. (Rev. 10/3/46)		OUTLAWS OF THE PLAINS O—56 mins. HER SISTER'S SECRET D—85 mins. (Rev. 9/12/46)	RIO GRANDE RAIDERS O—56 mins. (558) ROLL ON TEXAS MOON O—68 mins. (542) (Rev. 9/13/46)			ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER Paul Muni Anne Baxter Claude Rains D—101 mins. (Rev. 9/16/46)	THEY WERE SISTERS Phyllis Calvert James Mason D—115 mins. (Rev. 5/15/45)	SHADOW OF A WOMAN Helmut Dantine Andrea King D—78 mins. (602) (Rev. 8/14/46)
Sept. 28	SHADOWED Anita Louise Michael Dunne D—(7042)				ACCOMPLICE Richard Arlen Vida Ann Borg D—66 mins. (Rev. 9/24/46)		(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46)	(September Releases) BLACK BEAUTY (Rev. 7/17/46) CLAUDIA AND DAVID (Rev. 7/24/46) IF I'M LUCKY (Rev. 8/28/46) (Re-release) SUN VALLEY SERENADE (Rev. 7/28/41)			
Oct. 5	THE THRILL OF BRAZIL Evelyn Keyes Keenan Wynn Ann. Miller M—91 mins. (7006) (Rev. 9/9/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE Frank Morgan Keenan Wynn C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46)	GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D—72 mins. (607) (Rev. 9/24/46)		DRIFTIN' RIVER O BRUTE MAN Tom Neal Jane Adams						CLOAK AND DAGGER Gary Cooper Robert Alda Lilli Palmer D—106 mins. (603) (Rev. 9/9/46)
Oct. 12	SO DARK THE NIGHT Steven Geray D—70 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	NO LEAVE, NO LOVE Van Johnson Keenan Wynn C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46)	DANGEROUS MONEY Sydney Toler D—66 mins. (Rev. 10/11/46)		GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D				Comet Prod. LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)		
Oct. 19	BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Rev. 9/13/46) LAND RUSH (Rev. 9/17/46)	(Re-issue) RAGE IN HEAVEN Ingrid Bergman Robt. Montgomery D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby		(Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46)		(October Release) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)		BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean			HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46)	(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders Louis Hayward		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605)
Nov. 2			BRINGING UP FATHER Joe Yule Renie Riano C					STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46)			
Nov. 9			SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O			HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542)	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)	(Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)		(Nov. Releases) MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606)
Nov. 16			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang		CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)	(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven	
Nov. 23			SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely Lasses White	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)	STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O		CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	MARGIE Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan D—(646)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins.	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMEN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D
Nov. 30								WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)			

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 79 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 21, 1946 TEN CENTS

Short Subject Rental Rise of 25-50% Sought

Termed First Attempt Of Kind in Many Years

Several major distributors of short subjects will seek between 25 and 50 per cent more from exhibitors in rentals for short subjects as a result of increasing costs, it is understood.

Demands for higher fees, which are said to be almost general, are described as marking the first attempt of short subjects distributors to raise the general level of their terms in many years, although distributors of features have variously raised rentals through percentage deals and other selling arrangements.

Production costs on shorts, especially animated cartoons, are said to have recently risen more than 25 per cent, practically drying up the margin of profit and even resulting in the distribution of some subjects at a loss. Finding themselves unable to continue distribution at the previous rental rates, which has almost become an

(*Continued on page 7*)

SMPE Meets Today; Theatre Drives On

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—The 60th semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers will open at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, here, tomorrow with a widely varied program, presided over by Don E. Hyndman, president of the organization, which is currently launching a drive to enlist theatre circuits, industrial and educational film producers and others as sustaining members.

(*Continued on page 7*)

$1,600,000 for Trucolor Plant

An additional $1,600,000 for immediate expansion in Republic's Fort Lee, N. J., and Hollywood plants, to handle additional printing of its Trucolor process on a new type of safety film, was announced Friday, by Herbert J. Yates, Republic president.

The processing of all Trucolor prints on safety film, Yates stated,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Ed Kuykendall Dies At 59; Headed MPTOA 14 Years

COLUMBUS, Miss., Oct. 20.—Edward L. Kuykendall, 59, president-emeritus of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, died today after a long illness. His 14 years as president had ended at the close of the national convention in his home here this June.



Ed Kuykendall

Owner of the local Princess Theatre, Kuykendall also had an interest in the *Columbus Dispatch*, Hotel Gilmer, an amusement park, the fair and baseball club. He was active in the Boy Scouts and Rotary Club and was a past president of the Chamber of Commerce here and a national committeeman of the industry's War Activities Committee.

Kuykendall was born in Muncie, Ind. He attended business college and law school after entering the entertainment world as a blackface minstrel man, acrobat and balloon ascensionist.

Surviving are his wife and a son, Edward, Jr., as well as a foster son and daughter. Funeral services will be held here tomorrow.

ATA, SCTOA File On Intervention

The brief of the American Theatres Association, and also on behalf of Southern California Theatre Owners Association, to accompany their petition to intervene in the New York anti-trust suit in order to oppose competitive bidding, will be filed today in Federal Court, here, by Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel.

D. of J. to Oppose Intervenors Today

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20.—Basis for Federal protest to intervention petitions of the American Theatres Association and other exhibitor groups will be made before the New York court tomorrow on the theory that if such intervention is permitted the case will be prolonged and intervenors will be made bound by the litigation.

Today the Justice Department prepared notes on its argument which will be made before the court. Adding more plaintiffs to the case would result in a delay favorable to the defendants, the government will state.

Robert L. Wright, department attorney in charge of the case, made it clear that the government will not oppose petitions for permission to file briefs as "friends of the court."

Federal Court Calendar in U. S. vs Paramount et al

The U. S. Federal District Court, here, will rule upon the following today, in the New York anti-trust suit:

Petitions to be heard as amicus curiae:

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America
Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations (includes Allied States, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and others)
Southern California Theatre Owners Association
Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers
Vanguard Films
Mosque Theatre, Newark
Joseph P. Day, Auctioneers

Petitions to intervene in the anti-trust suit:

American Theatres Association
Confederacy of Southern Associations

Petition to set aside arbitration appeal board award:

Lust Theatres, Washington, D. C.

Tomorrow the court will begin hearing oral arguments on a proposed final decree in the suit by counsel for the five theatre owning companies, the three non-theatre owning companies and the Department of Justice. Hearings are expected to consume several days. Subsequently, briefs may be allowed and the court will begin preparation of the decree.

D of J Asks Court to Find One Monopoly

Hits Defense Findings And Conclusions of Law

By TOM LOY

Citing a Supreme Court decision handed down almost simultaneously with the New York Federal District Court's opinion in the industry anti-trust suit, the Department of Justice on Friday called upon the judges in the motion-picture case to find "all eight defendants guilty of monopolizing the domestic distribution of all films and that the five major defendants monopolized exhibition of the choice films in the choice areas."

This plea, filed here as part of the Government's comments on the defendants' proposed findings of fact and conclusions of law, uses the Supreme Court's ruling in the American Tobacco Co. anti-trust suit to refute the local court's contention that

(*Continued on page 10*)

Columbia Objects To 6-Month Limit

Strong objection to the Department of Justice's proposed ban on the licensing of a film more than six months in advance of its release is voiced by Columbia in a supplemental memorandum on its findings and suggested decree in the industry anti-trust suit. The document, prepared by Louis D. Frohlich of Schwartz and Frohlich, counsel for the company, is scheduled to be filed in Federal District Court

(*Continued on page 10*)

Day Plan Offered To Federal Court

The plan advanced by Joseph P. Day, Inc., for establishing "a nationwide organization for the impartial and fair licensing of motion pictures upon the basis of accepted principles of distribution," will be presented in Federal District Court here this morning by Joseph C. Kenny, counsel for Day, if the court grants his motion,

(*Continued on page 10*)

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, left New York at the weekend for Chicago, as did GEORGE GENERALIS, 20th's trade paper contact.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO Radio president, is due to arrive here today from Hollywood and Mexico City. On Friday, NED E. DEPINET, executive vice-president, and PHIL REISMAN, foreign distribution vice-president, arrived here from London by plane.

•

RALPH B. AUSTRIAN, president of RKO Television Corp., left Mexico City by plane yesterday for Hollywood where he will attend the SMPE convention.

•

JOSEPH S. HUMMEL, vice-president of Warner International in charge of continental Europe and adjacent countries, will leave here by plane for Paris on Thursday.

•

JAMES MASON, Cherry Valley, O., exhibitor, presented MRS. MASON with a postwar washing machine on the occasion of their 19th wedding anniversary, Saturday.

•

RAY MILLAND and MRS. MILLAND left Hollywood at the weekend for New York. They will sail from here for England on Oct. 25.

•

MARTIN STARR, writer and publicist, will address the Brooklyn-Stuyvesant Hadassah tonight on war pictures.

•

FRANK C. HENSLER, M-G-M district manager, and FRANK J. DOWNEY, Detroit manager, have returned to that city from New York.

•

JOHN P. BYRNE, Eastern M-G-M sales manager, and his assistant PAUL J. RICHRATH, will return here today from Boston and New Haven.

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COL. JACK VOTION, head of RKO Radio production activities in Europe, has arrived in New York from London.

•

HANK LINET, Universal-International Eastern advertising manager, left, New York over the weekend by plane for Chicago.

•

WILLIAM NESBITT, PRC booker-salesman, is due in New York today from his Pittsburgh headquarters.

•

GEORGE SHARF of M-G-M's legal department returned here over the week-end from New Orleans.

•

HERBERT NUSBAUM of M-G-M's legal department is due to return here today from the West and Mid-West.

•

JOSEPH H. MOSKOWITZ, 20th-Fox vice-president, is due to return here from the Coast today.

•

JOHN J. MALONEY, M-G-M Central sales manager, has returned to Pittsburgh from New York.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

A NUMBER of legally masterful and, strange as it may seem, highly interesting briefs have been submitted to the New York Federal Court on the subject of its forthcoming final decree in the industry anti-trust suit.

It is highly doubtful whether any of them ever will be read by the learned judges presiding. If the court's traditional attitude in the case remains unchanged, all petitions to be heard as *amicus curiae,* as well as petitions to intervene, will be denied. In that event, some really brilliant documents never will be scanned by the eyes for which they were written.

Pity of it is that they should be. They are a liberal education in industry viewpoints, problems, complexities, law and understanding.

•

In many industry decisions from the courts in recent years, the main impression to be gleaned was that presiding jurists had but little knowledge of the industry and less understanding of it. Some phases of last week's decision in the Jackson Park Theatre case in Federal Court at Chicago would appear to have no other explanation.

•

Specifically, a limitation of two weeks on the runs of individual pictures in the leading theatres of the nation's second largest city, and of one week in the city's subsequent runs, as part of the final decree entered by the court in the case, is a result so fantastic that it becomes difficult to believe the court ever heard the defendants' side of the case at all.

Perhaps, if a dozen or so more briefs had been entered in that case, the court might have been helped to a better understanding of some fundamental considerations, apparent to all in the industry, to which no weight whatever could have been given by the court in approving the decree it did.

•

Other phases of the Jackson Park decision should be of far more durable and less dangerous benefit to Chicago exhibitors. Picking up some of the slack in the clearance and release system in the city, which will be done in compliance with the decision, is something that many agree needed doing for some time past.

Defense attorneys indicate that this probaby will be one of the phases of the decree from which no appeal will be taken.

Distribution men have said, or inferred on various occasions since the decision was handed down, last August, in the Jackson Park case, that adjustments in the Chicago clearance system were to be expected in the final decree and that preparations for complying were being made in advance.

•

Others said that some phases of the decision, together with other court and arbitration board rulings on clearance, have influenced some companies to move for reductions of clearances in many cities throughout the country.

It is quite apparent from the preponderance of clearance complaints over all others before industry arbitration boards, and the number of decisions thereon which have been handed down in favor of complainants, that this is a field in which considerable remedial work was waiting to be done and, perhaps, waited too long in some instances.

• •

Warners' film tribute to the Boy Scouts of America, its work and activities and its influence on the development of good citizens of the future, is winning for the company and, inevitably, in such cases, the industry some impressive commendation.

The film, "Men of Tomorrow," is being shown to numerous governors, mayors, educational, religious and civic organization leaders and others. In a period in which juvenile delinquency is a grave national problem, "Men of Tomorrow" is an effective contributor to the work of rescuing and correcting delinquents which so many national and local agencies have undertaken. It is a credit to its producer and to the theatres in which it is exhibited.

• •

So hazardous are the times becoming, what with virtually every phase of industry operations under the scrutiny of the courts that an independent exhibitor buying combine recently inserted an escape clause into its employment contract with its film buyer. If combines are outlawed by the New York Federal court decree, the buyer goes.

Newsreel Parade

SECRETARY BYRNES' return from the Paris peace conference, and the Cardinals' winning the World's Series, apear in all current newsreels. The Duke and Dutchess of Windsor "at home" in England for the first time since the abdiction, and a new Navy catapult for launching planes, are also featured. Various other events appear singly in the reels; complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 15 — Paris peace conference ended, Byrnes returns to U. S. Windsors together in England for the first time since Edward abdicated. Record salmon run battles Canadian rapids to spawn. Navy reveals new electric catapult in launching planes. Livestock rolls to market again. "Cards" win World's Series (a pre-release special).

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 213—Justice Jackson speaks in Washington on lesson of Nazi hangings. Byrnes, home from Paris, reports on peace. Riots at Mount Falcone, Italy, in protest against International rule. De Gaulle loses at polls in French referendum. Windsor home with Duchess. Navy plane is "sling-shot" takeoff. World's Series "extra" (pre-released), "Cards" take final game.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 16 — Byrnes in Washington reports on Paris peace parley. British Legion hails Churchill at Seven Oaks. The Windsors in England. Wilson Wyatt sees end of housing construction bottle-neck. "Cards" win World's Series.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 18—St. Louis Cardinals defeat Boston Red Sox to win World's Series. Byrnes departs from Paris peace conference, and, upon return to U. S., receives a Presidential "well done."

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 547 — Byrnes asks all to share peace-making. Navy tests electric "sling-shot" for launching planes. Italian volcano, near Stromboli, menaces village. "G.I.'s'" move in on Skidmore college. "Cards" clinch World's Series.

Ramsaye to Discuss Film History Today

Terry Ramsaye, editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* will speak today at the Museum of Modern Art on the history and development of the industry, at the second lecture in a series sponsored by the community relations department of the Motion Picture Association.

Illustrating and supplementing Ramsaye's talk, which is entitled "The 54-Year-Old Infant," three shorts will be exhibited, including: J. Stuart Blackston's "Silver Shadows" of 1914, a March of Time called "Movies March On," and Warners' "Okay for Sound."

Seidelman to Tour Far East for PRC

S. L. Seidelman, foreign department head of PRC, will investigate conditions in the industry in the Far East and arrange distribution of the company's product in that area, during a five-week tour to begin on Oct. 24 from San Francisco.

His itinerary will include the Philippine Islands, Bangkok, Federated Malay States and Dutch East Indies. Seidelman recently returned from a six-weeks' trip to Europe, where he engaged in a similar survey.

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Brandt Is Defiant; To Fight UA Action

Contending that "The Outlaw," is locally objectionable, Harry Brandt states in defining his position regarding his cancellation of the picture for three theatres on Broadway that the New York State Supreme Court order, directing that he "show cause" for the cancellations, obtained Tuesday by United Artists, distributor of the film, will be answered today by his attorneys, Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allan and Spett. UA will be represented by O'Brien, Driscoll and Raftery.

(Large display advertisements in New York's afternoon and evening newspaper on Friday proclaimed that "The Outlaw" would open at the Gotham, Rialto and Republic Theatres of the HarryBrandt-Arthur Mayer interests on Oct. 26, original opening date. On Thursday, United Artists filed its action challenging cancellation of the picture at the three theatres; presumably the ads were placed by UA).

'Common Practice'

While the UA contracts signed with the Gotham, Republic and Rialto theatres are without stipulation allowing for cancellation by the exhibitor on moral grounds, Brandt declared that it is "common practice in the industry" to reject a picture which is locally objectionable. (The industry consent decree recognizes that as grounds for cancellation).

He said that he has expressed the opinion to Howard Hughes, producer of the controversial picture, that the principle behind the latter's fight against interference with the exhibition of "The Outlaw" is wrong because while the film has been "cleaned up" by censor groups it still is opposed by large segments of the public.

Brandt concluded he will fight UA if the matter is brought to trial.

U. S., British Screen Notables Due Today

Several film notables from England and U. S. visitors to that country are due to arrive here this morning in the *R.M.S. Queen Elizabeth.* Among the 2,000 passengers on the liner's maiden post-war voyage are: David Rose, producer; Nate Spingold, Columbia vice-president; Ben Goetz, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer managing director in England, and Russell Holman, Eastern production head of Paramount.

Also, Sir Arthur and Lady Jarrett; Ernest W. Fredman, publisher of *Daily Film Renter,* and Lady Yule, who has considerable British motion picture interests.

Canada Association Doubles Membership

TORONTO, Oct. 20.—Membership in the Film Producers Association of Canada has doubled since the preliminary announcement of its formation, Leon Shelly, vice-president told the Toronto Advertising and Sales Club at a luncheon address here.

Shelly was introduced to the members by club president N. Roy Perry, who told members that a great future was in store for the industry in the use of non-theatrical productions. Perry said that the formation of the association marked the beginning of serious use of such films in Canada.

Paramount Sales Meetings Continue

Paramount's series of home-office sales conferences on the new method of selling pictures will continue this week with the arrival of more sales executives from the field.

The group will be headed by Hugh Braley, district manager for Paramount in Denver, who, together with C. J. Bell, branch manager in that city, will begin conferences today with George A. Smith, Western division sales manager. Also today, C. H. (Buck) Weaver, Oklahoma City branch manager, will go into a three-day session with J. J. Donohue, Central division sales manager, and M. R. (Duke) Clark, his district manager, while Henry Germaine, New Haven branch manager, will begin a two-day huddle with Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager, and Al M. Kane, his district manager.

On Wednesday, Henry Randel, New York branch manager, and F. H. Smith, Salt Lake City branch manager, will start conferring with Owen and Smith, respectively. The next day will see the start of talks between Donohue and R. W. McClintock, Memphis branch manager. The final conference to get under way will bring Smith and J. T. McBride, Omaha branch manager, together on Friday.

Record Firms Grant Musicians Pay Raise

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—An agreement for a wage increase of 37½ per cent for musicians who make recordings has been reached between James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, and representatives of the record industry. No actual contract has been concluded between the union and producers of transcriptions, but Petrillo said discussion would begin Tuesday.

Members of the record-making industry who negotiated with Petrillo represent 205 manufacturers, including the new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer record company. The union asked originally for a 50 per cent raise.

Other key companies included in the agreement are: Decca, Columbia, RCA-Victor, Majestic, Musicraft and Signature.

Ad Research Group Enlarges Committee

The Advertising Research Foundation has increased its technical committee from four to 11 members.

Otis A. Kenyon of Kenyon and Eckhardt, is chairman of the committee which reviews and approves all research procedure of the Foundation. Members of the original committee, appointed in 1941, are: Dr. George H. Gallup, Young and Rubicam; David E. Robinson, La Roche and Ellis; Dr. D. P. Smelser, Proctor and Gamble Co., and H. M. Warren, National Carbon Co.

Other committee members are Robert B. Brown, Bristol-Myers; Robert T. Browne, Pillsbury Mills; John Caples, Barton, Durstine and Osborn; Arno H. Johnson, J. Walter Thompson; John F. Kurie, M and M Ltd., and Dr. Wallace H. Wulfeck, Federal Advertising Agency.

Los Angeles Makes Building Tougher

Los Angeles, Oct. 20.—This city has added teeth to the Federal curtailment of non-essential commercial construction, a new ordinance making Federal approval necessary before a city building permit can be issued.

Morros, Le Baron Headquarters Here

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—The first move in many years of a key Hollywood producing organization to establish working headquarters in New York has been taken by producers Boris Morros and William Le Baron of Federal Films, Inc., who are now seeking permanent studio quarters in New York, with their next musical production "Carmen From Kenosha," to be produced here.

Morros and Le Baron have just completed their musical, "Carnegie Hall," produced in its entirety in New York. With the exception of some key executives, no help was imported to New York from Hollywood, making it the first important picture to be made there entirely in a decade. Editing is now being done in local laboratories, described as an important factor since Hollywood laboratory technicians are remaining outside studio picket lines, making impossible the development, printing or editing of Hollywood produced films at this time.

Hollywood Competition

"We have learned through our experience in producing 'Carnegie Hall' that motion picture making is no longer an exclusive Hollywood undertaking," Morros and Le Baron declare. "We found here every requirement for our work in the way of skilled technicians, available extra and acting talent and the photographic and sound recording equipment. In addition to that, there is a wealth of new location sites on tap within a short distance of New York and in the city itself."

Morris and Le Baron pointed out that there are 1,000 members of the Screen Actors Guild available in New York for extra work, enough to cover almost any film "call." In addition, according to officers of the various locals of the IATSE, there is ample technical help to meet the production needs of half-a-dozen "A" productions at one time.

Carnow Becomes UA Pressbook Editor

Howard N. Carnow, a member of Warner Brothers' press book staff since 1940, has been appointed press book editor for United Artists, by Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising-publicity director; the appointment is effective Nov. 4.

Carnow succeeds Leon Roth, who last week was promoted to the post of national promotion manager.

New 16mm. Camera

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 20. — Mitchell Camera Corp., makers of 35mm. cameras and related equipment, will market a new 16mm. professional camera.

Coast Limps Along As Strike Persists

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—Peace on Hollywood's strike-torn labor front appeared remoter than ever as weekend developments multiplied problems at issue between the Conference of Studio Unions and the IATSE—problems which already are responsible for nearly three weeks impairment of production.

Reports that IATSE laboratory workers are returning to their jobs in mounting numbers, thus enabling Consolidated Pathe and some studio laboratories to get back into partial operation, provided the only encouragement to producers who are delaying the start of new pictures.

Takeover of Local

Meanwhile, following the trial of IATSE Local 683 officers by the International representative, who on Friday, formally announced them suspended, steps were in progress for taking over the affairs and operation of the laboratory local. It was expected this would take several days, with laboratory workers resisting ouster of their officers.

CSU executives at the weekend predicted intensification of the whole strike situation as an outcome of failure of the AFL executive council in Chicago to order establishment machinery for arbitrating all jurisdictional disputes in studios. CSU president Herbert Sorrell had telephoned a report that IATSE's Richard Walsh had rejected the arbitration proposal, originally sponsored by the Screen Actors' Guild, after all other parties at interest had agreed to it.

Thomas and Stoltz To Chicago and Coast

Harry H. Thomas, president of PRC, and Arnold Stoltz, its national director of advertising-publicity, will leave here tomorrow for the Coast to confer on forthcoming productions. En route they will stop in Chicago.

While in Chicago, Thomas will confer with Max Roth, Eastern sales manager for PRC; and on his return trip he will visit most of the company's Western branches. Lige Brien, PRC exploitation manager, will accompany Stoltz to Chicago, where he will introduce to company officials and the press three of exploitation men who recently joined PRC; Lionel Brandt, assigned to Chicago; H. M. Addison, Atlanta, and Milt Overman, Dallas. Stoltz is expected back at his office on Nov. 4.

Sufficient Stock For Cinecolor

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20. — Cinecolor vice-president William Loss announced on his return here from New York that at conferences with Eastman executives, arrangements were completed for a raw stock supply adequate to an implementation of its previously-outlined expansion program.

Columbia's $1.06 Div.

Columbia Pictures has declared a quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on the $4.25 cumulative preferred stock, payable Nov. 15, to stockholders of record on Nov. 1.

KEEP POSTED WITH

ON THOUSANDS OF BILLBOARDS FROM COAST TO COAST IN 20th's GREATEST PRE-SELLING OUTDOOR CAMPAIGN!

. . . ON THOUSANDS OF SCREENS DURING 20th's GREATEST EVENT—THE SPYROS P. SKOURAS DRIVE

CENTURY-FOX

Hit after Hit Playing! Hit after Hit Coming!





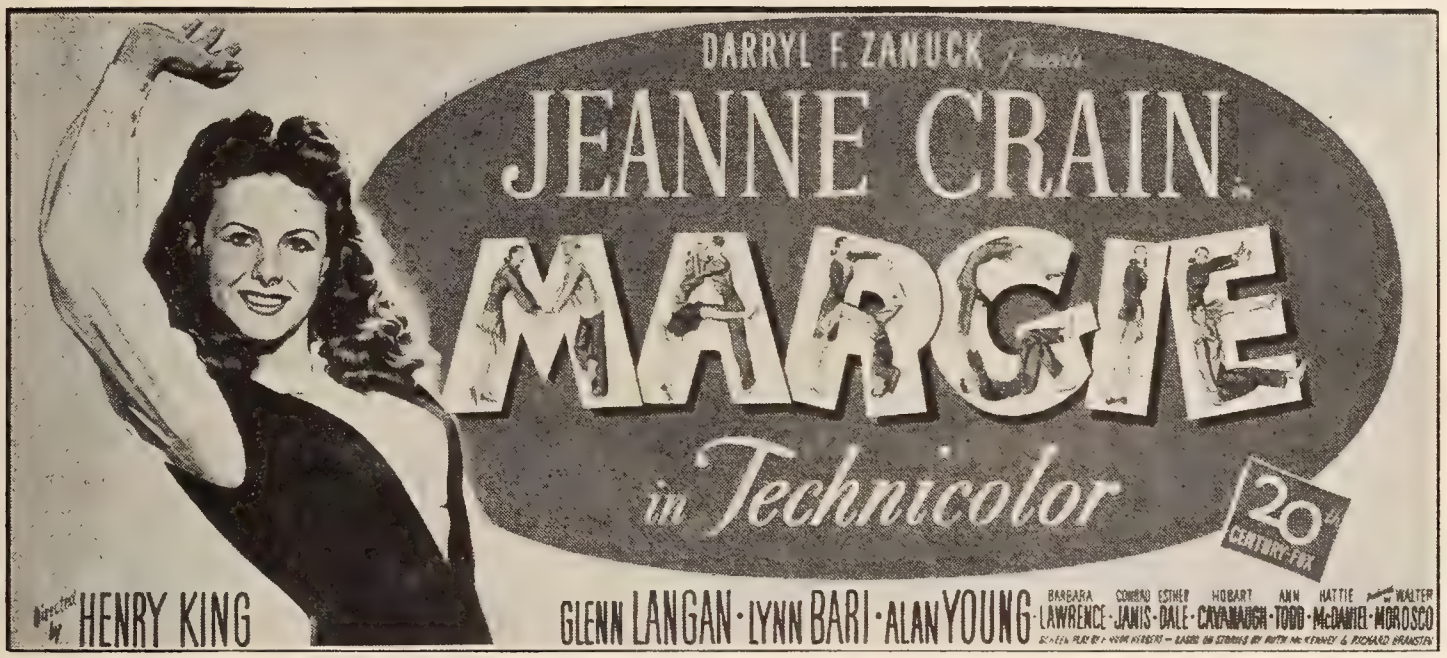









TYRONE POWER · GENE TIERNEY · JOHN PAYNE · ANNE BAXTER · CLIFTON WEBB · HERBERT MARSHALL
DARRYL F. ZANUCK'S
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
PRODUCED BY DARRYL F. ZANUCK · SCREEN PLAY BY LAMAR TROTTI · DIRECTED BY EDMUND GOULDING
FROM THE NOVEL BY W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM
20th CENTURY-FOX


DARRYL F. ZANUCK presents
JEANNE CRAIN
MARGIE
in Technicolor
20th CENTURY-FOX
Directed by HENRY KING
GLENN LANGAN · LYNN BARI · ALAN YOUNG
BARBARA LAWRENCE · CONRAD JANIS · ESTHER DALE · HOBART CAVANAUGH · ANN TODD · HATTIE McDANIEL · WALTER MORROSCO


DARRYL F. ZANUCK
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
HENRY FONDA · LINDA DARNELL · VICTOR MATURE
WALTER BRENNAN
TIM HOLT
ARTHUR SHIELDS
WARD BOND
CHAS. KEMPER
ALEXANDER GRAY
Directed by JOHN FORD
SAMUEL G. ENGEL
20th CENTURY-FOX

U.S. Films Losing Near East Trade

Lebanon and Syrian exhibitors are switching from Hollywood to Arabian, French and Russian pictures because exhibitors there resent block booking and poorly selected "B" pictures, states William Malluck, Lebanon-Syria agent for Columbia Pictures, now in New York. He added that, as a consequence, Hollywood has lost its dominance in those areas.

Malluck pointed out that American-made features are receiving only 35 per cent of the playdates, against 40 per cent for Arabic, and 25 per cent for French and Russian films combiined. Despite American films decreased demand there, Malluck said that two new theatres opening in the area are featuring American equipment.

Near East exhibitors, according to Malluck, want to buy pictures a few at a time and they want action and horror pictures, strong dramas and farces.

Arabic production has increased almost 100 per cent in two years, to 40 features annually, because producers there have improved the quality of the kind of pictures the people want, Malluck added.

Goldwyn Executives Meet on 'Best Years'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—Following a preview of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," here, last night, Goldwyn met today with executives of his organization and with Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, to discuss whether or not the film should be road-shown. The picture runs about three hours.

Attending the session, besides Goldwyn and Mochrie, were James Mulvey, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions; Arthur Sachson, general sales manager; Walter Branson, Western sales manager; Nat Levy, Eastern sales manager.

MGM Names Bennin St. Louis Manager

Herbert J. Bennin has been named manager of M-G-M's St. Louis branch, succeeding J. Frank Willingham, who is on a leave of absence, announces William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager for M-G-M.

Bennin, with the company since 1928 in its midwestern branches, has been acting branch manager in St. Louis since June, when Willingham became ill. John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, has already installed Bennin in his new post.

EK Appoints Herranz Head of Spanish Unit

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 20.—Angel Herranz, assistant manager of Eastman Kodak's subsidiary in Spain, has been promoted to manager, succeeding Juan de Julian, who held the post since 1921 and is retiring after 33 years with the company, it is announced by Eastman's home office here.

Herranz has been affiliated with Kodak in Madrid for more than 25 years. He was in full charge of the subsidiary when the civil war forced de Julian's temporary absence.

Reviews

"Child of Divorce"

(RKO Radio) *Hollywood, Oct. 20*

DESIGNED for the family trade, this harrowing accout of the fate of the child in a divided home will bring tears to the eyes of soft-hearted patrons, and might even cause couples contemplating divorce to reconsider. It is a simple story, simply told, but its implications are serious and timely.

Protagonist of the piece is eight-year-old Sharyn Moffett, whose parents agree to disagree, obtain a divorce, and subsequently take unto themselves other partners. Sharyn, a witness to the quarrel which culminated in separation, suffers so great a psychological shock that she is unable to adjust her self to the changed situation. She resents her mother's new husband and her father's new wife equally. She refuses all advances of friendship, and her parents, despite their love for her, are forced into the only alternative solution. She is sent to a boarding-school, there to work out her destiny without the background of family life.

Lillie Hayward, who produced under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell, also wrote the screen adaptation of Leopold Atlas' play, "Wednesday's Child." Richard O. Fleischer directed. Prominent in the supporting cast are Regis Toomey, Madge Meredith and Walter Reed.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. Release in block No. 2.

THALIA BELL

"Bringing Up Father"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Oct. 20

TO anybody who ever read George McManus' imperishable comic-supplement feature of the same title—and that must be everybody—a showman with an eye to exploitation possibilities is justified in making direct and forceful attendance appeal in behalf of this flesh-and-blood version of the affairs of Maggie and Jiggs. In the picture, carefully produced by Barney Gerard, and directed with skill by Eddie Cline, the McManus characters go through most of the proceedings for which they are best known, plus others. It is among the top films of its kind.

In the role of Jiggs, and looking enough like him to suit anybody, Joe Yule reels off a sparkling performance, and Renie Riano's portrayal of Maggie is no less gratifying. George McManus, adroitly introduced into the picture and proving himself a better actor than most actors, is an extra item for exploitation showmen to do business with.

Jerry Warmer wrote the script, from a story by Gerard and Cline, and it concerns the threatened destruction of the famed Dinty's saloon in the interests of city improvement. A lot of action takes place there, and most of it is amusing enough to satisfy all comers. Tim Ryan, June Harrison, Wallace Chadwell, Tom Kennedy, Laura Treadwell, William Frambes, Pat Goldin and Jack Norton are useful members of a large supporting cast.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 26.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"The Magic Bow"

(Gainsborough-General Film Distributors)

London, (By Airmail) Oct. 16

YEHUDI MENUHIN is the real star of this piece—purporting to recount the life-story of world-famed fiddler Paganini—although you do not see him. Menuhin plays the violin back-stage, while the putative Paganini—Stewart Granger—goes through the motions of fiddle-scraping on the screen. Which in the opinion of many is a pity, for, as concert addicts are aware, there is a verve and brightness about the person of Yehudi.

The diarists of a 100 or so years ago are in whole-hearted agreement that real Paganini was a rascal and rogue who played the very devil with feminine hearts. Apart from the surly and pseudo-Mephistophelian make-up worn by Granger, the film has no hint of that demoniacal quality. Instead, it is just another exercise in polite drawing-room philandering which any young school girl of 1946 might have composed.

That is no fault of accomplished director Bernard Knowles, who did his best wish as a weak script as British studios lately have experienced; and certainly it is not of those impeccable actors Cecil Parker and Dennis Price. Phyllis Calvert and John Kent likewise do their gentle bests. The melancholy fact is that for once the myriad romantical feminine adorants of Granger are in for disappointment. It is doubtful whether in that mood they will be consoled with the altogether entrancing violin and orchestral music carried on the film's sound-track.

Running time, 106 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

PETER BURNUP

Ampro Set in Belgium

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—Leon Descamps and his son Roger have been named distributors for Belgium by Ampro Corp. here and soon will establish their own offices in Brussels, meanwhile operating in cooperation with Cinema-Edition-Production there.

Salzburg Buys 3 Films

Milton J. Salzburg, president of Pictorial Films, Inc., has bought three one-reel pictures from Tri-Continental Pictures. The pictures present renditions of the UN String Quartet.

New Polio Closings

ST. JOHNSBURY, Vt., Oct. 20.—Dr. John P. Tierney, local health officer, has ordered all theatres, schools, churches and other places closed immediately after cases of infantile paralysis were reported in the city.

Brodsky Heads WB Club

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 20.—Jack Brodsky, assistant contact man in the local office of Warner Theatres, has been elected president of the Warner Club here for the ensuing year.

Asks Lower Terms To Boost Exports

American distributors have been holding out for too much money in the postwar export market, and as a result are enabling British and Russian distributors to make "valuable gains" in the race for screen time at foreign theatres, according to Robert E. Sherwood, former head of the U. S. Office of War Information's overseas film division, who recently returned here following two months in England.

Holding that it is essential, from the standpoints of both long-run future business and the promulgation of the American way of life, to obtain immediate exhibition of U. S. pictures in as many theatres throughout the world as possible, Sherwood recommends that distributors here strive to realize the hard-hit financial condition of numerous countries and cease asking terms which he says are now too high.

Although Sherwood expects soon to see a rough cut of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," for which he wrote the screen play, he says he will be unable to do any more writing for films or the stage for at least a year. That much time will be required to finish a book on the late Harry Hopkins, material for which he gathered in England. Sherwood "inherited" this job upon the death of Hopkins, who had been preparing to do his own memoirs.

While in England, Sherwood held conferences with Sir Alexander Korda and other British film leaders but transacted no business in connection with the industry. He did have an opportunity, however, to study the British reaction to American pictures and came away with the impression that simple, factual treatments of life in this country are more valuable than anything approaching propaganda.

Solon Asks Lighter Taxes in California

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Oct. 20.—Some measure of relief from mounting property taxes paid by exhibitors and other business men in this state was suggested here today by Sen. H. E. Dillinger in his recommendation for additional cigaret, liquor and horse-race taxes. Small luxury imposts on these items were urged by Sen. Dillinger for apportioning to cities and counties in need of revenue. He charged that reconversion is being hampered by high income and sales taxes.

James S. Dean, state finance director, opposing state subsidies, has suggested increased local revenues through "improved property assessments" and increased property levies.

Reception for Riano

Monogram held a party here Friday at the Warwick Hotel, honoring Renie Riano, who plays "Maggie" in the forthcoming Monogram "Bringing Up Father" feature. Approximately 150 officials of the company and members of the press were present.

Ashmore to PRC

ATLANTA, Oct. 20.—Ed Ashmore, formerly of the booking department of Paramount, has resigned to become office manager of PRC, replacing Dixie Graham, resigned.

New Opera Film Co. To Screen Mozart

Production of opera for popular film consumption was announced here on Friday at a luncheon at the Gotham Hotel, by the Opera Film Co., headed by Alexander Kipnis, the singer. Ludwig Berger will produce, direct and write the scenario for the company's initial undertaking, Mozart's "Don Giovanni."

"We are not planning, in any sense, a photographed opera," Kipnis emphasized. "Rather, we will translate musical stories into picture form as suggested and conceived by Dr. Berger.

Associated with the singer are Arthur W. Kelly, former vice-president of United Artists and now an independent producer; Lasar Kipnis, cousin of Alexander and a European producer, who will manage the affairs of the firm; Henri Leiser, French producer, and Alexander S. Basil, now an executive of the U. S. Rubber Co.

$2,000,000 Budget

Lasar Kipnis disclosed that he will leave shortly for Venice where the Mozart vehicle will be filmed. Production is slated to start in May, 1947, and has been budgeted at $2,000,000.

Explaining that "Don Giovanni" will be produced in Italian and English, Berger said that a successful translation of opera to the screen would encourage young American composers to write specifically for the screen. He said further that the company's productions would attempt to bring new, young talent to films to portray operatic roles.

Although Kelly declared that the new company did not have releasing arrangements, it is understood that Kelly himself has some releasing understanding with the company on his own. Several United Artists sales and other home office executives attended the luncheon, including Gradwell Sears, Harry D. Buckley, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Joe Unger and others.

Shorts' Rentals

(*Continued from page* 1)

established practice, some distributors are now asking for 50 per cent more in flat rentals and it is understood that some exhibitors are paying at least part of the increase demanded.

Theatre-owning distributors have been in a more advantageous position than the non-theatre-owners, it is claimed in some quarters, on the contention that they have been booking their shorts into their theatres at higher rentals and have been able to write off increased costs. One of the theatre-owning distributors is now asking all exhibitors for 25 per cent more for its animated shorts, it is understood.

David Horne on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20. — David D. Horne, assistant treasurer and a director of Monogram International Corp., has arrived in Hollywood, from New York, for a series of conferences with president Steve Broidy regarding the opening of a number of Monogram branch offices throughout the world, to keep pace with the company's expansion in the foreign field.

Reviews

"The Chase"

(Nebenzal-United Artists)

EARLY sequences somehow suggest that this newest from the Seymour Nebenzal production unit is on the right track to highly salable merchandise for the market which has acclaimed so many good hard-hitting melodramas which touch or dwell upon the psychological. "The Chase," however, is put together in a fashion open to criticism, with its vague treatment of some phases of the plot and its demands that audiences accept the awakening-from-a-dream device instead of a legitimate explanation, if one were possible, or grotesque intrigue and murder.

Based on Cornell Woolrich's novel, "The Black Path of Fear," the picture has Robert Cummings in the lead and features Michele Morgan, Steve Cochrane and Peter Lorre. The performances are indisputably good. Good, too, is the handling of each sequence, that is, each as a separate work. But Philip Yorkan's screenplay or Arthur Ripley's direction, or both, fail to make coherent the twists and turns in the story.

Cochrane and Lorre are sinister characters engaged in a racket, the nature of which is unexplained. Miss Michele, as Cochrane's wife, is virtually shackled to her husband's side. Cummings is a down-and-outer whose only possession is a discharge emblem and he joins the party as he finds and returns Cochrane's wallet and is employed as chauffeur. Several murders follow.

"The Chase" has flaws, to be sure, but it has, additionally, a good share of suspense and excitement. To be considered, also, is "name" values. It is unlikely that it will break records, but it can be profitable where patrons are was too exacting. The cast further includes Jack Holt, Lloyd Corrigan, Don Wilson, Alexis Minotis and Nina Koshetz. Eugene Frenke was associate producer.

Some sordid aspects of the story make the picture better fitted for mature patrons.

Running time, 86 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, Nov. 23.

GENE ARNEEL

"Gas House Kids"

(PRC)

STARRING Robert Lowery, Billy Halop and Teala Loring, in this first of a PRC series featuring "The Kids," Sigmund Neufeld has produced a melodrama of convincing, suspenseful situations with moments of genuine comedy and good, honest emotion. The elements of good theatre, though not expensively produced, are nicely concocted. "Gas House Kids" will be a money-maker in many spots, and it augurs well for the proposed series.

The story concerns the efforts of five likeable, really decent East Side New York boys to help a disabled veteran adjust himself to crutches and marry one of the boy's sisters. Lowery, as the crippled vet, and Teala Loring, his fiancee, would marry if they could "swing" a chicken farm, the cost of which is much beyond their capital. And that's where the "gas-house boys," Halop, David Reed, Carl (Alfalfa) Switzer, Rex Downing and Rocco Lanzo, swing into action. They finally raise the money, but only after several mishaps and innocent involvements in many complications.

Sam Newfield effectively directed the film, based on an original story by Elsie and George Bricker, with the screenplay by the Brickers and Raymond L. Schrock. Camera work and other technical details are adequate.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 14.

BILL COPE

Ready Philco Video Sets for Winter

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 20.—Culminating 18 years of pioneering research in the field of television, Philco will present its post-war black-and-white television receivers to its distributors and dealers at its forthcoming, undated mid-winter convention.

Philco plans to be in large-scale production of television sets early in 1947, in a new $2,250,000 plant, in Philadelphia.

Philco discloses it has invested over $3,000,000 in television research and development. Black-and-white television service is already here, in a high state of perfection, the company says.

Kaplan Joins WEAF

Ben Z. Kaplan has been named assistant director of New York station WEAF advertising and promotion department, by Charles H. Phillips, director. He replaces Jack Newman, who has been appointed by the War Department to the post of assistant to the director of public information in Korea. Kaplan goes to WEAF from the Army.

British Seek Higher Newsreel Rentals

LONDON, Oct. 20. — Faced with increased production costs, the Newsreel Association has asked the Cinematograph Exhibitors' Association to open discussions with a view to raising newsreel rentals.

Approve New Station

ATLANTA, Oct. 20.—An FCC license to operate a radio station in Atlanta has been granted General Broadcasting, headed by Michael Benton. The call letters will be WBGE.

SMPE Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Byron Price, chairman of Board of the Association of Motion Picture Producers as well as vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will be guest of honor and principal speaker at the opening luncheon. David Street, 20th Century-Fox singing star, will be guest vocalist.

The initial technical session will feature a report by Lt. Col. Richard J. Cunningham, A.C., USAAF, on the role of motion pictures in Project Crossroads, the recent atomic bomb tests at Bikini, and a discussion of national and international standardization programs of the American Standards Association, by J. W. McNair of the ASA. Other papers at this session will deal with screen illumination, sound recording and projection.

Papers for Tonight

Papers on tonight's program include: "A Preliminary Report from the Academy Research Council subcommittee on Blue-Sensitive Photocells," by L. T. Goldsmith, chairman, and "A Combination Scoring, Rerecording, and Preview Studio," by D. J. Bloomberg and W. O. Watson, of Republic Studios, and Michael Rettinger, of the Hollywood engineering staff of RCA Victor.

The Society's convention banquet will be held in the hotel on Wednesday night, where citations and scrolls recognizing the contributions of sound film pioneers will be awarded.

All daytime sessions will be held at the hotel, while evening sessions are scheduled tomorrow at Republic Studios, on Tuesday at the Paramount Studio, Thursday at the Disney Studios and Friday at the Academy Award Theatre.

Trucolor Expansion

(*Continued from page* 1)

will allow greater latitude in the handling and projection of Trucolor prints.

Yates also reported that the process is owned exclusively by Republic Pictures Corp., and that patents have been applied for in all countries where American copyrights are recognized.

He announced also that the increased laboratory facilities will permit expansion of Trucolor productions on Republic's 1946-47 program, with at least 18 features and six short subjects scheduled to be processed.

Carbon Prices Up

National Carbon Co. has increased the price of projector carbons by 10 per cent. Added costs in manufacturing, the company states, "have not been anywhere nearly balanced by savings made through increased productive efficiency."



Mr. EXHIBITOR:

This 2-page advertisement, appearing in the current issue, is the first of a series of 2-page advertisements to appear this fall in LIFE



Advertisement

LIVING and LOVING

They are one and the same in Mr. Goldwyn's picture of our years

"In the beginning was the word."

THE WISDOM of these six words from the Old Testament* is respected by veteran movie-maker Samuel Goldwyn. In a career that all but spans the entire life of his industry, astute Producer Goldwyn has established a noteworthy record for wisely choosing words for translation to the screens of the world for the enjoyment and education of its people. *Dodsworth, Dead End, Wuthering Heights, The Little Foxes, The Pride of the Yankees* are among the 90 pictures that have resulted from his handiwork. But always he first had to find the words—significant words that would add up to significant stories, words that would be remembered.

One sultry August day in 1944 word-conscious Samuel Goldwyn was reading a news magazine, alert for words that would somehow suggest his next movie. The world was bloody with war. If, in the midst of this human agony, the world at large was too preoccupied with the desperate present to contemplate its future, Producer Goldwyn was an exception. His thoughts jumped forward to his country's future when a picture, spread across one of the magazine's pages, caught his sharp eye (TIME, Aug. 7, 1944). Out of the windows of a travel-soiled Pullman car stuck eleven pairs of khaki-clad shoulders, eleven faces, some smiling, some seemingly bewildered, some almost grimly expectant. Below the windo were chalked two words: "Home Again!!"

"Home again," he murmured to himself. Th was it. Some day America would again be hom to all of them—all of them whose fate was n eternal sleep in foreign soil. The world would weary of war. Why not, then, a picture abo America and Americans? Its streets, drug-sto and banks. Its living, loving people; work playing, loafing—in the new America of pe

Producer Goldwyn's hand reached out for phone. "Get me MacKinlay Kantor—no, Eddie—MacKinlay Kantor, the writer. He Palm Beach." *Valedictory*, *Long Remem Gentle Annie*, *Happy Land* had long ago sta MacKinlay Kantor as a writer with deep pathy for the American scene.

In a week the writer was in Hollywood at work on the story the producer had sug to him and hired him to do. The result *For Me*, published as a novel by Coward-M and circulated as the choice of the I Guild

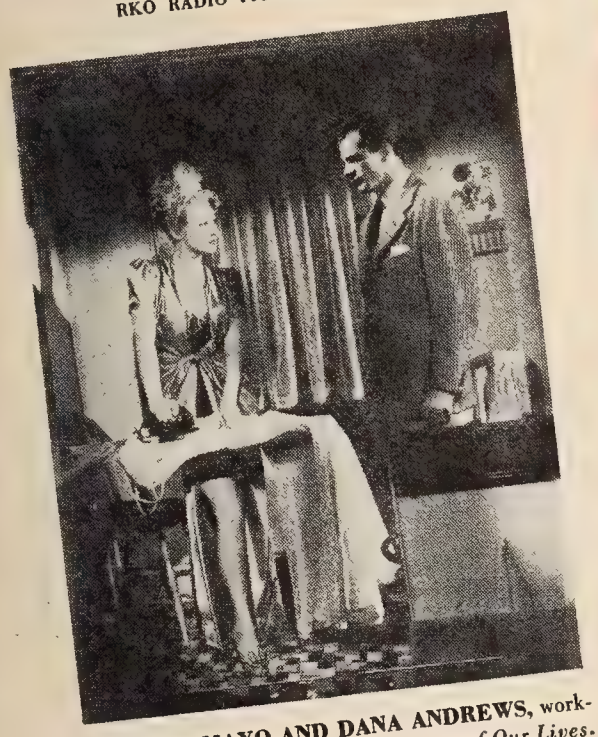
*Genesis

re was no screenplay. So Mr. Goldwyn lephone to his ear again, talking long New York with Pulitzer Prizewinning t Robert Emmet Sherwood (*Idiot's oad to Rome, There Shall Be No Night*). rder, Mr. Sherwood was in Hollywood, n the screenplay in Mr. Goldwyn's own

Mr. Goldwyn assigned the man to trans- words to the screen: Director William Acad[redacted] Award winner for *Mrs. Miniver*, of [redacted]*sworth, Dead End, Wuthering , The Little Foxes* and a score of others— or whose name had never been associated ny but the best productions. Just out of utenant colonel's uniform he wore in the where he continued his string of outstand- ms with *Memphis Belle* and *Thunderbolt*, tor Wyler caught the excitement, imme- y set his heart to putting the idea onto film. eanwhile the producer and the director con- ed other principals vital to the screen trans- n of Sherwood's script from Kantor's novel Goldwyn's idea. Cinematographer Gregg nd, famed as the photographer of *Intermezzo*, pes of Wrath, Citizen Kane* and a score of er memorable pictures, was hired. And soon, rna Loy, Fredric March, Dana Andrews, resa Wright, Hoagy Carmichael and Goldwyn's citing new discovery, Cathy O'Donnell were sy studying their lines for the roles in which ey were cast. Then Mr. Goldwyn made a rprise announcement: the addition to the cast f Virginia Mayo and Harold Russell. Blonde, eautiful Virginia Mayo had played leads before n *The Princess and the Pirate, Wonder Man, The Kid from Brooklyn*, though never in a tough, dramatic part. Harold Russell, a onetime Army sergeant, had appeared before a movie camera only once before—in an Army Signal Corps film. However, Harold Russell is as American as apple pie and Mr. Goldwyn felt somehow that he would be unforgettable.

Now, two years and $3,000,000 later, Samuel Goldwyn's greatest picture is finished. Soon it will be seen on the screens of the world. A masterpiece of the contemporary scene, its title has been changed to *The Best Years of Our Lives*. It may well prove to be the best picture of our years.

RELEASED BY
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.



VIRGINIA MAYO AND DANA ANDREWS, working, living, loving—in *The Best Years of Our Lives.*

and it happens to you in

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES"

a truly great motion picture

Produced by SAMUEL GOLDWYN
Directed by WILLIAM WYLER
Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD
From the Novel by MACKINLAY KANTOR
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures



IN THE *Goldwyn* MANNER!

Mr. EXHIBITOR: "The Best Years of Our Lives" is being advertised in 30 great national publications for a combined total circulation of

123, 354, 131

A circulation unprecedented in motion picture advertising.

D of J Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

"the five major defendants cannot be treated collectively so as to establish claims of general monopolization in exhibition" and that "they can only be restrained from the unlawful practices in fixing minimum prices, obtaining unreasonable clearances, block-booking and other things we have criticized."

While the court on June 11 stated that "each defendant had a right to build and own theatres and to exhibit pictures in them" and that "the percentage of pictures on the market which any of the five major defendants could play in its own theatres would be relatively small and in nowise approximate a monopoly of film exhibition," the Department of Justice claims "it is essential to consider facts omitted in the opinion but contained in the record," namely that the majors pay, as exhibitors, 70 per cent of the film revenue received by the defendant-distributors from all exhibitors "in certain competitive areas" and that, "as distributors, the five majors have received more than 70 per cent, the minors about 25 per cent, of film rental payments made by affiliated theatres to all distributors."

Hits Revenue Control

Declaring that these figures show "a concentration of control of revenue which is clearly of monopolistic proportions," the Government points to the Supreme Court ruling in the tobacco case, handed down one day earlier, than the New York opinions, and states: "It was only by aggregating the percentage of business done by three wholly separate businesses that the charge of monopolization was sustained" in that instance.

After using this argument to refute the companies' conclusion of law "relied upon to prevent the aggregation of the defendants in determining whether the quantity of business controlled by them constitutes a monopoly," the Government's document goes on to hit more briefly at several other findings.

"Those relied upon to demonstrate the lawful and essential character of clearance agreements, as such, are not supported by the record," it declares, disagreeing with the defendants' contention that the cost of prints would confine exhibition to high-priced theatres in the absence of such agreements. "There is no evidence," according to the Government, "that the number of prints now made has approached any definable economic limit." Presenting figures to show that print cost "is a very small element in the cost of distribution," it hazards that "the number of prints might be doubled without appreciably increasing" that cost.

The Government feels that the defendants' findings "relied upon to demonstrate the absence of a general policy of discrimination are contradictory to other findings" and calls upon the court to "resolve a contradiction in the opinion" on this point. "It is difficult for us to see how a conspiracy to fix uniform runs, clearances and admission prices could be maintained among the defendants without at the same time being regarded as the product of a policy to discriminate against others, even if individual discrimination had not been shown," the Department comments.

The defendants' finding with regard to discrimination against producers "goes further than anything suggested by the opinion and is contradicted by the evidence," the Government says, adding: "Partial exclusion from the market of pictures produced by others is implicit in the general distribution conspiracy which the court has found among all defendants. The mere fact that some independent producers were granted the use of the defendants' facilities does not rebut the fact that the defendants had the power to fix the terms on which the facilities were made available and used this power collectively."

'We See no Reason'

In conclusion, the Government declared that "the several sets of historical and other special finds individually sumbitted by the major defendants are not derived from the opinion or material to the issues. We see no reason why the court should make the extended examination of the record which would be necessary to evaluate their accuracy," it adds.

Regarding the findings in general, the Department says: "The majors have inserted qualifications calculated to make the judgment easier to attack on appeal." Merely noting the objections of the three minor defendants, it holds these "consistent with their decrees, which assume the case was decided in their favor instead of in favor of the Government."

The Department's comments were signed by Robert L. Wright and Philip Marcus, Special Assistants to the Attorney General.

95% Backed Decree Intervention: ATA

The American Theatres Association's final tabulation of its poll of exhibitors on approval of ATA's intervening on "auction selling" in the New York case, indicate "an aroused opinion on the part of the exhibitors throughout the country," the ATA declared at the weekend, reporting 3,878 cards returned with 3,689 approving and 189 disapproving ATA's action,—95 per cent for intervention and 5 per cent against it or approving "auction selling."

Of the 3,878 returns only 10 per cent were ATA members. "The majority of ATA's members assumed that the action having been approved and started there was no need for them to reply," it was said.

Del Rio to Argentine

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 20. — Dolores del Rio has been signed by the Argentina Sono Films to make a picture in its Buenos Aires studios, starting in January. She has her own production company here, Mercurio Films, of which she is the treasurer, with Mauricio de la Serna, president, and Lupita Tovar, vice-president. Arturo de Cordoba was associated with the company when it was organized, but he has withdrawn, for an undisclosed reason.

Gunther Appointed

CINCINNATI, Oct. 20. — Crosley Broadcasting has appointed Wilfred Gunther as station relations manager; he will also serve as manager of the Crosley FM station, scheduled to begin operations in about two months.

VanNomikos Says He Will Sue Companies

CHICAGO, Oct. 20.—An anti-trust suit will be filed against major distributors here by Van A. Nomikos in retaliation for the action for an accounting of percentage receipts in Van Nomikos's theatres, which the distributors filed against the Chicago exhibitor recently.

In a statement issued through Van Nomikos' attorney, Seymour Simon of Schradzke and Gould, on Friday, the exhibitor said: "Since the distributors have seen fit to embark upon a scheme to use the courts to permit them to conduct indiscriminate fishing expeditions through exhibitors' books, I intend to present the six distributors with a law suit that is well founded."

In addition to filing the new suit, Simon will represent Van Nomikos in the percentage suit. Simon formerly was a special attorney in the motion picture section of the Department of Justice anti-trust division.

Day Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

which was filed Friday, to be heard *amicus curiae* in connection with the New York anti-trust suit.

According to Kenny's petition, the plan, "in conjunction with existing or newly-organized methods of arbitration, would result in supervision over qualified persons purchasing license rights for the exhibition of motion pictures, over the terms of the contracts and over the propriety of the offering."

Further, according to Kenny, it would result in "the elimination of price fixing, the control and/or elimination of clearances as each situation may require and the elimination of formula deals, 'pooling' agreements and discrimination among licensees."

Finally, "in conjunction with duly constituted arbitration authorities, it would eliminate the evils of block booking," the petition said.

Kenny explained that the Day organization, "in conjunction with persons familiar with the field of motion picture distribution in the United States, had made a serious study" of the court's decision and a survey of distribution in conjunction with it.

Says Ticket Taxes Should Go to Cities

Baltimore, Oct. 20.—Admission taxes collected by the state of Maryland should be distributed to the local municipalities which provide places of amusement with police and fire protection and other local services, the Sherbow Commission on the Distribution of Maryland Tax Revenue asserts.

If it is right for the local political subdivisions — Baltimore city and the incorporated towns of the state—to police these places of amusement and provide fire protection for them, it's right for the municipalities to have some revenue with which to pay for these services, the commission feels.

Columbia Objects

(*Continued from page* 1)

here today.

Columbia objects also to the Government's proposal than an exhibitor be given a right to reject 25 per cent of pictures not previously tradeshown, to the provision that "an exclusive run must not unreasonably restrict competition in the area covered," to making "price the only criteria which to base a license," to forcing play-offs within 30 days of availability, and to setting Jan. 1, 1947, as an effective date for new selling methods.

The six-month limitation on film buys, according to the Columbia memorandum, "is an unfair and burdensome provision injected by the Government at the last moment and is thoroughly inconsistent with the (court's) opinion, which permits distributors like Columbia to sell their pictures in blocks, providing each picture is sold on a separate basis." Explaining that "pictures take a considerable time in the making," that "there are delays in production," that "it is impossible sometimes to secure the proper artists," and that "stories have to be rewritten," the company finds it "impossible to foretell with any decree of accuracy when a given picture will be released," the document points out.

'Complete Sham'

Branding as "complete sham" the Government's contention that the six-month provision is needed to prevent pictures being kept off the market and potential competitors given an opportunity to bid for the product, the memorandum says: "Each competitor has already had an opportunity to compete for each of these pictures," and adds: "This is nothing but an indirect attempt of the Government to take away from Columbia its right to sell all of its product at the beginning of the season."

The smaller companies would be adversely affected by the 25 per cent cancellation privilege, "because they produce a great portion of second-feature pictures," Columbia declares, suggesting that the privilege "should in no event exceed 20 per cent."

With regard to forcing play-offs within 30 days, the memorandum says: "The actual date of a first run can never be fixed with certainty because the theatre may be holding over a prior picture on an extended run. Consequently, this clause would limit Columbia to making only first-run contracts," it adds.

As for the proposed Jan.-1 deadline for putting the decree into effect, Columbia reiterates its plea to be given at least until July 1, 1947. "The decree may not be signed for a few weeks," the memorandum says. "That would give Columbia only four or five weeks within which to change its method of operation and to attempt to obtain some backlog or inventory."

Commonwealth Gets 2

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 20. — Commonwealth Theatres has added two theatres by affiliation: the Home and the Tenth Street, both Kansas City, Kas., and owned by Ed. F. Burgan, an exhibitor for 20 years, who assisted and then succeeded his father, the late Ed. T. Burgan. The two are added to the newly created Greater Kansas City division, under general management of Eddie Mansfield.

ARE YOU

a theatre owner . . . a circuit executive . . . a theatre manager . . . a projectionist . . . an architect? If so,

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

THE JOINT CONVENTION AND EQUIPMENT EXHIBIT OF THE

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LARGEST THEATRE EQUIPMENT EXHIBIT EVER HELD!

Already display space has been taken to fill an entire hotel ballroom. Experts will be in attendance to give you the facts about the post-war equipment market first-hand. The important manufacturing city of Toledo is easy to get to—by rail, highway or plane. Two of Toledo's fine modern hotels—the Secor and the Commodore Perry—will share convention activities, which will include many entertainment features. You are urged to make your room reservations early.

CONVENTION COMMITTEE, TESMA & TEDPA.



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Accurate Concise and Impartial

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COURT ASKS FOR NEW SALES PLANS

Alternatives to Bids Invited; Favors Amicus, Opposes Interventions

By TOM LOY

Faced with a barrage of objections to auction selling voiced by seven attorneys claiming to represent the vitually unanimous opinion of independent exhibitors throughout the country, Judge Augustus N. Hand, presiding here yesterday at the opening of hearings on the U. S. District Court's final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, called for suggested alternatives to the competitive bidding plan, thus indicating that changes in its own proposal may be made.

At the same time, Judge Hand indicated that intervention petitions of the American Theatres Associaton, Southern California Theatre Owners Association and Confederacy of Southern Associations will be denied but that they will be permitted to file *amicus cu-*

(*Continued on page 6*)

Court Highlights

Court asked exhibitors for suggestions for a better selling system than competitive bidding.

Court indicated that exhibitors' *amicus curiae* briefs should be received and their contents considered as the subjects to which they are related are discussed by government and defendants in the arguments on a final decree starting today.

Court said it does not believe now that intervention should be allowed.

Odeon Sets 64 New Canadian Houses: Davis

Four-Year Program to Cost $6,000,000

TORONTO, Oct. 21.—John Davis, of London, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, revealed here today that the Canadian Odeon Circuit, in which Rank holds considerable interests, has drawn up a four-year construction program with 64 new theatres projected for that period at an aggregate cost of $6,000,000.

These theatres added to the present Odeon units would eventually mean 169 houses for the circuit in the Dominion. Deadline for the Odeon Carlton, which would serve as the downtown "showcase" in Toronto, had been fixed for Jan., 1948. Elsewhere in Canada start has been

(*Continued on page 7*)

N.Y. City in Move Against 'Outlaw'

Benjamin Fielding, New York City license commissioner, prepared yesterday to file a brief in the State Supreme Court to act as *amicus curiae* in the action brought by United Artists to prevent cancellation of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw" at Harry Brandt's Gotham and Republic theatres and at Arthur Mayer's Rialto here.

Permission to enter the case was

(*Continued on page 7*)

Delays Liaison for PCA in England

Washington, Oct. 21.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, has decided not to appoint a British representative for the MPA Production Code Administration until he has visited England and held conferences with industry officials there.

Due to present labor disorders in Hollywood it is not likely that Johnston will make the European trip this year, it is indicated that he will "definitely" not act to appoint a Code liaison until he visits England.

3 New Highs in Brisk Week at N.Y. 1st-Runs

New pictures at New York's first runs are scoring box-office triumphs this week with new records established at three situations and substantial grosses recorded at others. Holdovers, for the most part, also are drawing big business. The current week is the best in many months from the viewpoint of overall revenue.

"Blue Skies" at the Paramount, with Stan Kenton's orchestra on the stage, figures to gross $140,000 for its debut week, a new record that exceeds the previous high set by "Road to Utopia" by $5,000.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Foreign Trade Up: Depinet, Reisman

Returned from a six-week tour of England, France, Italy, Switzerland and Belgium, Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio executive vice-president, and Phil Reisman, vice-president in charge of foreign distribution, yesterday gave assurance that conditions abroad are not so cheerless as heretofore described, substantiating this with the report that American companies in those countries are realizing revenues over the top pre-war levels.



Ned E. Depinet

Reiman said that business in these countries has increased in like proportion as grosses in this country have risen during the last few years. With this, Depinet observed that the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Columbia's 1st Latin Meeting Tomorrow

Headed by Joseph A. McConville of Columbia Pictures International Corp. will hold its first regional Latin American convention in Mexico City, tomorrow through Saturday. Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia Pictures, will attend the meeting, and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Several Arrivals Are Here From London

Several prominent executives of the British and American film industry were among the 2,000 passengers who disembarked here when the mammoth liner *Queen Elizabeth,* completing her maiden post-war voyage, docked early yesterday.

David Rose, independent producer, who until recently was managing director of Paramount in Great Britain, said that the purpose of his visit is to make arrangements for the production and distribution of a film projected as a partnership venture with James Mason, British actor. Mason, he continued, will arrive here next month

(*Continued on page 7*)

Industry Research Program in Work

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—A call for a vastly increased research program in the industry was made here today by Byron Price, board chairman of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, in a talk at a luncheon opening the 60th semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers. The industry already has preparations under way for an expanded research program, Price said.

Price recalled early motion pictures and described them as a novelty rather than entertainment or a source of beauty and inspiration.

"I even venture to say that if sound

(*Continued on page 3*)

No Court Review of Arbitration Cases

Authority of the three-judge statutory Federal court in the industry anti-trust suit cannot be extended to actions growing out of the arbitration system set up under the consent decree, Judges A. N. Hand, John Bright and H. W. Goddard ruled in District Court here yesterday in denying a petition of Sidney Lust Theatres, Washington, D. C., which sought to set aside a decision handed down on July 12 by the arbitration

(*Continued on page 7*)

ATO Hits Firms For Holding Dates

SCHUYLER, Neb., Oct. 21.—Recently inaugurated practice of some distributors refusing to allow dating and/or playing of new releases by non-competing, independently-operated theatres in a territory until after 'key runs" have dated or played the pic-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Services Held for Edward Kuykendall

COLUMBUS, Miss., Oct. 21.—Services for Edward L. Kuykendall, president-emeritus of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, who died here yesterday, were held at the Kuykendall residence this afternoon, followed by interment in Friendship Cemetery.

In 1913 at Jackson, Miss., Kuykendall formed the first exhibitor association in the South and later served as president of Tri-State Theatre Owners Association. He was head of MPTOA for 14 years prior to his retirement from that post in June of this year.

PCCITO Executives in Tribute to Kuykendall

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—Trustees and executive secretaries of the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners today sent the following dispatch to Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president: "May we express our deepest sympathy to MPTOA because of the loss of its long-time leader, Ed Kuykendall. The motion picture industry will also keenly miss the ability and constructive activity of Ed and the principles for which he stood. His many friends, who admired and respected him, will ever retain a lasting memory of his devotion to the industry which he served."

William Formby Dies In Kansas City

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 21.—William G. Formby, who was associated with motion picture trade papers for the past 19 years, died suddenly here today while on a business trip from Los Angeles, where he recently established his own news service. He is survived by his wife, Ann; daughter, Barbara, 9, and mother, Mrs. Gertrude Formby, all of Los Angeles, and two sisters, Mrs. R. H. Shivel and Mrs. Cecil Calhoun.

He was a reporter for Texas and Oklahoma newspapers before joining Associated Publications in 1927, of which he subsequently became editor, with headquarters in New York. He was named field editor of *Motion Picture Herald* in 1944 and resigned last August to enter business in Los Angeles.

UA-'Innocence' Pact In a Week: Horne

Hal Horne, board chairman of Story Productions, said here yesterday that it is likely the company will formally conclude contract negotiations with United Artists for the distribution of Story's "This Side of Innocence" within a week. He said he will leave here for the Coast late this week or early next, when, he expects, the pact will have been signed.

Form Distribution Firm

Max Rosenberg and Joseph E. Levine has formed a new distribution company, Motion Picture Ventures, Inc. They will shortly announce the line-up of the new company.

Personal Mention

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO general manager, is back in town from Los Angeles.

•

ALAN E. FREEDMAN, president of De Luxe Laboratories, yesterday was awarded the War Department Certificate of Appreciation for providing the company's facilities to the Signal Corps during the war. A luncheon in his honor followed the presentation.

•

MALVIN WALD, writer now working on a New York Police Department story which MARK HELLINGER will produce for Universal-International, is due in Hollywood today.

•

TOMMY GROGAN, manager of the Strand, Thompsonville, Conn., has returned to his desk, following his recovery from an attack of bronchial pneumonia.

•

JERRY EVANS of Universal-International's special events department and INA D. ROSENBERG are to be married at the Ambassador Hotel here Saturday.

•

ARTHUR SACHSON, general sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn Productions, returned to New York yesterday from a Western trip.

•

ROBERT CARNEY, manager of Loew's Poli-Lyric Theatre, Hartford, and MRS. CARNEY are the parents of a boy.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, has gone to Miami from New York for a 10-day vacation.

•

JOSEPH SOMLO, deputy manager for Two Cities Films, Ltd., will return to London from here on the *Queen Elizabeth,* Oct. 25.

•

FRED LARNED, Paramount Dallas branch manager, has returned there from New York.

•

SAM BERKERIS, United Artists general manager in Argentina, is here for a home office visit.

•

ED HINCHY, head of the Warner playdate department, is visiting in Cleveland.

•

WILLIAM LYON has returned to M-G-M's studio publicity department from New York.

•

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM COLLINS, former Georgia theatre operators, have returned to the Coast from Atlanta.

•

HENRY GERMAINE, Paramount branch manager, has returned to New Haven from New York.

•

IRVING RAPPER, Warner director, is due here by plane tomorrow from England.

•

WILLIAM SEIB, Columbia exchange manager in Salt Lake City, has returned to his post from Montana.

•

ROSE WEINBERG, secretary to ADOLPH ZUKOR, Paramount's board chairman, is back from a vacation.

HARRY H. THOMAS, president of PRC, will leave here tomorrow for a visit at the studio. He will stop off at Chicago en route, and on the return trip will tour the company's Western branches.

•

ARNOLD STOLTZ, PRC advertising-publicity director of PRC, will leave here for Hollywood today to confer with ROBERT GOODFRIED, studio publicity director, on advance campaigns.

•

HENRI MICHAUD, Paramount's assistant sales manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, is celebrating the arrival of a son to MRS. MICHAUD in Paris.

•

ROBERT FERGUSON, Columbia press-book editor, has become the father of a second daughter, SANDRA JOAN, born to MRS. FERGUSON at Lenox Hill Hospital, here.

•

PAT WALLACE, daughter of the late EDGAR WALLACE, and talent representative for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, is here from London.

•

M. L. SIMONS, editor of the *Distributor,* M-G-M publication, is back in New York after three weeks on the Coast.

•

WILLIAM O'DONNELL, assistant manager of the RKO Palace, Cleveland, and JACKIE HAUTCH, of that city, are to be married Nov. 14.

•

MARION BARTON and WILLIAM THORMAN, both of the RKO Theatres home office publicity department, are newlyweds.

•

BARBARA DRESSELL, five-year-old daughter of FAY DRESSELL, RKO Radio branch manager in Minneapolis, is at home after an attack of polio.

•

AL SCHILLER, assistant to WALTER TITUS, JR., in charge of Republic branch operations, is currently touring Western branches.

•

C. H. WEAVER, Oklahoma City branch manager for Paramount, is in town.

•

IRVING BERG and DAN GOLDEN of National Screen Service, New York, are visiting in Atlanta.

•

MAURICE LEV, general manager of Western Hemisphere Films, is the father of a boy.

•

SID MESIBOV, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, is back at the home office from Cincinnati.

•

BEN HENRY, general representative of Universal-International in Great Britain, is here from London.

•

ULRIK F. SMITH, Paramount branch manager in Philadelphia, is back at his post after a home office visit.

•

HARRY GRAHAM, former district manager of Universal, Atlanta, is resting in Florida.

•

WILLIAM POWELL, M-G-M star, and MRS. POWELL are visitors here.

Spyros Skouras in New Relief Post

CHICAGO, Oct. 21.—Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, resigned from the presidency of Greek War Relief, because of the pressure of business, at the organization's annual meeting at the Palmer House here, and was chosen unanimously to head the executive committee. William Helis of New Orleans was named president.

Upon motion of Van Nomikos of Chicago, it was decided to hold a dinner at $1,000 per plate, probably in New York in January, in an effort to raise $1,200,000 in the new $12,000,000 drive which Greek War Relief is initiating.

Kline to CPA Firm

Hacker and Jarvis, industry certified public accountancy firm, has added William Kline to its staff here. Kline was formerly in charge of outside producer accounting at First National and Columbia. In his new post he will be in charge of distributor audits for independent producers.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL &
ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BARBARA STANWYCK
VAN HEFLIN
'The Strange Love of MARTHA IVERS'
IN PERSON
JOE SMITH and CHARLIE DALE
SUSAN MILLER
Extra!
HAL LeROY

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
in Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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Depinet, Reisman

(*Continued from page* 1)

industry's world trade still must hit new heights in order to allow for the increased Hollywood production costs.

Reisman said, in effect, that it is entirely reasonable to assume that films will prosper similarly in other countries when trade restrictions are lessened, and added he expects the numerous blocked currency regulations will be favorably adjusted when the general economic position of foreign countries is sufficiently bolstered.



Phil Reisman

Depinet spoke of the "fine artand technicians in Paris whose aim is to show what the French industry can do."

Both were equally impressed by the company's "So Well Remembered," which is now in production at the Denham studios, near London. The picture is based on the James Hilton novel of the same title and has both British and American stars.

It was Depinet's first trip to Europe. He said he saw industrious peoples, very cheerful, as they rebuild that which the war had destroyed, he said. But the British are "just a little glum" in their serious reconstruction work, he observed.

Theatre equipment generally is in poor condition and the prospect of new building is hardly an immediate one, Reisman related, adding, that tremendous interest is being shown in 16mm. development. He said that 3,000 theatres for narrow-gauge film are in operation in France and numerous others in Italy, Spain and parts of Belgium. The 16mm. market has vast potentialities, he reported.

The matter of American pictures improperly suited for the market abroad was brought up and thereupon dismissed by Depinet and Reisman. Both agreed that the best in Hollywood product is offered and in only rare occasions do foreign theatregoers resent American living as depicted in the films.

NCA Meets Nov. 18

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 21.—North Central Allied's mid-year convention meeting at the Nicollet Hotel, here, will be held Nov. 18 instead of the previously announced Nov. 13 date "for the convenience of speakers" invited to attend the meeting, it was announced.

Film Corporations Pay Top Tax Levy

WASHINGTON, Oct. 21.—Some 2,897 motion picture corporations reported a net income in 1943, according to a Treasury analysis made public today, showing $44,000,000 paid in income tax, and $103,000,000 paid as excess profits tax. The report listed motion pictures as one of the country's leading industries in both corporate income and excess profits tax.

Public Opinion to Aid Century in The Operation of Its Theatres

In an effort to achieve a more precise operation and to help eliminate faulty judgment, Century Theatres, here, is installing a full-scale opinion research and survey department, according to an announcement from Fred J. Schwartz, Century vice-president. Public opinion will be sampled as an operational aid.

The department will maintain a working liaison with Opinion Research Corp. of Princeton, N. J., whose staff will cooperate in perfecting the "quick-answer" techniques necessary for this kind of sampling.

While admitting that the sampling of public opinion might never be "the panacea" for all exhibitor ills, Schwartz stated that he believed the new department would condition the company's thinking on many decisions.

"There is no question but that similar departments have aided other business," the Century vice-president declared, "and there is every reason why knowing the attitude of the public on a given question will add weight to our decisions. The findings of the department will be guideposts for our advertising and publicity department, film department, real estate, etc.

"I believe that the new department will be anti-hunch and anti-guesswork, and who knows, may even do away with the 'crystal-ball' type of show-business."

On the agenda for the new department will be such chores as locating the potential "feed" of an existing theatre, or a new one; travel routes; assays of advertising media, reactions to theatre service, entertainment preferences, admission price levels, etc.; as well as population breakdowns throughout the circuit for income and occupation.

N. Y. 1st-Runs Have Brisk Week

(*Continued from page* 1)

"Margie," with a stage show headed by Jon Hall, provided the Roxy with its biggest Saturday-Sunday business on its books, amounting to $53,500; it is headed for a $124,000 first week total.

Similarly acclaimed at the box-office, "Deception" drew a record $28,500 Friday through Sunday at the Hollywood, and is on its way to $57,000 for a first week.

"No Leave, No Love" and Les Brown's orchestra on the stage have a highly profitable $97,000 first week in view at the Capitol, while at the Criterion, another newcomer, "The Dark River," is short of the all-time high with $50,000 slated for an initial week. House record at the Criterion was set by "The Bandit of Sherwood Forest."

"Angel on My Shoulder" also made its appearance on Broadway at the Globe, and will wind up the week in the neighborhood of $31,000, which is good business.

"The Jolson Story," with a stage presentation, is still going strong at the Music Hall, where the second week's gross will be about $138,000. This is excellent business and far ahead of other holdover product, relatively speaking.

"Two Years Before the Mast," at the Rivoli, is doing splendidly with $53,000 in sight for its fourth week. And at the Victoria, going over very big is "The Westerner," a reissue, which will rake in about $21,000 during its second week.

"Cloak and Dagger," supported by Alvino Rey's orchestra on the stage at the Strand, will do about $52,000, which is fair enough, in its third week and will contnue. "Sister Kenny" is holding up well at the Palace with a fourth week's take of $28,000.

Gradually falling off but still strong in view of the length of its run, "The Killers," at the Winter Garden, will bring in $30,000 for an eighth week. "Caesar and Cleopatra" is still "in the black" at the Astor with $20,000 grossed for the eighth week, about equalling the previous week's business.

Continuing its moveover from the City Center, the "Henry V" two-a-day engagement at the John Golden Theatre, is going favorably with an estimated $13,000 for a seventh week. At the Rialto, "The Raider" continues to carry some weight with $7,000 for a fourth week; it will hold.

"Bachelor's Daughters" is down to $7,500 for a third week at the Gotham, while the Republic will ring up about $8,000 for a fourth week of "Fantasia," which is healthy business.

Texas ATO Meet In Dallas, Oct. 28

DALLAS, Oct. 21.—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas will hold a two-day meeting at the Hotel Adolphus, here, on Oct. 28-29 it was announced by Col. H. A. Cole, president. Already more than 80 reservations have been made for the meeting, which is expected to be one of the largest in the history of the group.

The association now has more than 200 members.

Questions stated for discussion are the Government's New York film suit and film buying.

It's Fourth Week For Coast's Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—The strike situation here remained substantially unchanged today as the controversy entered its fourth week with no visible indication of an early settlement.

The Conference of Studios Unions resorted to area picketing as of means of counteracting the court-imposed limitation on number of pickets per studio, and concentrated on Technicolor's laboratory. The IATSE, which had been expected to take over the laboratory workers' local 683, continued to await orders from president Richard Walsh before proceeding.

Industry Research

(*Continued from page* 1)

and color and other mechanical improvements had never been attained," Price commented, "the motion picture never would have survived except as a small sideshow of American life.

"Nor could the motion picture of the present day, with all of its miraculous qualities, expect to survive if research simply sat on its hands, surrendering to smugness and dreaming that perfection had been attained. The effective capture of the third dimension alone provides a goal worthy of the endeavor of the best minds among you."

Lauds the Society

He praised the SMPE, celebrating its 30th anniversary as one of the oldest professional groups in the industry, for its technical accomplishments which he described as "an example of the serious, weary striving toward perfection which is the central inspiration of this industry.

The SMPE opened its meeting at the Roosevelt Hotel, here, today, with the biggest registration in the organization's history. Eleven papers and demonstrations were delivered on this first day of a closely-packed five-day meeting. The delegates adjourned to Republic's studio for the evening session.

New Officers

SMPE president Donald Hyndman announced the election of Loren L. Ryder to the presidency, effective Jan. 1, and of the following other officers: Earl I. Sponable, executive vice-president; Clyde R. Keith, editorial vice-president; W. C. Kunzmann, convention vice-president; Edward A. Bertram, treasurer; G. T. Lawrence, secretary.

This evening Price entrained for Chicago where he will address the National Association of Broadcasters at its meeting there on Wednesday.

Ontario Owners to Meet in Toronto

TORONTO, Oct. 21.—The annual meeting of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario will be held here tomorrow at the King Edward Hotel and, according to Arch H. Jolley, secretary of the association, a large attendance is indicated.

ITOA Here to Meet Allied Group Today

Continuing its efforts to have established one national independent exhibitor organization, New York's Independent Theatre Owners Association will hold an informal meeting with representatives of National Allied at the Hotel Astor, here, today, for further discussions.

Sidney Samuelson, Edward Lachman, Irving Dollinger and Nathan Yamins, representing Allied, will sit in at the session with an ITOA committee consisting of Leon Rosenblatt, Rudolph Sanders, Robert Goldblatt, John C. Bolte and Max A. Cohen. Harry Brandt, ITOA president, also will attend.


RAFT
. . . in the most exciting
Woman Hunt
you've ever seen!
—Out to capture a gorgeous killer—
even if he has to tear apart Holly-
wood's most glittering night spots—
and make love to ten of movieland's
most glamorous women!
GIRO'S
IROCAD

A RAMPAGE!



RKO
PRESENTS

GEORGE RAFT
LYNN BARI

IN

NOCTURNE

WITH

VIRGINIA HUSTON • JOSEPH PEVNEY
MYRNA DELL

Produced by JOAN HARRISON • Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN
Screen Play by JONATHAN LATIMER

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED IN *Selected* MEDIA TO 54,225,201 CIRCULATION

—Fifty Detective, Mystery, "Pulp" and Men's Magazines—Sunday Newspaper Comic Sections—Life, Saturday Evening Post, Collier's, Look, Liberty, American and Fan List!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Court Asks

(*Continued from page* 1)

***riae* briefs, along with the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Vanguard Films, Radio Center, Inc., and Joseph P. Day, Inc. Counsel for all of those were heard in court yesterday.**

All three members of the statutory court, including Judges H. W. Goddard and John Bright, along with Judge Hand, displayed keen interest when spokesmen for the independent producers sought road-show exemption from the ban on price fixing contained in their June 11 opinion. "What is the difference in principle between the less expensive and the more expensive pictures?" Judge Goddard asked. "Why is your client in such a pitiful state compared with the others, who don't say it will ruin them?" Judge Hand inquired of Samuel S. Isseks, counsel for Vanguard, who explained that the independents, lacking theatres, needed protection against the theatre-owning defendants, who, under the opinion, will be allowed to raise admissions at will in their houses.

ATA Intervention

The ATA's intervention claim, made for the sole purpose of opposing auction sales, was presented by Thurman Arnold, who said the association is comprised of 6,000 theatres of all kinds and that the independent ones do not have adequate representation in the case. "I think the government agrees," he added. Declaring, "The Court has gone outside legal arrangements and tried to introduce competition," Arnold held that auction selling's "principal impact is on innocent parties," that bidding "cannot create a competitive market when the groups are not in equal bargaining power and the supply is tightly controlled," and that, since films are not a standard commodity, the plan would prove unworkable. "The exhibitors don't want to cut each other's throats," he said. "They would have to pay more and more for a scarcer and scarcer product." Contending that "if competitive bidding were applied, it's on the wrong end," he suggested that to have the defendants bid for the playing time of the exhibitors would be more appropriate. The court's plan would "result in collusion and create a smoke screen behind which coercive practices can continue," Arnold concluded.

Paul Williams, outlining the position of SOTCA, which seeks to intervene along with ATA, stated that, under the consent decree, which provides selling in blocks of five, exhibitors are forced to buy many films they cannot use. "We want to buy on an annual basis with reasonable rights of elimination," he said, holding that there is nothing in law to prevent such buying. Williams spoke of auction selling as "an encroachment on the legislative field," which would "remove from this industry every element of stability which has yet reached it."

The CSA's spokesmen, John G. Jackson and Robert T. Barton, took the position that the relief for independent exhibitors set forth in the court's opinion would be adequate if auction selling were eliminated. In response to a question from Judge Goddard, Jackson said the 2,200 theatres he claims to represent have no additional testimony to offer "unless our petition to intervene is controverted." He pointed out that intervention, rather than *amicus curiae,* was necessary in order that the association might be heard verbally by the Supreme Court at a later date.

In a thorough analysis of auction selling, which Judge Hand termed an "interesting argument," Barton stressed that the complicated machinery needed for picture-by-picture bidding and the arbitration of controversies he foresaw as arising would cause the exhibitors a costly delay in receiving film. "A seat not sold is gone forever," he commented. He complained that auctions would foster monopolies, increase rental terms, knock out adjustments on percentage pictures that flop, saddle theatres with unbalanced programs and prevent two small houses in the same town from combining on a day-and-date basis to compete with a larger house. When asked by Judge Hand if his client was "satisfied with things as they were," Barton indicated a large measure of satisfaction. "Then, unfortunately," commented the Judge, "you don't represent the class that did object."

At this point, the defendants, through attorney John Davis, stated that they objected to intervention petitions, which would make exhibitor groups parties to the suit, but expressed a willingness to have them heard as *amicus curiae.* Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, said: "That's substantially our position. These people represent no organization but themselves. There are others, of other views. Making them parties would hopelessly confuse the issues." A dissenting view, however, was expressed by Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, who said he thought the interventions should be allowed in order to give the groups standing with the Supreme Court. "I think the Supreme Court will be willing to hear 15,000 exhibitors," he added.

The case of the independent producers was put to the court by Morris L. Ernst, representing the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, and Isseks for Vanguard. "The major hope of the industry is the hope that competition can be presented by the independents," Ernst declared. If there are no "horizontal accords or domination of the market," price fixing, at increased rates, for road shows should be allowed, he argued.

Cites 'Duel's' $5,500,000

Isseks, pointing out that David O. Selznick had spent $5,500,000 on "Duel in the Sun" and was planning to road-show it beginning Dec. 15, said this arrangement would be necessary to get back the investment. To the evident surprise of the court, he explained, and the defendants confirmed, that the industry has had only four road shows since 1938. Isseks was questioned closely by Judge Hand as to whether Vanguard was "affiliated with anybody." He answered that the company is not, but distributes through United Artists. He urged that road shows be allowed for all producers or at least for the three minor defendants and those who release through them and that, in particular, an exception should be made of films begun before the court's June opinion was rendered.

Asked by the court if the Government had any objection to price fixing for special pictures, Wright said he would go into the matter more fully later and added: "We are opposed to a road-show exception *per se.*"

On behalf of Radio Centre, Inc., operators of the Mosque Theatre, Newark, David Sher spoke briefly in favor of a ban on cross-licensing if auction bidding is instituted.

Herman Levy, MPTOA counsel, asked the court if the June opinion meant that salesmen would be permitted to go from theatre to theatre passing along competitive bids in order to get higher terms. If so, he said, competition would be restricted and rentals would increase. He urged that the court simply enjoin unlawful acts and then "open the door" to competition. "The tests set forth for determining clearance in the court's June 11th decree would be an alternative plan for buying pictures also," he suggested. Levy expressed disappointment that the Government has asked for liquidation of the arbitration system and asked the court to retain it. He mentioned his association's poll of exhibitors, which showed 261 opposed to auctions, 19 in favor. Finally, Levy said MPTOA has no objection to road shows "if it is a national policy, of single cities are not picked out."

Final speaker at the hearing was Abram F. Myers, CIEA general counsel, who voiced regret at "the negative attitude to the Government's position" which, he said, the other attorneys had put forward. Looking forward to the contingency, "however remote," of auction selling, he said his organization wanted to make it as workable as possible, then urged a ban on cross-licensing and percentage

(*Continued on page* 7)

The Court Room Scene

THE commodious Federal courtroom found its accommodations taxed almost to the limit as the hearings looking to the drafting of a final decree in the industry anti-trust suit got under way here yesterday.

It was the exhibitors' day in court. All national and virtually all regional exhibitor organizations were represented. Counsel for all exhibitor petioners were heard by the court and, despite the fact that the day's session lasted only two hours and 50 minutes, and embraced several non-exhibitor petitioners, no time limit was imposed upon the attorneys and the court heard them out. In addition, their prepared briefs were received by the court.

•

The hearings drew exhibitor organization men from all over the country. Among them were: Fred Wehrenberg, Herman Levy and Mitchell Wolfson of MPTOA; Abram F. Myers and Jack Kirsch of Allied States; Si Fabian and Ted R. Gamble of American Theatres Association; Jesse Stern, Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations; Mack Jackson, Ben L. Strozier and Henry Reeve, Confederacy of Southern Associations.

•

Among court room spectators glimpsed were: Ben Kalmenson, Robert Perkins and Howard Levinson, Warners; Austin Keough, Leonard Goldenson and Louis Phillips, Paramount; Sam Pinanski, M. and P. Theatres; Gordon Youngman, RKO; Sidney Schreiber, Motion Picture Association; Tyree Dillard, Jr., Loew's; Edward C. Raftery and George Raftery, United Artists-Universal; Louis Frohlich, Columbia.

•

Legal talent flooded the enclosure directly in front of the bench and spilled over into jury boxes and spectators' benches.

It looked for a moment as though the defendants and Department of Justice were about to agree on something—the something being opposition to intervention. John W. Davis of Loew's counsel indicated the opposition of the theatre-owning defendants and the court was told by Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, that the Government's position was substantially the same.

Then Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, ruined the rare spectacle of a defense-government accord by stating that Columbia not only had no objection to intervention but thinks the exhibitors belong in the case in order to be able to speak for themselves on appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, which they will not be able to do unless they intervene.

•

Samuel Isseks, attorney for Vanguard Films, argued for the exemption of road-shows from the decree so that advanced admissions for them could be specified.

"Why do you need to fix prices?" Judge Augustus Hand asked.

"To get our money back," Isseks replied.

•

Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, drew smiles from the Federal jurists as he neared the end of his address to the court and then essayed some further remarks against competitive bidding.

"Haven't we been over that? Is that new?" Judge Hand asked.

"It's not new," Levy replied, "but I thought mine was more forceful."

Levy immediately withdrew the comment, which he had offered good-naturedly.

•

Thurman Arnold, former government "trust-buster," and Paul Williams, his former assistant, both active on the Government's side in the early days of the case, found themselves opposed by the Government now in their petitions to intervene on behalf of ATA and SCTOA.

•

Abram Myers, appearing for CIEA, of which Allied is a member, took occasion in his address to the court to marvel at the number of independent exhibitor spokesmen in court, claiming his constituents are the only ones without an affiliation of some kind with defendants.

•

Paul Williams, discussing disagreements over blocks of five in the consent decree among Department of Justice officials, was cut short by Judge Hand.

"It's absurd," the jurist remarked, "to talk about your housekeeping and the deep divisions among yourselves."

HAVE YOU PLAYED
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

Court Asks

(*Continued from page* 6)

films. "If the defendants prefer competitive bidding to divestiture, then they should yield whatever is necessary to make it work," he declared.

Judge Hand declined to hear a verbal statement on the Day company's auction plan but told Joseph Kenny, counsel for that petitioner, that a brief would be accepted for consideration, with today set as a deadline for filing the document.

Summings on the plaintiff's and defendants' final decree proposals are scheduled to begin this morning, and Wright indicated yesterday that they might consume only two days.

Odeon Plans 64

(*Continued from page* 1)

made on 15 theatres, including suburban units seating from 750 to 1,350. With reference to other Western developments, Davis announced that Rank plans his second visit to North America next spring.

Regarding film distribution Davis said 35 British pictures from Rank's studios would be released in Canada next year, compared with 18 during the current season.

Rank, Davis reported, is now exchanging six features a year with the Soviet Republic and Russian pictures are going over very well among some classes in England.

There is little hope of constructing new theatres in England for another five to seven years because of the shortage of materials, he said. A total of 34 Odeon "movie clubs" for juveniles has already been established in Canada and the movement is constantly spreading, Davis said.

'Outlaw' Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

given attorney Dan Rosen, representing the commissioner's office, by Judge Harold E. Walter when the hearing opened yesterday, and court was adjourned until today to permit preparation of the brief.

Although New York State has granted a license for the film, the city commissioner has said the license will be revoked if it is exhibited here. He has filed an application for review with the Board of Regents, the director of the motion picture division of the State Department of Education and the state's attorney general, asking revocation "because of the nature of the advertising."

UA president Edward C. Raftery, representing UA, told the court yesterday his company brought the action to compel the theatres to fulfill their contract, entered into last Feb. 13. Arthur Sheinberg appeared for Brandt, who books for the three houses and is defendant in the case.

ATO Hits

(*Continued from page* 1)

tures was opposed in an unanimous resolution adopted at the second of a series of regional meetings sponsored by the Associated Independent Theatre Owners.

Resolution charges practice has the effect of creating and establishing "as customary a uniform and unreasonable area for clearance and protection of as wide scope between non-competing towns where no such clearance and protection ever existed." The resolution requests distributors to cease the practice immediately.

High rentals, extended playing time, local checkers and Federal admission taxes also highlighted discussions at the meeting, which was presided over by Carl Mansfield of Schuyler, and attended by AITO president Howard Brookings.

Arrivals from London

(*Continued from page* 1)

to begin work on the picture.

Returning after having launched a promotional campaign for "The Jolson Story" in England, Nate B. Spingold, Columbia vice-president, vigorously denied that there is "any truth" to reports that the British press has been antagonistic in its reception of U. S. film products. "The papers there have been critical toward many British productions and have also received many American films with warm praise," he said. Spingold also disclosed that he will go on to Hollywood "in a few weeks."

Russell Holman, Eastern production head of Paramount, was non-committal about his work and observations in London and Paris, asserting that he would submit his report first to Henry Ginsberg. He did say, however, that he had investigated the production prospects for the Hal Wallis picture, scheduled to start about June 1 at Denham Studios in England. The film is based on the story, "For Her to See," by Joseph Shearing.

Yule, Goldstein, Goetz

Lady Yule, who has extensive financial interests in British National Films, Ltd., and Anglo-American Film Co., Ltd., was reluctant to discuss the purpose of her visit further than the cryptic description, "business."

Robert Goldstein, New York representative of Universal-International, said that he was returning after conducting a story and talent search in England, in addition to establishing a branch office in England.

Ben Goetz, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer managing director in England, declared that he "had nothing to say" about the purpose of his trip.

Sir Arthur Jarratt, managing director of British Lion, Korda distributing firm in England, and a member of the executive board of all Korda worldwide interests, brought with him the print of the French film, "Les Enfants du Paradis" ("Children of Paradise"), which will have its American premiere on the West Coast Nov. 15. The British executive, who is accompanied by Lady Jarratt, will depart for the Coast Nov. 4, and will probably consult on productions to be done in California. Sir Alexander Korda, it was further disclosed, is scheduled to come here Nov. 10, on the *Queen Elizabeth's* second voyage.

Also among the arrivals was Ernest W. Fredman, publisher and editor of the *Daily Film Renter,* here on his first American visit in 14 years. He will spend about three weeks in New York, then go to Hollywood for a few weeks before taking a vacation in Palm Springs. The British publisher plans to return to New York for four days prior to sailing for London.

Ben Henry, Universal-International general representative in Great Britain was also among the passengers. Henry will remain here several weeks for conferences with Joseph H. Seidelman, general manager of U-I's foreign department.

No Court Review

(*Continued from page* 1)

appeals board.

"The decision," said the court, "was invoked by the moving party, which was in no wise required to submit its rights to the arbitration panel but, having invoked it, must accept the ruling as final."

Harold L. Schliz, counsel for Lust, had argued that it was "contrary to equity for the court to establish an agency and then relinquish control over that agency." Judge Hand had replied that vacating the board's decision would mean "we would have to review everything that the court has done for the last five years."

The appeals board had reversed a ruling of a Washington arbitrator who had held there was no competition between Lust's Kaywood Gardens Theatre in Mt. Rainer, Md., and the Village and Newton in downtown Washington, the latter two operated by Louis Bernheimer. Schliz said the clearance granted was relegating Lust to an inferior position and causing his theatre to operate at a loss.

Leslie, Meredith to Curtiz Organization

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—President Michael Curtiz of the newly-formed Michael Curtiz Productions, has announced appointment of the following officers: Jacques Leslie, vice-president, treasurer and general manager; Bess Meredith, vice-president and story editor; Margaret Ettinger, secretary. Additional directors are Roy Obringer and Ed L. Depatio.

Columbia Latin Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

delegates from the various offices will meet for executive sessions in the discussion of new season distribution plans.

The following members of Columbia International will be present from here: Arnold M. Picker, Bernard Zeeman, Sigwart Kusiel, David A. O'Malley, Ben Astor and Alexander Lapiner.

Cuba will be represented by Ernesto P. Smith, Pedro Martinez and Carlos Perez. Edgar H. Kerner will be the delegate from Puerto Rico; Harold Winston from Trinidad; Alexander Stein and Francisco Urbina, Venezuela; Enrique Davila, Miguel Bernal, Jorge Ogliastri Otero, Jose I. Castillo, Polidero Aponte from Colombia. Harry B. Prosdocimi, Donald S. Rockwell and Bennett H. Berman will make up the Panama contingent; Jorge Oller will represent Peru.

From the Mexico branch will be Charles Roberts, Sidney Bruckner, Sergio Kogan, Gustavo G. Samaniego and Valentin Poire Hernandez. Columbia agents in Mexico, Gaspar Pruneda, Alfonso Madrigal and Felipe J. Acosta will attend.

Stars at Levey Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 21.—More than two dozen Hollywood stars will be guests of producer Jules Levey for the premiere of his forthcoming United Artists release, "New Orleans," when the film has its first opening in the Louisiana city early next year. Levey plans to fly the stars and members of the press to the premiere in two chartered airliners. Gov. James Davis of Louisiana will act as official host to the Hollywood delegation.



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Darryl F. Zanuck Presents JOHN FORD'S "MY DARLING CLEMENTINE" Starring HENRY FONDA • LINDA DARNELL • VICTOR MATURE with WALTER BRENNAN • TIM HOLT • CATHY DOWNS • Ward Bond • Alan Mowbray • John Ireland • Roy Roberts • Jane Darwell • Grant Withers • J. Farrell MacDonald • Russell Simpson • Directed by JOHN FORD • Produced by SAMUEL G. ENGEL • Screen Play by Samuel G. Engel and Winston Miller • Story by Sam Hellman • Based on a Book by Stuart N. Lake

IT'S A FACT:

No company ever had such a line-up as 

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"Margie" in Technicolor • "Anna and the King of Siam" • "Three Little Girls in Blue" in Technicolor • "Claudia and David" • "Smoky" in Technicolor

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VOL. 60. NO. 81 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 1946 TEN CENTS

Canadians Are Told to Seek 'De-Controls'

Fitzgibbons Cites Need For 'Free Enterprise'

TORONTO, Oct. 22.—Citing the example of uncertainty and predicament in the film and theatre business in the United States through a succession of decrees and court rulings, J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players-Canadian Corp, today called for action on the part of the Canadian film industry to secure free enterprise.



J. J. Fitzgibbons

Fitzgibbons spoke during the annual luncheon here of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario. He pointed out,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Zigmond in Theatre Post at Paramount

Jerry I. Zigmond has been named to an executive post in Paramount's theatre department, where he will assist Edward L. Hyman, who is the contact on operations for Paramount partners and associates in its Northern group of theatres.

Zigmond has been with Paramount

(*Continued on page 6*)

ITOA, Allied Defer Brandt Proposal

Representatives of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York and National Allied met at the Hotel Astor here yesterday for further discussion of ITOA president Harry Brandt's proposal on one organization of all independent exhibitor associations. The subject will be taken up further at a future meeting since no conclusion was reached at yesterday's session.

Day Proposes Auctioneers

Employment of a licensed auctioneer in an office established in each exchange city to handle the administration of competitive bids for films was proposed to the Federal District Court here yesterday in an *amicus curiae* brief submitted by Joseph P. Day, Inc., auctioneering company, through attorney Joseph C. Kenny, in the New York case.

"The seller," according to the plan, "would offer his product through the local office in each city, together with a list of the exhibitors who, in the opinion of the seller, are qualified to bid. The offer would be made on a form approved by the court and would fix the date and conditions of sale."

The auctioneer, the brief states, would fix the hour of sale, advise the trade through "appropriate publication," and also the exhibitors on the distributor's list. Upon receipt of the bids, they would be forwarded to the distributor, who would retain

(*Continued on page 5*)

Tell SMPE About Navy Film Saving

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—The second day's session of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' convention here featured a paper by C. R. Sarchet, of the U. S. Navy Photographic Center, on "The Preservation and Postwar Utilization of Navy Combat Film."

Sarchet pointed up the means that have been adopted for permanent preservation of all films showing the Navy in action and said the utmost utilization of these films will be made for proper purposes.

This evening's session was conconducted at the Paramount Studio, with C. R. Daily, newly elected to the

(*Continued on page 6*)

$2,000,000 Film On Lambs' Club

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—A. P. Waxman will produce a $2,000,000 picture based on the Lambs' Club, he announced today following receipt of final approval from the organization's executive council in New York. Harry Brandt, president of the New York Independent Theatre Owners Association, and Frank Satenstein will be associated with Waxman in the production, to be filmed in London, New York and Hollywood, Release is undetermined.

MOVE TO REPLACE AUCTION SELLING

Court Highlights

Highlights of yesterday's Federal District court hearing on a final decree in the industry anti-trust suit included the following:

Indication from the court that it would approve the sale of a full year's product supply in advance, subject to some conditions.

Indication by the Government that it would agree to a 20 per cent cancellation right instead of the 25 per cent it has recommended.

Agreement that methods of modifying competitive bidding will be studied, including a compulsory granting of some run by defendant distributors.

The Government indicated it would approve an exemption for road shows released through non-theatre-owning companies.

Offer Guaranty of Run Instead; Plan Goes to Exhibitor Groups Today

By TOM LOY

A proposal that auction selling possibly be replaced by an injunction against arbitrary refusal to grant some run was made to the three-judge statutory court here yesterday by the five theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit.

Disputes arising under this provision, if it should be written into a final decree, might be settled through "continuation and expansion" of the existing arbitration system, according to Whitney North Seymour, Paramount counsel, who outlined the plan at the close of the first day of discussion of the distributors' and Government's decree drafts in U. S. District Court.

Judge Augustus N. Hand, presiding at the hearing, suggested that the defendants discuss the proposal today, when there will be no court session, with counsel for the various exhibitor groups which presented intervention and *amicus curiae* petitions on Monday. The judge indicated that the court might consider the idea if the indepependent theatre men find it acceptable. A report will be made

(*Continued on page 5*)

RKO Is Active in Mexico: Rathvon

Mexico City's Churubusco film studio, owned jointly by RKO and Mexican interests, headed by Emelio Azcarraga, on a 50-50 basis, is "pretty well complete," except for its laboratory which will be ready in four to five months, N. Peter Rathvon, president of both RKO and RKO Radio, said here yesterday. The studio, which houses 12 sound stages, 10 of them "as big as any in Hollywood," will be available to both Mexican and American producers, he said, adding that its facilities are booked through next spring.



N. Peter Rathvon

In New York from Hollywood, Rathvon said that Mexico's yield in film rentals to U. S. companies has shown a "great increase" with business picking up further each year. He reported Hollywood product shares

(*Continued on page 6*)

Decision Reserved In 'Outlaw' Case

Decision was reserved here yesterday on United Artists' motion for a mandatory injunction compelling Harry Brandt, operator of the Gotham and Globe Theatres, on Broadway, and Arthur Mayer, operator of the Rialto, to comply with contracts for exhibition of "The Outlaw." The case is before Justice Carroll G. Walker in New York State Supreme Court. The three theatres had cancelled "The Outlaw," scheduled to open Saturday, on "moral grounds."

The court session yesterday was highlighted by submissions of a brief by Dan Rosen, New York City Corporation Counsel, and affidavits by License Commissioner Benjamin

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

JOHN BALABAN, head of Balaban and Katz, Chicago, has been appointed co-chairman of the Southside division of the Jewish Welfare drive in that city.

•

J. WARDIMON, Tel-Aviv, Palestine, exhibitor, is expected in New York on his first trip according to word received at the RKO Radio home office from GREGORY E. GEORGOUSSY, RKO manager in the Near East.

•

RICHARD GRIFFITH, executive director of the National Board of Review, has returned to New York from Springfield, Mass., where he addressed the Springfield Motion Picture Council on film censorship.

•

SHERLI EVENS, daughter of HAROLD EVENS, advertising-publicity director for United Artists in Chicago, and EDWARD PLANERT of that city, were married this week.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will attend the Independent Allied Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska annual meeting, Oct. 28-29, in Des Moines.

•

RICHARD CARLTON, assistant to MELVIN L. GOLD, National Screen Service director of advertising and publicity, and MRS. CARLTON are the parents of a baby girl, Joyce.

•

MARTI KALISKI, head of the print department of Screen Guild Productions, and MRS. KALISKY are the parents of a girl, RACHELLE, born in Hollywood.

•

JOHN J. PAYNE, Warner Circuit zone manager in Washington, has received a scroll from the Board of Trade there for his services.

•

FRED MEYERS, Universal-International Eastern sales manager, will be in Philadelphia and Washington this week, from New York.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, Central Sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, is touring exchanges in his territory.

•

JIMMY HODGSON, March of Time cameraman in London, is visiting here and will return Nov. 14.

•

G. F. MALAFRONTE was a recent visitor in Atlanta from the Universal-International home office.

•

THERON EDWARDS, Georgia theatre owner, is recovering from injuries sustained in a train wreck.

Photographers' Exhibit

Milton Berle, Henry Youngman and Harvey Stone will be judges at the Press Photographers 11th annual exhibit, today, to select a photograph depicting the best laugh-producing picture of the show. Awards to the cameraman whose photograph wins will be made Sunday morning, at the Radio City Museum of Science and Industry, where the show is now on.

Paramount Expands In Exhibition Abroad

Paramount International Theatres Corp., wholly-owned subsidiary of Paramount International Films, Inc., is being organized and will soon be registered with the Secretary of State at Albany, N. Y., its purpose being to acquire future theatre investments in foreign countries.

Aarons Named Head Of Warner Club

Stuart H. Aarons, members of Warners' home office legal staff, has been elected president of the national Warner Club.

Other officers elected include: Robert A. McGuire, vice-president; Bernard Rosenzweig, vice-president in charge of membership; Ruth Weisberg, vice-president in charge of welfare; Fred Stengl, vice-president in charge of claims; Harry Mayer, vice-president in charge of social activities; Robert Salomons, treasurer; Theodore R. Kupferman, secretary.

The new executive committee consists of Phil Abrahams, Frank E. Cahill, Jr., W. V. Broks, R. W. Budd, Zeb Epstin, Syd Goldberg, Joe Goldstein, Bernard R. Goodman, Leo Haas, Sam Kahn, L. J. Kaufman, Frank Kiernan, Charles Kontulis, T. J. Martin, W. Stewart McDonald, Mollie Negri, Elkan Reiner, Harold Rodner, Bernard Rosenzweig, Samuel Schneider, William Schoenfelder, Joseph Spray, Joe Tisman, Ruth Weisberg, Jack Wuhrman and the following past presidents: Max B. Blackman, Nat D. Fellman, Ed Hinchy, John Holmes and Jules Levey. I. H. Birnbaum is administrative secretary.

Comerford Resumes Stage Shows in Five

Stage shows have been resumed at five theatres of the Comerford circuit, including the New Binghamton at Binghamton, N. Y., and the Feeley, Hazelton; Hippodrome, Pottsville; Capital, Scranton and the Penn at Wilkes-Barre, all in Pennsylvania.

New PRC Exploiteer

Ira Gross, formerly with Warner's exploitation department, has been named exploiteer for PRC in Pittsburgh, under exploitation manager Lige Brien. Gross will accompany Arnold Stoltz, PRC's national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, and Brien to Chicago Tuesday where he will attend a meeting for PRC exploitation men.

Allen to Skirball

Arianne Allen has been appointed story editor of Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning Productions. She will make her headquarters in New York and is already seeking material for future pictures of this company, which releases through Universal-International.

KFWB Cited for Aid Toward Peace

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Urging radio to go "all out" in preaching the message of world-wide peace to the world, Benjamin Cohen of the United Nations staff today cited the Warner's station KFWB in Hollywood, as an example of a station performing outstanding service to its listeners.

Cohen praised the Warner station in addressing the 24th annual convention of the National Association of Broadcasters, at the Palmer House.

In another address, William S. Paley, chairman of the board of Columbia Broadcasting, said that radio today is replete with advertising excesses, and "too high a percentage of commercial copy or material which is irritating, offensive, or in bad taste when projected into the homes of America." Paley said that the blame could not be put on the advertisers but on the networks and radio stations themselves.

Paley urged the National Association of Broadcasters to "formulate a new and detailed code of program standards—a code which will prohibit practices which detract from the good name of radio as a whole. And we should be determined to enforce this code by the spotlight of publicity," he concluded.

Byron Price Talks At NAB Meet

CHICAGO, Oct. 22.—Byron Price, Price, Hollywood vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will be a member of the discussion panel which will discuss "Do We Have Freedom of Speech in the United States?," at the Palmer House tomorrow evening, under the auspices of the National Association of Broadcasters. Edgar Kobak, president of Mutual Broadcasting, will serve as moderator while other members of the discussion panel, in addition to Price, will be John S. Knight, publisher of the *Chicago Daily News* and president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, and A. D. Willard Jr., NAB executive vice-president.

The discussion will be one of the highlights of the NAB convention, being held at the Palmer House and Stevens Hotel Oct. 21-24.

Bolton to Goldwyn

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22. — Whitney Bolton, former Columbia, Warner and Selznick publicist, has joined Goldwyn to handle special promotion of "The Best Years of Our Lives."

McCraw to Visit Tents

Varsity Clubs of America's executive director, William McCraw, will visit four more Tents. His schedule: Nov. 11, Charlotte, in connection with a sixth anniversary dinner party; Nov. 15, Buffalo; Nov. 18, Albany; Nov. 22, Boston. McCraw will be guest of honor and principal speaker.

McCraw has been visiting Tents throughout the country on a plan that will bring him to every Tent city during his first year in office.

Newsreel Parade

THE arrival here of the S.S. Queen Elizabeth on its maiden peacetime voyage, and the Army-Columbia football game, are in all current newsreels. The Navy's revealing two top-war secrets is also featured, and so are Gen. Eisenhower in Scotland, Molotov in New York, a whale aground in Long Island, and football in the U. S. complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 16—U. S. Navy discloses two war secret weapons in observing Navy Day. The Queen Elizabeth makes first trip here as a luxury liner. News flashes from abroad: Gen. Eisenhower plays golf in Scotland; Greek demonstration protests decision of peace conference in Paris. Football highlights: Army wallops Columbia, 48 to 14.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 214—Molotov here aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*, backs peace. Top secrets, the "sono-buoy" and the "bat," revealed as U. S. hails Navy Day. Personalities in the news: Gen. "Ike," Scottish golfer; spotlight on Franco on his 10th anniversary of rise to power in Spain. 65-foot, 60-ton whale flounders on Long Island beach. Army gridders defeat Columbia.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 17—Army wins 23rd straight football game, defeating Columbia. Michigan and Northwestern in 14-14 football tie. *Queen Elizabeth*, world's greatest liner, arrives. Navy war secrets shown for Navy Day.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 19—Czech mine named for President Truman. The *Elizabeth* arrives, with Molotov aboard. Nazi families of guilty war criminals pay last visit. Little San Marino claims war damages. Football: Army crushes Columbia, UCLA beats California, 13-7.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 548—Navy Day and secret weapons. *Queen Elizabeth* welcomed in New York. Low tide strands whale at Huntington, L. I. Army football smashes Columbia.

Callahan Appointed S. Hode's Successor

Joseph Callahan has been appointed assistant to D. John Phillips, short subjects and Paramount News publicity head, succeeding Stanley Hode, by Oscar A. Morgan, sales chief of the Paramount short subjects and Paramount News sales department. Hode resigned to join the Myer P. Beck Organization where he will handle special events.

Callahan was formerly in Paramount's exploitation and publicity department.

Sinow to Taunton Strand

HARTFORD, Oct. 22.—Abe Sinow, former manager of the Art Theatre, Quincy, Mass., is now manager of the Strand at Taunton, Mass., succeeding Dan Cudone, who has resigned to become district manager in New Jersey for the Fred Faulkner Circuit. Herman Prado, assistant manager of the Art, at Quincy, has been moved up to manage the Art, replacing Sinow, now in Taunton.

Radio City UN Tribute

More than 100 Radio City Music Hall artists, here, will take part in a new pageant to be presented, beginning tomorrow, on its stage in tribute to the United Nations' first General Assembly on United States soil, opening this week in New York.

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NO LEAVE
NO LOVE

Yes! 
Van Johnson's terrific!

Yes! 
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Yes! 
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Yes! 
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Yes! 
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and EDWARD ARNOLD · MARIE WILSON · LEON AMES

Original Screen Play by Charles Martin and Leslie Kardos · Directed by CHARLES MARTIN · Produced by JOE PASTERNAK

U.S. Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

to the court when hearings are resumed tomorrow.

Covering approximately one-third of the decree proposals at yesterday's session, the parties to the suit reached virtual agreement on at least one point; that the 25 per cent cancellation privilege suggested by the Department of Justice shall be reduced to 20 per cent.

At the same time, definite indication was given from the bench that the distributors, notwithstanding the Government's wishes to the contrary, will be allowed the privilege of selling a year's program in advance, provided the sale of one film is not conditioned upon the sale of another.

The court also tended to agree that admission prices established by theatres may be considered as a factor in determining clearance, although such prices will not be allowed in exhibition contracts.

Robert Wright, Government attorney, in response to petitions by Vanguard Films on behalf of its "Duel In The Sun," and by the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, said that he would not object to road shows being exempted from price-fixing provisions of the decree if the pictures to be road shown were released through non-theatre-owning companies.

The major defendants' suggested alternative to auction selling, enunciated by Seymour and elaborated by Joseph M. Proskauer, is as follows: "An injunction against arbitrarily refusing to license any feature on a run (designated by the distributor) which is requested by an exhibitor who operates in competition with a theatre not owned by that distributor. Such run must be negotiated theatre by theatre and feature by feature. The license must be granted solely upon the merits of the theatre, without discrimination among competitors in favor of theatres affiliated with another defendant or circuits or old customers or anyone else."

Will Oppose Suggestion

Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, indicated that the Government would oppose the suggestion but did not elaborate. Thurman Arnold, counsel for the American Theatres Associaton, said he would take up the matter with his clients but warned that it had been impossible to obtain agreement among them on anything except opposition to competitive bidding.

Wright opposed the major defendants' request that the privilege of ascertaining admission prices should be written into the decree as a condition necessary to evaluating competitive bids.

In the clause enjoining the distributors from agreeing with each other to maintain a clearance system, Judge John Bright suggested a proviso assuring the right of each distributor to provide clearance in a theatre owned by another, thus indicating that the court has not accepted, at least as yet, the Government's proposed ban on cross-licensing.

Wright's agreement to the 20 per cancellation privilege followed a plea by Louis Frohlich, Columbia counsel, who warned that rejected films could not be sold to advantage and that production should not be discouraged. Judge Henry W. Goddard noted that there had been "considerable testimony from independent exhibitors" that they would be satified with 20 per cent.

The Department of Justice's proposal that the run of a picture should begin 30 days after availability was opposed by Proskauer, who said the "biggest yowl" on its would come from the exhibitors and asked: "Why is the Government so interested in it?" Judge Hand replied: "I'm not sure that they're sure that they are."

Raftery Argues

In a stand against competitive bidding, Edward C. Raftery, United Artists and Universal counsel, pointed out that U. A. had to get approval from its 23 producers on the terms of each of their releasing contracts and that, therefore, the system would be virtually impossible for UA.

The Government's effort to introduce into a final decree a ban on cross-licensing among affiliated theatres was attacked by Proskauer, attorney for Warners, as an attempt to gain theatre divestiture by indirection, despite the fact that the court denied divestiture as a remedy in its opinion.

"What the Government is saying, in effect," Proskauer stated, "is: 'We will let you keep your theatres, and we will let you starve with them.'"

"The method it suggests," he continued, "is a slow death, far worse than the decapitation he (Wright) threatened us with in the beginning."

Continuing, Proskauer, said: "The injunction he proposes (cross-licensing ban) is drawn out of thin air. It repudiates your decision and it would accomplish divestiture wholly. I didn't conceive that we came here to retry the case but, rather, to discuss a decree."

Discussing competitive bidding, Proskauer said the court's proposed selling method "is not very palatable to the defendants either. It is to us an arduous and perilous system. But we are not here to appeal your decision."

"However," Proskauer stated, "if the court wishes to modify its competitive bidding proposal we will suggest alternative plans."

Proskauer related that defense attorneys spent Monday afternoon considering ways and means of "tightening up" the courts' competitive bidding plan when it became evident in the course of the morning's hearings that the court was interested in hearing alternative sales plans, as reported exclusively in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

Proskauer's statement drew an immediate response from the court.

"Do you have an alternative sales plan?" Judge Bright asked.

Proskauer replied that the Monday study had not progressed that far but said that control of runs, as well as clearance and an injunction against overbuying might make "auctions" workable.

Later on, Judge Hand said that the court had been very much impressed by the exhibitor opposition to "auction" selling and, while it was not committed to a change, due consideration would be given to exhibitor views. He added that the court was not concerned with whether or not the exhibitors were affiliated or independent.

'Prefer Collaboration'

His reference presumably was to an earlier statement by Wright that MPTOA, ATA and CSA all have affiliated theatres or partners among their members, adding that "they apparently prefer collaboration with the defendants to the relief we seek in this case."

To this Proskauer replied that the Government "ignores the great area of good will between exhibitors who are making fortunes today and the distributors who supply them with their product."

The court on several occasions checked Wright on views which he propounded.

After Wright argued that the court should find a single, group monopoly existed in the industry, Judge Hand said, "You're going back to the old proposition that taking several violations and adding them up makes a monopoly. That disregards their conduct. We have tried to interfere with monopolistic conduct where we have found it. We shouldn't go back to revive dead issues."

The Court Room Scene

THURMAN ARNOLD, former Government "trust-buster" and now counsel for American Theatres Association, took exception to Joseph Proskauer's inclusion of ATA among those advocating a cross-licensing ban against affiliated theatres, as proposed by the Government.

"I want to correct that for the record," Arnold said. "My clients are split on many subjects, but not on that. Judge Proskauer probably was confused by his knowledge of my economic views."

"Then you must be in a position that differs with your economic views," the Warner counsel remarked.

"I am in an economic position that differs with my client's views," Arnold corrected.

•

A Gilbert and Sullivan note was introduced into the hearing by Proskauer in his opening remarks to the court.

Employing the vocabulary for which he is justly famous (some suspect him of owning the copyright on the English language), Proskauer chided Robert Wright, chief Government attorney, for his talk of "destroying this monopoly."

"We have been found guilty of four things and have been enjoined from continuing them," Proskauer said. "There is an effort being made to kill this business. But I say it should be: 'Let the punishment fit the crime.'"

•

"This court never said that pictures should be put on the auction block," Judge Augustus N. Hand declared at one point.

Immediately, Herman Levy, MP TOA general counsel, was looking for congratulations.

It was his approach, in MPTOA's *amicus curiae* brief that the court had not intended that pictures be "auctioned."

Auctioneers

(*Continued from page* 1)

the right to accept or reject any or all within five days. Upon receipt of this decision, the auctioneer would send a notice of it to all qualified bidders.

"With the investigative powers of the Attorney General and the supervisory powers of the trade itself, operating through arbitration procedure, this plan would definitely control, without in any way limiting, the sale and distribution of licenses to exhibit motion pictures throughout the United States," according to the Day brief.

Appended to the brief are samples of eight forms which the company suggests might be used in carrying out the plan.

Discuss Film Morals At Meeting in Rome

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Oct. 18 (By Airmail). — A general meeting of the executive council of the OCIC (Office Catolique International du Cinema) has concluded here, with Belgian, Canadian, American, French, English, Italian, Mexican, Dutch and Swiss representatives taking part. Monsignor John J. McClafferty, executive secretary of the Legion of Decency, New York, had been scheduled to address the meeting, but was unable to make the trip because of illness.

Commenting on Wright's persistence in referring to divestiture of theatres, Judge Hand asked at one point, "Why don't you go after all their operations? Sell out all their pictures, if they make the most of the best. Sell out all their theatres. Sell everything they have."

At another point in Wright's discussion of a cross-licensing ban, Judge Bright observed, "I am just wondering whether you aren't trying to divest them of their theatres indirectly."

"If they want to give up a theatre under those conditions, that shouldn't reflect upon the procedure," Wright replied.

"You can't just rely on the hypothesis that because these people are doing wrong you must destroy them," Judge Hand interjected. "What would be the effect of your cross-licensing ban if, say, Paramount had one theatre in a town where one was sufficient. Wouldn't the town be deprived of the better pictures of the other companies, apart from any consideration of ministering to the theatre's value?"

"There would soon be another theatre in the town," Wright replied.

"But my supposition was that one was sufficient," Judge Hand reminded.

Wright then declared that the court was assuming a non-existent situation, and contended that defendants' theatre domination was in large city first runs.

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Fitzgibbons

(*Continued from page* 1)

however, that free enterprise also entailed the necessity of domestic settlement of trade problems and differences.

Something has to be done without delay because economic developments under government stabilization of admission prices are approaching the point where expenditures would meet revenue. Fitzgibbons urged unity of all forces to meet the offensive from outside the industry.

The subject was introduced when J. Earl Lawson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada urged the dissolution of government price control in the film business as quickly as possible, declaring there was no relation between inflation and cost of entertainment. Wartime conditions, when the Dominion Government sought to encourage Victory Bond investments by various measures, including the regulation of theatre prices, are now gone and controls should be dropped. The film industry will progress only as a free enterprise, Lawson declared emphatically.

Lawson described the revised film rental contract as unjust as it applied to percentage pictures for the new season but urged the exhibitors to refrain from running to the government with this problem. The best way to settle the industry's differences is through conciliation, he said.

In his later speech Fitzgibbons agreed with this argument, while also protesting the new standard form of contract provided by Canadian film distributing companies.

Considerable interest was taken by the gathering of 200 trade representatives in the first public appearance in Canada of John Davis, managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, who is here for a week's Odeon conferences. Davis spoke of British film progress, expressing the belief that the British film industry is playing an important role in world affairs. He emphasized that British product is not being sold on a nationality basis. The Rank organization is operating in every country except Russia and China, he said.

Fitzgibbons declared that Famous Players is playing British films and it has been found that British product is acceptable and desirable, adding that British pictures are important.

With but one exception, the directors of the Ontario Association were reelected, the new man on the board being H. C. D. Main of Listowel and Sutton, Ont. Officers for the new term will be chosen at the first board session.

Reports to the convention showed a membership of 306 theatres out of a total of 414 in Ontario.

Executive secretary Arch H. Jolley was complimented on his year's work, which included 53 speaking engagements in behalf of the film industry, his tours covering 35 Ontario cities and towns.

Coast Strike Rides; Look to SAG Meet

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—The strike situation here remains unchanged, with picketing continuing on a routine basis and the IASTE International still withholding action to take over the affairs of the Laboratory Workers' Local 683 for the purpose of restoring studio film processing to normal levels.

The Conference of Studio Unions, the IATSE and the producers uniformly described the day as uneventful. The next development in the situation is expected to come Thursday night when the Screen Actors Guild will conduct a round-table conference at the Knickerbocker Hotel, here, to be joined in by leaders of all the Hollywood unions, to hear a "factual report on discussions with the International heads of the American Federation of Labor" in Chicago.

The SAG invited the leaders following a board meeting last night and reports: "It is our belief that only by free and frank discussion can the present strike be settled and future jurisdictional battles averted."

Sorrell Says Unions to Fight Out Coast Troubles

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Herbert Sorrell, president of the Conference of Studio Unions, told reporters that failure of the recent AFL Chicago convention and the executive council to settle the Hollywood jurisdictional fight meant the unions involved would have to "battle it out among themselves."

Nelson to Speak Tonight

Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, Hollywood, will be the main speaker tonight at a "Business Speaks" dinner to be given by the New York Board of Trade at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

New Haven Olshan Fete

NEW HAVEN, Oct. 22.—A testimonial will be held at the Hotel Taft, here, on Oct. 28, in honor of Harry Olshan, salesman for the Columbia exchange, who recently was appointed manager of the Columbia Milwaukee branch. Walter Silverman has succeeded Olshan as salesman here.

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RKO in Mexico

(*Continued from page* 1)

first-run playing time, which is the main source of theatre revenue, with native films.

Rathvon added that a number of films had been made at the Mexican studio during its construction, including two Spanish-language features by RKO, with another to be completed before the end of the year, and others by Mexican interests. RKO will release here the English version of "The Pearl," made in both English and Spanish by RKO and Mexican producers jointly, he said.

John Ford will make a feature there, tentatively titled "The Fugitive," based on a script by Dudley Nichols, he reported. The film is slated to start in December and will be made both in English and Spanish, with American and Mexican performers. RKO Radio will release. Another RKO Radio feature based on the book "Tycoon" will go into production in January, Rathvon stated.

The new studio is equipped to handle 40 Mexican features annually, he said. Mexican production itself has economic advantages over Hollywood, but these are lessened to some extent for American producers by the costs of sending units below the border, he said.

Rathvon will return to the Coast on Oct. 31.

Paramount Changes Exploitation Staff

Changes in Paramount's exploitation department have been made by Curtis Mitchell, the company's national director of publicity and advertising, with Joseph Rosner joining the exploitation department to work on the *Paramount Sales News*.

He comes to the film industry from the International Microfilm Co. and succeeds Fred Goldberg, who will be in charge of exploitation kits for the company while continuing to handle Eastern exploitation tie-ups and home office exploitation. Goldberg takes over some of the exploitation duties formerly assigned to Joseph Callahan, who has been promoted to the post of assistant to D. John Phillips, Paramount's short subjects publicity director.

50% Personnel Rise For Mono. Abroad

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Monogram's president Steve Broidy has announced that the company will increase its exchange personnel in seven foreign countries by 50 per cent. The announcement came following conferences between Broidy and Monogram's treasurer, David D. Horne. The latter entrained for New York today.

Popkin Defers 'Impact'

Harry Popkin, producer for Pine and Thomas Productions, which release through Paramount, said yesterday in New York, just before leaving for the Coast, that the suspended shooting of his "Impact" would be postponed for another 30 days. He added that he planned to return to New York in about 10 days.

Disney Tradeshow Oct. 28

Exhibitors and RKO Radio and Disney executives will attend a trade screening of Walt Disney's Technicolor feature, "Song of the South," at the Normandie Theatre, here, Monday.

'Outlaw' Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, all as "friends of the court," and in behalf of the defendants.

Rosen submitted that the "issuance of the license by the State Board of Education (for exhibition of the film) does not preclude the Police Commissioner or the Commissioner of Licenses from prosecuting violations of law in conjunction with the exhibition and advertising of the licensed film."

He added: "A court of equity should not interfere with public officials in the performance of their duties in matters requiring the exercise of discretion, unless it can be shown that their acts are arbitrary, unreasonable and capricious."

(Edward C. Raftery, UA president, has contended in an affidavit that "what we have here is an attempt by the License Commissioner to impose a local censorship over state censorship.")

Rosen further advised the court that a proceeding is now pending with the state board which seeks revocation of the license it had granted for "The Outlaw."

Fielding submitted that a screening of the film was held by the motion picture division of the state board and officials present agreed the film to be "an offense against morality, decency and public welfare."

Commissioner Wallander in his affidavit stated: "I submit that upon the fact and circumstances disclosed to me by responsible persons . . . 'The Outlaw' . . . is sufficient to be contributing factor toward juvenile delinquency."

Arthur Scheinberg, attorney for Brandt, complained that the defendants are "in the middle of the controversy"; if they are forced to play the film they face the prospect of closing.

Zigmond at Para.

(*Continued from page* 1)

for many years. His assignments have been mostly in the field, in Denver, Los Angeles, Lincoln, and more recently, as managing-director of the Newman Theatre, Kansas City.

Zigmond came to New York during World War II loan drives, on leave of absence from Paramount to serve as national co-ordinator of advertising and publicity on the 7th War Loan Drive.

SMPE Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

board of governors, presiding. President Donald E. Hundman will make announcements of SMPE's annual awards tomorrow night at the convention banquet in the Roosevelt Hotel here.

French Film to MGM

"Battle of the Rails," French film which has been awarded the Grand International Prize at the International Film Festival in Cannes, has been acquired by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for distribution in the United States, it was announced here yesterday by Arthur M. Loew, president of M-G-M International.

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WILLIAM PRINCE

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LILY PONS

JASCHA HEIFETZ

MARTHA O'DRISCOLL

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Gentlemen:

I want to express my thanks and appreciation to you for your wonderful cooperation in the handling of all of our costume requirements for our production "Carnegie Hall".

Your costumes were beautiful, and better yet, your service was prompt. Therefore, it gives me great pleasure to write this to you after our many years of association in the Industry.

Very sincerely yours,

FEDERAL FILMS, INC.

Samuel Rheiner
Vice President
and
General Manager

SR:p

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

SHERWIN KANE, Editor

Presenting the national and world-wide news of the industry of the motion picture, from correspondents all over the United States and around the world, with bureau offices in Hollywood, London, Chicago and Washington.

. . . and

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thru

UNITED ARTISTS

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

PITTSBURGH

With the calling off of the power strike yesterday, conditions here undoubtedly will return to normal. Only a reissue of "Rebecca" did better than average business over the weekend. With transportation back on schedule, first-runs will bring in new attractions and business will soon be on the upswing. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 2-4:

REBECCA (UA-Selznick Reissue)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $9,700)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $11,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 4th week on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $3,500)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox Reissue) and DEADLINE FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,400. (Average: $3,200)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $25,000)

A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA (UA)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Penn. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

LOS ANGELES

Indian summer weather, California style, put just enough crimp in the air to push most over-all gross figures into upper levels, "My Darling Clementine" getting the edge. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,900)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $19,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,700)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,700)

THE KILLERS (U)—GUILD (965) 50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $8,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—HILLSTEET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $23,700)

THE KILLERS (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $35,500. (Average: $26,200)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $24,600)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $15,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) ($1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,800)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and APOLOGY FOR MURDER (PRC)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $16,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $23,100)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) ((3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $24,100)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 1 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE KILLERS (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,300)

THE KILLERS (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,100)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $12,500)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $8,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,600)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,100)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,700

CHICAGO

Although matinee business is a bit off, evening business is still big in the Loop, with stage attractions especially successful Danny Kaye's personal appearance at the Chicago Theatre is expected to gross $95,000, setting an all-time, 25-year high for the theatre. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23-24:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTER (UA)—CHICAGO (3,250) (65c-95c). On stage: Danny Kaye. Gross: $95,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40), twice daily, 11th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 4th week, on a moveover from the Chicago. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $18,000)

DECOY (Mono.) and BELOW THE DEADLINE (Mono.)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Frankie Carle. Gross: $51,000. (Average: $45,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and WIL DBEAUTY (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $24,000)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $29,000)

THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $35,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

OMAHA

Grosses, like the weather, are running slightly on the sunnyside here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 25-26:

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and THE STRANGE MR. GREGORY (Mono.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $8,600)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para.) and THE BISCUIT EATER (Para.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,800)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $11,100)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and THE BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,100. (Average: $6,800)

PHILADELPHIA

An unusual amount of new bookings (five) resulted in good business for first-run theatres. Holdovers and second-runs, however, fared rather poorly. Estimated grosses for the week ending Oct. 22-24:

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $26,200. (Average: $14,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $7,250)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $22,800)

DECOY (Mono.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c). With 6 days of vaudeville starring Cab Calloway. Gross, 6 days: $34,000; and THE STRANGER (RKO Radio) 1 day: $3,800. (Average: $26,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $28,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $26,000)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,800)

O.S.S. (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,500)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,800. (Average: $28,300)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $26,500. (Average: $24,900)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $11,200)

ST. LOUIS

Product this week did not woo St. Louisans back to theatres from World Series games in a week marked by mild weather and few competitive attractions. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and NIGHT TRAIN TO MEMPHIS (Rep.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and NORTH OF THE BORDER (Screen Guild Prod.)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M) and BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $9,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—MISSOURI (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $6,000)

LIVES OF A BENGAL LANCER (Para.) and RHYTHM ON THE RANGE (Para.)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

CLEVELAND

Weather was good but business was off for all except "Masquerade in Mexico," which had a big opening. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22-23:

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $23,[illegible])

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)

PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN (Mayer-Burstyn) and HYMN OF THE NATIONS (Mayer-Burstyn)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $21,400)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $22,600)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,650)

KANSAS CITY

Weather was cool to warm, mostly clear with one bad storm. The American Royal Exhibit, which draws thousands, with a net result of cancelling theatres gains of visitors by diversion of local patrons to live stock and horse shows. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22-24:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $1,750)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,000)

O.S.S. (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—TOWER 2,100) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $5,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Film theatre business is generally sluggish here this week. The best grosses are just average or below. Weather is mild. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22-23:

LOVER COME BACK (U)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c) 7 days, with Tommy Tucker's band and Mischa Auer on stage. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,800)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M.-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,400)

S. O. S. (Para.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days, on a moveover from the Circle. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $6,700)

DENVER

"Monsieur Beaucaire" was strong at the Denham and is holding. Other first-runs are mostly fine. Fall weather is helping business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23:

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and INNER CIRCLE (Rep.)—Aladdin (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire and Webber. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,500)

(*Continued on page* 13)

Key City Grosses

(*Continued from page 12*)

THE KILLERS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Esquire and Webber. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,500)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio) and BAMBLONDE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,[illegible]) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,500)

YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and MYSTERIOUS INTRUDER (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver. Esquire, Webber and the Aladdin. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $4,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $5,500.

SALT LAKE CITY

Ideal autumn weather prevails. Abbott and Costello do above average, likewise "Notorious." Some films fall slightly below par. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 24th:

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 14 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,900)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,500)

BOWERY BOMBSHELL (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,700)

TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 14 days, on a moveover. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $4,700)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,600)

TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 14 days, on a moveover. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $4,700)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $5,800)

MR. ACE (UA)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Ideal Indian summer weather, plus football continued to dominate but grosses showed a slight pickup. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 24:

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

SHADOW OF A DOUBT (U)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,400)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on a moveover from the State. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,500)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (MGM)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,500)

DODSWORTH (Film Classics)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $2,700. (Average: $2,500)

TORONTO

Four leading Toronto theatres had holdovers for the week which had a couple of days of steady rain, plus cooler weather. There was some opposition in the opening of the local National Hockey League season, several top-level football games and the last week of horse racing at Long Branch Park. Estimated reecipts for the week ending Oct. 24-25:

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,700)

SMOKY (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $14,300)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $13,300)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $14,600)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $11,400)

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

BALTIMORE

In most instances, business here is about average. An exception or two are where new attractions with box-office names are concerned. Openings were solid enough with perfect weather. Managers are attempting to build their matinee audiences. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 24:

BOYS RANCH (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $10,750)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $17,500)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, with a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE RAIDER (English Films)—VALENCIA (1,466) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,500)

PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN (Mayer-Burstyn)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)

ATLANTA

Business has been good this week in all theatres. Estimated receipts for week ending October 23, 1946:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000)

OF HUMAN BONDAGE (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,430. (Average: $8,200)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) (44c-60c) on a two-week holdover from the Fox. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,600)

SWAMP FIRE (Para.) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,200)

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

BUFFALO

Grosses were good despite competition from football and hockey. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 27:

MR. ACE (UA) and ONE WAY TO LOVE (Col.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $19,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $44,000. (Average: $18,000)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and DARK ALIBI (Mono.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and THE PHANTOM THIEF (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO) and THE FALCON'S ALIBI (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,800. (Average: $16,000)

CINCINNATI

Aided and abetted by the initial vaudeville bill at the RKO Albee, the first stage show to play that house in the past few years, "Home Sweet Homicide" is zooming. With two exceptions, returns at major houses are satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 22-25:

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALBEE (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, and five vaudeville acts headed by the Three Stooges. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $22,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M-Reissue)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)

39 STEPS (British) and WILD BEASTS AT BAY (Popular)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

NIGHT TRAIN TO MEMPHIS (Rep.) and ALIAS BILLY THE KID (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,050. (Average: $1,100)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN (Col.)—KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Shubert, following an initial week at the Palace. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, and personal appearance of Sister Kenny on the opening day. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,500)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,000)

Services on Friday For Norris Wilcox

Norris Wilcox, a pioneer in the motion picture industry, died yesterday at his home in New York, after several months of ill health. He was 66.

A brother of the late Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Wilcox began his career at Paramount in 1917 as office manager. He joined United Artists in August, 1925, and served first as sales manager for the company in Brazil, opening offices in Rio de Janeiro. Upon his return to New York he was appointed office manager and personnel director, acting in that capacity until six months ago, when he retired. Thereafter he functioned as a company adviser, on semi-active duty. He leaves a widow, Mrs. Frances Wilcox, and a brother, Robert P. Fairbanks. Requiem mass will be said at St. Ignatius Loyola Roman Catholic Church, here at 10 o'clock Friday. Interment will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery.

Services for Levin

Services were held here Monday at Park West Chapel for Benjamin Levin, industry pioneer, who died at his home here last Saturday. In 1912, he operated the Lenox Film Exchange, New York. He was the father of Jack H. Levin, vice-president and general manager of Confidential Reports, Inc., and was president of Cinema Lodge, B'ani B'rith, here.

Short Subject

"The Last Bomb"

(*Army Air Forces-Warner Brothers*)

This film brings the audience back to the last weeks of the war against Japan and shows in detail a great B-29 raid on Tokio. It was photographed in color by Army Air Forces Combat Camera Units and was supervised by Frank Lloyd. Some of the scenes are striking. The title figures in the film only in the closing seconds, with long shots of the Nagasaki atom-bomb explosion and a few words of commentary about atomic knowledge and the future. All the rest of the picture depicts the planning and execution of a tremendous air attack from the initial decision of Gen. Curtis LeMay to the return of the last of the B-29s and escorting P-51 fighters. Now, more than a year after the events, the subject may remind the public of the vast effort expended to win the war and suggest the necessities of keeping peace in the future.

National release date, November 23. Running time, 20½ minutes.

—M. Q., Jr.

John T. Doran Dead

John T. Doran, 63, pioneer in production and vice-president of the Eastern Motion Picture Assistant Directors' Association—IATSE Local No. 161—died Monday night at St. Clare's Hospital, here. For the past four years he was studio manager of Film Craft Studios in the Bronx. Funeral services will be conducted Friday afternoon at Cook's Flushing Funeral Home.

Edward Moyse Dies

Edward Moyse, president of Peerless Film Processing Co., died at his home, Manhasset, L. I., on Sunday, Surviving are his widow; a son, Lt. Kern Moyse, a sister and two brothers. Private services will be held at the residence today.

Two Drown in Arkansas

MEMPHIS, Oct. 22.—Mrs. Paul Renfro, 25, of Benton, Ark., and her five-year-old daughter, Patricia Joyce, were drowned yesterday when a boat in which they were riding with friends overturned on a lake near Little Rock. Her husband operates a theatre at Benton.

Finestone's Father Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 22.—Al Finestone flew to St. Joseph, Mo., last night to attend his father's funeral there today. Finestone's father, Jeremiah, 81, died yesterday. His widow, another son, Maurice, and a daughter also survive.

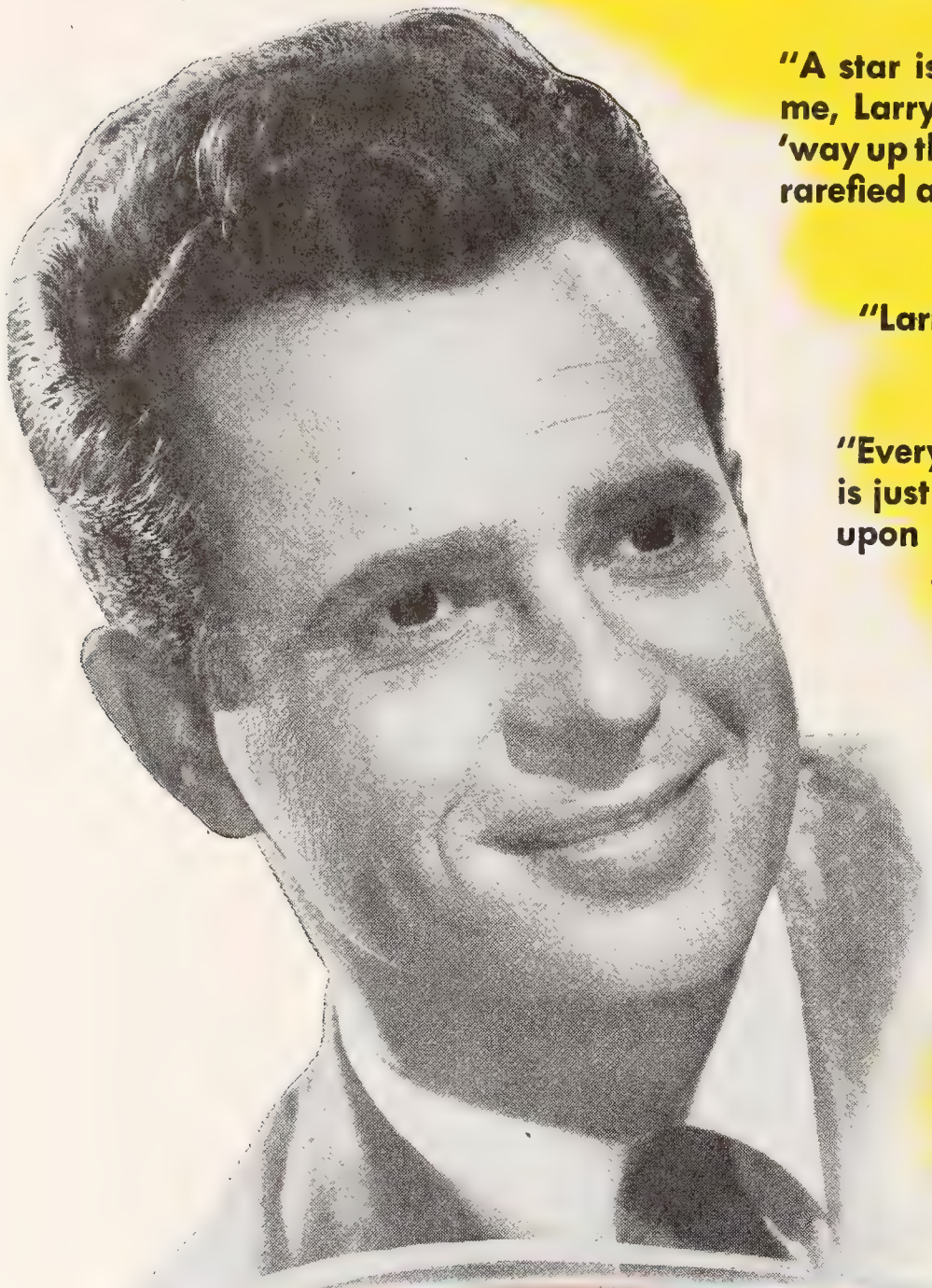
'Mirror' Grosses $50,000

Universal - International's "Dark Mirror" grossed $50,000 in its opening week at the Broadway Criterion, here. This is close to the house record.

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A GREAT PICTURE MAKES A NEW STAR!

An historic motion picture event occurred, when The Jolson Story opened at the Radio City Music Hall on October 10th. Aside from the enthusiastic reaction to an exciting entertainment triumph, great acclaim was showered on the man who plays Jolson . . . Larry Parks.



"A star is born . . . Believe me, Larry is destined to be 'way up there, breathing the rarefied air."
—Louella O. Parsons

"Larry Parks becomes a star."
—Newsweek

"Everything about 'The Jolson Story' is just right to turn Larry Parks loose upon us as a sudden new favorite."
—Alton Cook, N.Y. World-Telegram

"Larry Parks is the real surprise of the picture."
—Eileen Creelman, N.Y. Sun

"Larry Parks attains stardom." *—Motion Picture Herald*

"Larry Parks unquestionably will win an Academy nomination." *—Daily Variety*

"A sure-fire star in Larry Parks." *—Dorothy Manners*

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(Al Jolson in The Jolson Story)

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VOL. 60. NO. 82 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1946 TEN CENTS

Court Denies UA Move on 'Outlaw' Run

Means Citywide Ban on Film; UA Will Appeal

United Artists' motion for a mandatory injunction compelling Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer to comply with their contract with UA for exhibition of "The Outlaw" in three Broadway theatres was denied yesterday by Justice Carroll G. Walter in the New York State Supreme court.

Brandt and Mayer had cancelled bookings of the picture on the grounds that it was locally objectionable and they would be subject to prosecution by the district attorney and loss of

(*Continued on page 6*)

Control of Authors Criticized by Price

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Proposal for the creation of an American Authors Authority to control the sale of film and other literary rights was criticized as a threat to free speech by Byron Price, Motion Picture Association vice-president, in an address before the National Association of Broadcasters here tonight.

Warning that present federal legis-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Italy Proposes a Sweeping Tax Levy

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Oct. 19 (By Airmail).—A sweeping plan for a "tax on wealth" has been advanced here by the Italian Finance Minister, Mauro Scoccimarro, a Communist.

Now under consideration, the bill, if passed, would affect even foreign companies, corporations and individuals in Italy, including, presumably, the American picture companies.

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

"Never Say Goodbye" is reviewed on page 4; "Notorious Gentleman" on page 7. Estimates of key city grosses appear on page 5.

Nelson Says Strike May Last 9 Months

"Unless the Government steps in and brings the (Hollywood studio) strikers to their senses," the present jurisdictional dispute may go on for another nine months, Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, told a New York Board of Trade audience at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel here last night.

"The producers are trying feebly to cooperate toward a settlement, although they are threatened by both sides of the argument," Nelson added.

MPEA Rounding Up Contraband Prints

Collection of contraband prints of films belonging to Motion Picture Export Association members is one of the initial problems which MPEA must overcome as it undertakes expansion of distribution in the South Korean market, according to Charles Mayer, managing director in Japan and Korea. Mayer, who recently returned to Tokyo after a 10-day trip through American military-controlled zones of Korea, discloses in his report that he departed from Seoul, capital of South Korea, with the promise of full cooperation from military authorities in rounding up illicit prints.

Reporting that local and governmental administration in Korea has been turned over to natives, Mayer

(*Continued on page 7*)

US Expects Three Film Cases in High Court at Same Time

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23. — Three major anti-trust cases against the motion picture industry may arrive before the U. S. Supreme Court on appeal from lower Federal jurisdictions at about the same time, the Department of Justice said here.

While not commenting on the relationship of the three monopoly cases, the belief was expressed that the Griffith, Schine and Paramount cases "may" all be on the Supreme Court's docket at once.

(Company attorneys in New York added to the three, an appeal in the Jackson Park Theatre case of Chicago).

The differences between legal opinions already rendered in the three cases have created a state of confusion at the Justice Department.

(*Continued on page 7*)

December Meet for Tri-States Owners

MEMPHIS, Oct. 23.—Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners will be called into an annual meeting in Memphis in December, J. A. West, president, announces. A meeting of the board of directors will be held soon to set the date. West hopes to have the general session of theatre owners of Arkansas, Tennessee and Mississippi meet at the Variety Club

(*Continued on page 6*)

New Award Plan, Student Chapters Set by SMPE

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—The 60th semi-annual convention of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, with a record attendance of 400 at the Hotel Roosevelt here this week, are giving Hollywood an insight into the technical and scientific aspects of the industry.

Sixty-five papers are being read, many accompanied by demonstrations, in five days of convention, with sessions transferred frequently to major studios in interests of space and comfort. Topics covered ranged from explanation of photography's part in Bikini atomic bomb tests, by Lieut. Col. Richard J. Cunningham, to such obstruse subjects as Frank G. Buck's "Physical Properties and Practical Application of Zoomar Lens," with television and 16 mm. film coming in for their share of discussion.

Predicting even greater achievements in years to come, SMPE president Donald E. Hyndman disclosed a decision by the board of governors to authorize the establishment of student chapters in schools and colleges.

Hyndman also revealed acceptance by the board of Warners' proposal to make an annual award to the individual or company making the greatest contribution during the year to the advancement of motion picture engineering.

Following are the awards and citations being presented this year:

(*Continued on page 6*)

Four Theatre Units Study Selling Plan

Decisions on 'Auctions' Alternative Due Today

Four of the five exhibitor organizations which have applied to be heard in the New York anti-trust suit either as intervenors or "friends of the court" were considering the distributor defendants' proposed alternative to "auction" selling last night, following an all day meeting with defense counsel here yesterday.

The fifth organization, the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Organizations, reportedly declined to consider the proposal on the grounds that it was submitted on too short a

(*Continued on page 6*)

Coast Strife Boils Anew; Brewer Acts

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Activity on the strike-bound labor front here was renewed today, after two-day lull, with both the CSU and the IATSE taking steps to unfreeze the recently static situation created by the IATSE laboratory workers' observance of CSU picket lines.

Acting on authority, telegraphed him last night by president Richard F. Walsh, IATSE International representative Roy Brewer today made a demand on officers of Local No. 683,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston, Zukor, Others to Europe

A number of industry notables have booked passage on the *Queen Elizabeth*, which will sail from here for England tomorrow, including Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and his party consisting of Irving Maas, Gerald Mayer, Gerald Movius, and Joyce O'Hara.

Also, William J. Donovan, former RKO counsel; Adolph Zukor, Paramount board chairman; George Weltner, president of Paramount International; James E. Perkins, Paramount managing director in Great Britain; Walter Wanger and his wife, Joan Bennett; Ray Milland and Pat O'Brien.

Personal Mention

DONALD NELSON, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, will leave New York for the Coast today.

•

SCOTT R. DUNLAP, executive assistant to president STEVE BROIDY of Monogram, has left Hollywood for a two-week South Dakota hunting and fishing vacation.

•

C. H. WEAVER, Paramount branch manager, is en route to Oklahoma City from New York. L. W. MCCLINTOCK, branch manager, is here from Memphis.

•

ELMER HOLLANDER, PRC's playdate department chief, will leave New York today for Philadelphia. He will return Saturday.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, United Artists' Eastern sales manager, who recently returned here from Canada, left last night for Scranton, Pa.

•

MARTHA ANN WYNNE, Paramount's Memphis contract clerk, and JAMES BRASSFIELD, will be married at West Memphis, Ark., tomorrow.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN, Universal-International's New York-Coast liaison, is scheduled to leave here for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

LEO SAMUELS of the Walt Disney office here has left on a two-week trip to Cleveland, Detroit, Cincinnati, Indianapolis and Chicago.

•

ELROD SIMS, district manager for Georgia Theatres, Gainsville, Ga., was a recent visitor in Atlanta.

•

WILLIAM O'SULLIVAN, manager of the Rialto, Hartford, and MRS. O'SULLIVAN are back in Hartford from New York.

•

CARROLL OSBORNE has moved up from booker to salesman at the Warner branch in Charlotte.

•

ROBERT CANNON, Salt Lake City theatre owner, was a recent visitor in Atlanta.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec's vice-president, and P. F. THOMAS, treasurer, have returned here from Detroit.

•

JAMES MULVEY, president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, is back in New York from the Coast.

•

LOUIS ASTOR, Columbia circuit sales executive, left here yesterday for Los Angeles, Seattle and Denver.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern division sales chief, will leave here on Sunday for Atlanta.

•

MR. and MRS. PAUL MYERS, McCrory, Ark., exhibitors, are parents of a new-born boy.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warners, left New York yesterday for Chicago.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

IT will be backs to an inescapable wall before the five theatre owning - and - operating companies relinquish a single house. The major defendants in the Government case may be expected to concede, or to compromise, on a number of things before the muddled outcome is eventually determined. But don't include theatres.

If they can't make franchise deals—and they can't—they'll make individual deals. If they can't maintain pools—and they can't do that, either — their pooled theatres will revert to the parent group and their exhibition structure continue unimpaired, numerically. The beginning and the end simply is this:

The five companies believe they have the right to their theatres and won't surrender unless the Supreme Court orders the flag hauled down.

■

This means resistance, of course. Its latest turn, merely a part of the continuing struggle, is the move to hold certain operations where company interest is presently less than 95 per cent, but where such interest was 95 or better at one time. In a few cases, the companies say they disposed of portions of their holdings to joint ownership arrangements "in an effort to preserve for the creditors a partial interest in operating subsidiaries."

Some of these setups, it is averred, were created "under economic stress during the depression [presumably 1929, but not defined] or during bankruptcies." The defendants, furthermore, saw nothing unlawful when these transactions were made. They maintain there is no restraint of trade in holding on to the balance where it now dips under 95 per cent and express the consolidated opinion the New York court never intended such dissolutions anyway.

The answer to this interesting approach? All in good time.

■ ■

Everyone recalls, and well, those pre-decree days when distributors told all comers what they intended releasing per given season. Then came blocks of five, riding from one season into another. Now it's even more vague under the uncertainties of U. S. vs. Paramount, et al.

Thus, yesterday, from Metro: "Outstanding contemporary novels and classics will predominate Metro - Goldwyn-Mayer's *future releasing schedules.*" [Italics, ours.]

The future is a long time.

June wasn't so long ago. Then, in Hollywood where everything is bigger anyway, Grad Sears was quoted predicting a $10,000,000 domestic gross for "The Outlaw."

■

In the welter of legal papers cascading down on the question of a Broadway run was an affidavit from him. The film, he said, had grossed $1,433,000 in film rentals up to now.

Only $8,567,000 to go.

■ ■

Si Seadler, musing aloud about trends and such, ups to remark:

"This fellow, *Amicus Curiae,* is getting to be quite an industry character. I think maybe someone ought to enter him at the title registration bureau of the Johnston office."

Not a tip Metro intends reissuing "Curie," is it?

■ ■

Louella O. Parsons reporting: "The most money I've ever heard of an actor receiving for making a picture has been offered to Gregory Peck by Casey Robinson to star in a sequel of 'The Macomber Affair'. . . . When producers want Peck, money is no object. In this case, he was offered 50 per cent of the gross."

If money is no object, what is it then?

■ ■

Columbia seeks to have a new consent decree, if and when, prohibit booking combines. That didn't prevent deal with Milton Mooney, whose Cooperative Theatres of Ohio buy and book for over 100 houses in the Cleveland area.

■ ■

Bob Hope's new book, "So This Is Peace," is being "published by the Bob Hope Corporation" and *"distributed* by Simon and Schuster."

Film influences in the book business?

■ ■

Ever hear about that attraction which grossed $2,800 in its first week on Broadway? The producer spent $12,000 on newspaper advertising alone.

Capra, 20 Years a Director This Week

Frank Capra is celebrating his 20th anniversary as a director this week. His first effort in that capacity was a Harry Langdon comedy, "The Strong Man," which opened at the Mark Strand Theatre on Broadway 20 years ago this week.

Since then, Capra has gained distinction with his work on such pictures as "Lady for a Day," "It Happened One Night," "Mr. Smith Goes to Washington," "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town," "Meet John Doe," and others.

Recently, in association with William Wyler, George Stevens and Sam Briskin, Capra formed Liberty Films. His first for the new company, "It's a Wonderful Life," starring Jimmy Stewart and Donna Reed, is nearing completion and will be released by RKO Radio.

O'Brien, Driscoll Name Is Changed

The industry law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll & Raftery has been changed to O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery & Lawler following the recent death of Dennis J. O'Brien, the former senior member of the firm.

Paul O'Brien, son of the deceased and an assistant secretary of United Artists, and T. Newman Lawler, a partner in the firm for the past several years, are represented in the firm's name change. Arthur Driscoll and Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, are the other partners included in the firm's name.

Goldhammer Heads 6 Eagle-Lion Offices

L. E. Goldhammer, formerly Western sales supervisor for Film Classics, has joined Eagle-Lion as special sales representative supervising the company's branches in Los Angeles, Salt Lake City, Denver, Portland, Seattle and San Franciso, it is announced here by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle-Lion. The appointment will become effective Nov. 1.

Goldhammer will have headquarters in Los Angeles. Before becoming associated with Film Classics in 1944, he had held various sales posts with RKO Radio.

Formby Rites Saturday

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Private funeral services will be held at Inglewood, Calif., Cemetery Chapel on Saturday morning for William G. Formby, newspaperman and former field editor of *Motion Picture Herald,* who died early this week as a result of an accidental fall in Kansas City.

Pink Acquires Mayan

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—Sidney Pink, Independent operator of the Melvan Theatre, Hollywood neighborhood house, has leased the downtown Mayan, with the announced intention of operating both on a day-and-date first-run policy.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr.. Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

THE VERDICT is coming!



The suspense is killing!!

"THE VERDICT" COMES FROM WARNERS

U.S. 16mm. Abroad Faces Difficulties

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23. — Difficult ramifications are entering into the exhibition of 16mm. films abroad, Haven Falconer, chief of the 16mm. non-theatrical division of Loew's International said here today in an address before the Washington Visual Workers.

Pointing to the difficulty of acquiring cooperation abroad in the 16mm. program, Falconer disclosed that even Great Britain is giving the 16mm. "cultural" program the "cold shoulder." The Loews executive asserted that the program will get under way by Nov. 1. A group of selected features will be offered to British schools, including "Goodbye, Mr. Chips" and "David Copperfield." Metro news trailers will also be included, he said.

Falconer blasted nationalistic commercial restrictions, which he claims are hampering the 16mm. program. The same obstacles are being met by those distributors desiring to exhibit feature runs, he pointed out, adding that educational pictures are subject to duties and other trade barriers, like entertainment pictures. He stated that this country should lower its barriers on educational pictures as an example for other nations. He disclosed that the British, particular about the exhibition of American films in that country have demanded that the sound tracks be changed and that American "English" be changed to British "English," which is just a matter of accent.

Texas Film Starts Soon

SAN ANTONIO, Oct. 23.—Western Adventures, Inc., will next do a film, tentatively titled "Cow-Town" with "Red River" Dave, WOAI singing cowboy star in the top spot. Filming is expected to start in the near future. Josh Binney, director for All-American Negro Films, will handle the megaphone on what is said to be a Western picture with Negroes.

Review

"Never Say Goodbye"

(Warner Bros.)

STARTING as the tender story of a divorced couple and their little daughter who wants them together again, this substantial show later slips a gear into knockabout farce, but in both media Errol Flynn is so good—and fetching—that audiences probably will go along with him at both speeds. Eleanor Parker, as the wife, does a lot more than help decorate the scene, which she does also, and Patti Bradi furnishes all the heart throbs and cuteness expected of her tender years. What's more, there are some clever lines. The film is undistinguished, competent, commercially safe.

The buoyant, handsome guy's trouble is that too many alluring models pose in the scant for those magazine drawings he does. He married one, and Patti resulted. Now, under the law, she spends six months in each household, and the old romance flares up when he delivers her at the end of his half year. Or maybe it has never died down—just been smothered a bit by "the old battle ax," Miss Parker's ma, Lucille Watson, who does not care much for technical infidelity. Neither, for that matter, does Flynn, who tries hard to ditch his latest attachment, Peggy Knudsen. But, as S. Z. Sakall, restaurateur-comedian, expresses it: "What's a man to do? You take a woman out to dinner a couple of hundred times, and right away she wants to get married."

The farce gets rolling in the restaurant, where the two women meet, and stampedes to the ex-wife's home on Christmas eve, when Flynn and the family lawyer, Donald Woods, put on beards and start pulling each other's over the question of playing Santa for the seven-year-old darling. Finally we have a mammoth Marine, Forrest Tucker, as Miss Parker's new companion, and he goes in for that business of tossing our hero over his shoulder—until the light dawns and he finds a way to toss the relatively-true lovers back into each other's arms.

William Jacobs produced. James V. Kern directed, plus writing the screen play with I. A. L. Diamond, from an adaptation by Lewis R. Foster of Ben and Norma Barzman's story, which is listed as original.

Running time, 97 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 9.

TOM LOY

AAA Denies Request To Alter Clearance

A complaint entered against Loew's, by Joy Theatres, Inc., Shreveport, La., alleging that it granted "unreasonable clearance of 35 days" on first-run pictures to Glenwood Theatre, has been denied by the motion picture arbitration tribunal of the New Orleans district.

William A. West, arbitrator, in rendering the decision, turned down the complainant's request for elimination of clearance or, as an altenative, for reducing clearance to one day but not longer than 30 days after, the regional release date of the defendant's pictures.

World Premieres for Two Warner Films

World premiere of "Never Say Goodbye," Warner production, will take place at a special midnight performance Nov. 2 at the Saenger Theatre, New Orleans, where the picture will open its regular run Nov. 9. First regular engagement starts Nov. 3 at the Palmetto Theatre, Columbia, S. C., while the Fox Theatre, St. Louis, will show the picture starting with a midnight performance on Nov. 4.

Warner's "The Verdict" also will have its world premiere outside New York, opening on Nov. 6 at the Strand, Albany, N. Y., to be followed by pre-release runs in some 50 Eastern spots.

Both pictures later will play the New York Strand.

Unity Presents Film On Sites for UN Home

A film on the proposed sites for permanent United Nations headquarters has been produced by Unity Films, Inc., for the headquarters commission of the United Nations. It will be presented to the General Assembly during the second part of the first session, which began at Flushing yesterday.

The film was produced in cooperation with a special committee appointed by the headquarters commission, the Film and Visual Information Division (Department of Public Information), and the Presentation Service (Department of Conference and General Services). It was directed by Victor D. Solow of Unity, with the animation executed by Minitoons, Inc.

Ira Gross Joins PRC

Ira Gross, former member of Warners' exploitation department, has been named to handle exploitation for PRC in the Pittsburgh area.

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Hollywood

By THALA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 23

ENTERPRISE has concluded negotiations with Charles Laughton to portray a Gestapo agent in the Ingrid Bergman-Charles Boyer vehicle, "Arch of Triumph." The company has also secured the service of Maria Palmer for an important role in another Enterprise production, "The Other Love," which stars Barbara Stanwyck and David Niven . . . Marina Koshetz has been assigned a key part in "Cabbages and Kings," which Joe Pasternak is preparing for production at M-G-M.

•

Broadway director Michael Gordon has been signed by U-I to a long-term contract, and will direct "Black Velvet" as his initial assignment. Joseph Sistrom is slated to produce the film, described as a modern mystery drama . . . Edward Arnold is set for a top role in M-G-M's current "Dr. Gillespie" picture, titled "The Personal Touch" . . . Paramount has purchased "Guardian of the Angels," by L. L. Foreman, a feature which appeared recently in Collier's. *Lou Harris has been assigned to produce.*

•

Robert Montgomery and Audrey Totter will be teamed in "Upward to the Stars," a story by Charles Martin recently purchased by M-G-M expressly for the two players. George Haight will produce . . . Rhonda Fleming has had her Vanguard contract extended . . . Paul Campbell has been cast by Columbia in the male lead of "Millie's Daughter," which Sidney Salkow is directing . . . Cliffton Young, under contract to Warners, has been assigned an important role in "Dark Passage," which will co-star Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall.

•

Director Robert Siodmak has been signed to a new contract by U-I . . . Arthur Marx, son of comedian Groucho Marx, has been signed by Columbia to write the screenplay for the next in the studio's "Blondie" series.

•

John Reinhardt, veteran director, has been engaged by Jack Wrather Productions to do the unit's first picture, "The Guilty," co-starring Bonita Granville and Don Castle . . . Alan Young has been assigned a top role in the forthcoming 20th Century-Fox production, "Chicken Every Sunday" . . . Shelley Winters has been engaged by Jules Levey for a key spot in his current picture for United Artists release, "New Orleans."

•

Paramount producers William Pine and William Thomas have acquired the screen rights to Milton Raison's original story, "Hard-boiled," action drama dealing with dynamite and demolition . . . Jack Bauer has joined Enterprise as associate casting director . . . Composer-conducted Daniele Amfitheatrof has been signed to a term contract by U-I, and will compose the original score for the Walter Wanger production, "Smash-Up" . . . Elisha Cooke, Jr., has been engaged by Hakim-Litvak Productions for an important part in the current melodrama, "A Time to Kill."

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Business is improving after a slump last week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 23-25:

THE KILLERS (U) and THE DARK HORSE (U)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Orpheum. Gross: $8,750.

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and STRANGE JOURNEY (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $44,000. (Average: $32,000)

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) With vaudeville. 7 days. Gross: $37,000. (Average: $32,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $14,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $23,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and G. I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and THE DARK HORSE (U)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Orpheum. Gross: $1,100.

YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $14,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $27,000)

BOSTON

Business held up well at most first-run theatres, although retail stores are experiencing a slump. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 23:

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Dave Apollon and revue. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,400)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and EARL CARROLL SKETCH BOOK (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,900)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $27,600. (Average: $25,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue) and SHADOWED (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $23,500)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and EARL CARROLL SKETCH BOOK (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,100)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue) and SHADOWED (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,900)

Breen Has Operation

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 23.—Production Code Administrator Joseph I. Breen was resting comfortably tonight following a gall bladder operation at the Hollywood Hospital today.

Kirk Leaves Memphis

MEMPHIS, Oct. 23.—T. B. Kirk, local branch manager for Republic, left last week for Dallas to become branch manager there. He was succeeded in Memphis by Nat Wyse.

Jarratt Hails US-British Exchange

Production of "high quality" motion pictures in Britain, engendering an exchange of artists and technicians between America and England, creates "the type of healthy competition which is good for the industry as a whole," Sir Arthur Jarratt, managing director of British Lion, distributing company for Sir Alexander Koda and several other producers, declared here yesterday. "Competition between British and American films can lead to increasingly better screen products," he added.

Jarratt, who arrived here Monday on the *Queen Elizabeth,* bringing with him a print of the Marcel Carne film, "Les Enfants du Paradis" ("Children of Paradise"), stated that one of the purposes of his visit is to "survey American reactions to British productions." He said he would solicit the opinions of "ordinary people, of people who are not connected with the film industry."

Asserting that the last three or four years have seen a change in American reception of British motion pictures, Jarratt explained that among the reasons for "this new, more cordial reaction" were the physical and cultural fact that millions of Americans lived in England during the war.

GPE Quarterly Net Profit at $349,408

General Precision Equipment Corp. and its subsidiary companies report a consolidated net operating profit for the three months ended Sept. 30, after provision for federal income taxes, of $349,408, subject to year-end adjustments. This compares with a consolidated net profit of $355,841, for the three months ended Sept. 30, 1945.

In the recent period, GPE realized an additional profit of $144,511 from the sale of investments, according to the report.

Legion of Decency Approves Six Films

The National Legion of Decency has approved six new films, four of them for general patronage and two for adult audiences. The pictures and their ratings follow:

Class A-1, "Gas House Kids," PRC; "Margie," 20th Century-Fox; "My Brother Talks to Horses," M-G-M, and "Song of the South," RKO Radio. Class A-2, "Cloak and Dagger," Warners, and "The Years Between," Universal-International.

'Dillinger' Strong in S.A.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 23.—"Dillinger," Monogram film produced by King Bros., is breaking records in South America, it is announced by president Steve Broidy. The picture did $16,000 in its first two weeks at the Normandie theatre, Buenos Aires, and $15,000 in the same period at the Bandeirantes, Sao Paulo. It was the first ever to play two weeks at the Radio Cine, Havana, grossing $20,000.

Dolan Over All Europe

Patrick Dolan, manager of Foote, Cone and Belding, London, has been placed in charge of all the agency's European activities, it was announced here yesterday by Col. Harry A. Berk, vice-president in charge of the international division. Dolan's headquarters will remain in London.

Television Receiver Output in Spurt

Production of television receivers, which has been almost negligible since before the war, started rolling on a substantial basis during September, when 3,242 units were made, according to the Radio Manufacturers Association. Only 225 sets had been made during the previous eight months of the year. Of the September output, with few exceptions, all are of the video-radio-phonograph combination type, RMA states in its report, based on records of its individual company members.

Revamped Procedure For Surplus Sales

WASHINGTON, Oct. 23.—A revamped procedure for the sale of electronics equipment began this week with the War Assets Administration using agents who receive fixed commissions, in place of cost-plus-fixed fee contracts. The commission will be 35 per cent for the material sold. Each agent will have to deduct from his commission the handling costs, such as storage and merchandising costs.

Very little photographic equipment remains on the Government surplus list. It is believed that no more large-scale electronic equipment sales will be held, especially those dealing with film materials and equipment.

UA to Release 20 Films in Argentine

Motion pictures are thriving in the Argentine, reported Sam Bekeris, United Artists general manager in that area, who is in New York on business, adding that UA this year will release 20 features there. Bekeris, in the U. S. for the first time since 1944, said that many theatres are under construction or planned, to add to the 192 now operating in Buenos Aires.

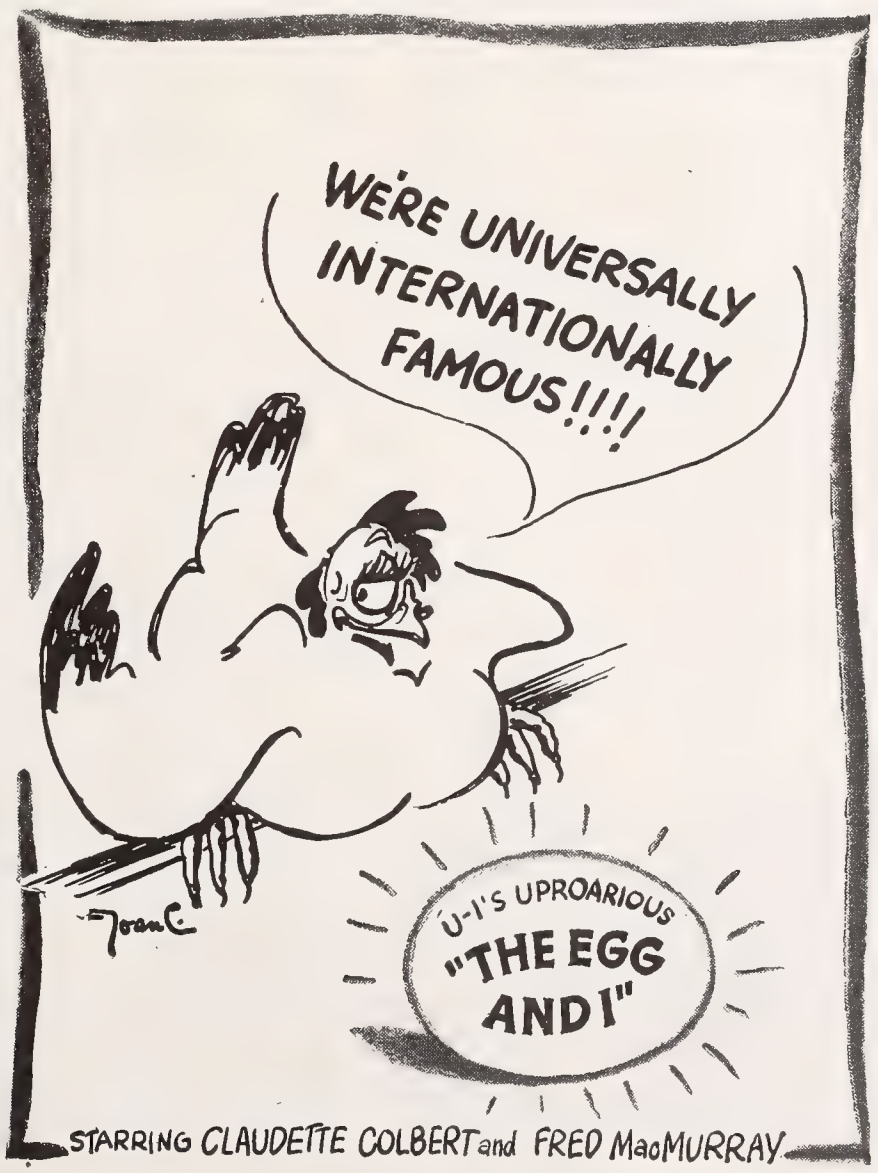
The war curtailed Argentine production, due to lack of raw stock, but the country will this year produce a capacity of 30 to 40 features. Although there is no limitation of film imports, the government requires that "A" houses play at least one Argentine picture every two months, neighborhood theatres being restricted to two weeks of native production out of every five weeks.

Bekeris said that 16mm. films "probably had a good future" in the Argentine, and that RKO and M-G-M were starting a program of narrow-gage film distribution in the territory.

Bekeris will return to his Buenos Aires office in three or four weeks.

20th-Fox 'Gin' Tourney

Ted Shaw and Harry Spencer comprised the winning team in the final gin rummy tournament of the year held by the 20th Century-Fox Family Club at the Henry Hudson Hotel Tuesday night. The team received $50. The $25 cash prize in the loser's match went to Anne Fishman and Betty Reinis.



Selling Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

notice and that action by its board of directors, which is improbable immediately, would be required to approve it.

The four organizations which are studying the "auction" alternative are the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, American Theatres Association, Confederacy of Southern Associations and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association.

It was reported late last night that the four latter organizations regard the distributors' selling proposal as better than the court's competitive bidding plan but little wholehearted enthusiasm for it was to be discerned in any quarter. Several representatives of these organizations said that it might be acceptable to them with further modifications or amplifications and others were busy during the night contacting officers and directors of their organizations by telephone to get their views and instructions.

No final report on the exhibitors' reaction is likely before court reconvenes this morning after a recess yesterday.

The U. S. District court, which is hearing arguments on the final decree to be entered in the industry anti-trust suit, directed the defense attorneys on Tuesday to meet yesterday with counsel and representatives of the five exhibitor organizations which are participating in the court hearings to obtain the views of the latter on the proposed alternative to "auction" selling.

A Short Day

The court indicated at the time that due consideration would be given to the proposal by the court when hearings resume today if the exhibitor reaction was favorable. The inference was that without a favorable exhibitor reception, the proposal's day in court would be a short one.

What effect CIEA's reported defection will have on the court's attitude today toward the proposal, even if it is approved by the other four organizations today, was unpredictable last night.

The proposed alternative to "auction" selling, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, authorizes:

"An injunction against arbitrarily refusing to license any feature on a run (designated by the distributor) which is requested by an exhibitor who operates in competition with a theatre not owned by that distributor. Such run must be negotiated theatre by theatre and feature by feature.

"The license must be granted solely upon the merits of the theatre, without discrimination among competitors in favor of theatres affiliated with another defendant or circuits or old customers or anyone else."

Robert L. Wright, chief government counsel in the anti-trust suit, indicated in court on Tuesday that the government would oppose the proposal if it was offered for inclusion in a final decree.

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SMPE Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

The *SMPE Journal* award to Ralph Talbot for papers on "Projection Life of Film." Honorable mention to D. Epstein and I. G. Maloff for "Projection Television," E. W. Kellogg for "ABC of Photographic Sound Recording," and M. H. Sweet for "Densitometry of Modern Reversible Color Film."

Scrolls of achievement to Bell Telephone Laboratories, D. Lee DeForest, General Electric, the M-G-M studio, RCA, 20th Century-Fox, Western Electric, and Westinghouse, with Dr. Harvey Fletcher, Jack Gaines, S. E. Gates, Douglas Shearer, Max C. Batel, Earl I. Sponable, T. K. Stevenson and Charles A. Dostal, respectively, accepting the scrolls.

Fellowship Awards

SMPE fellowships to Ralph B. Austrian, RKO Television Corp.; Edmund A. Bertram, DeLuxe Laboratories; John W. Boyle, M-G-M; Thomas T. Moulton, 20th-Fox; William H. Offenhauser, CSB; Lawrence T. Sachtleben, RCA, and A. Shapiro, AMPRO Corp.

To the SMPE honor roll are added the names of the late Sam Warner, E. B. Craft and Theodore W. Case.

Loren L. Ryder was elected president, succeeding Hyndman, with Earl I. Sponable executive vice-president; Clyde R. Keith, editorial vice-president; W. C. Kunsmann, convention vice-president; Edmund A. Bertram, treasurer; G. T. Lawrence, secretary. Named to the board of governors were: East, D. B. Joy and R. M. Cobin; West, C. R. Daily, H. W. Moyse and J. W. Ooyle.

Byron Price, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, made the welcoming address to the conventioneers.

The society's annual banquet and ball were held tonight, with Hyndman presenting the awards.

Authors' Control

(*Continued from page* 1)

lation would permit radio censorship to become a reality, Price said: "So long as radio stations must go back to Washington at short intervals for renewal of license, just so long free speech on the radio will stand in jeopardy."

Price, who was director of censorship during the war, said some Government forces at that time made efforts to impose potentially permanent shackles on freedom of expression and urged that the motion picture, radio and newspaper industries fight all attempts at Government regulation in peacetime.

Advertising is the right arm of a free press and free radio just as it is the right arm of distribution, Niles Trammell, president of the National Broadcasting Co., told the meeting.

Trammell declared: "Not only is advertising in the public interest, but it is the very expression of that interest in all that is new, all that is better, all that inspires, stimulates, and drives us to make this a world of peace, of strength, of freedom, of equal opportunity, for all."

Styles in U-I Sales

Buford Styles, formerly office manager for Universal-International's Atlanta branch, has been appointed sales representative by Jim Bartlow, manager of the branch. Charlie Clark, formerly sales representative, is now assistant to Partlow.

Italy Proposes

(*Continued from page* 1)

The plan, according to newspaper reports, calls for state confiscation of all property owned by any single individual in Italy valued in excess of 2,000,000 lire. At 225 lire to the dollar this would be about $8,888.

The bill presupposes withdrawal of all currency now in circulation and then replacing it with new notes. Property affected would be everything of commercial value. Tax rates would range from 10 per cent on property valued at between 2,000,000 and 5,000,000 lire to 90 per cent on property valued between 1,500,000,000 and 2,000,000,000 lire.

Epicarmo Corbino, former Secretary of the Treasury, is of the opinion, however, that the Italian peace treaty will prohibit the Italian government from taxing foreign persons or companies.

A new distribution company, Libertas Film, has been formed in Rome to handle Russian pictures. The Sovexportfilm is advertising its pictures widely here and it is clear that after last year's failure of Russian product to gain a wide market a new and concentrated attempt will be made to find screen time for Soviet pictures.

Italian Production Exceeds Demands

ROME, Oct. 19 (By Airmail)—Italian production has increased to a point where it exceeds the demand. Approximately 60 Italian features will be distributed during 1946-47.

The release of pictures in Italy, including foreign and Italian features, is at present on the average of more than one a day. Before the war the average was about two pictures every three days. Thus releases today have almost doubled over the pre-war schedule.

It is reported that Italian theatres are booked until next spring and will not accept new contracts before April, 1947.

Meanwhile, United Artists' "The Southerner" was judged best of all features shown at the Venice Cinema Festival, just concluded. Others mentioned included "Les Enfants du Paradis," France; "The Oath," Russia; "Henry V," England; "The Undaunted," Russia; "Paisa," Italy; "Panique," France; "Hangmen Also Die," U.S.; "The Sun Rises Still," Italy.

Other American features exhibited were "Love Letters," "This Love of Ours," "The Bells of St. Mary's," "Bambi," "Scarlet Street," "The Life of Emile Zola," "Song to Remember," "Old Acquaintance," "Wonder Man" and "The Picture of Dorian Gray."

Tri-States

(*Continued from page* 1)

in Hotel Gayoso the first week in the month.

Officers for the coming year will be elected. There is no plan to act on the proposed affiliation of the Tri-State organization with the American Theatres Association, West said.

West and W. F. Ruffin, Covington, Tenn., theatre owner, have returned from the meeting of the MPTOA in Washington.

Casey to Warner Staff

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Warners' field public relations staff for the Midwest territory has been increased to three by the addition of Frank Casey, recently with the Warner Circuit.

'Outlaw'

(*Continued from page* 1)

their theatres' licenses if they played it. The theatres involved are Brandt's Republic and Gotham and Mayer's Rialto.

George Raftery, counsel for UA, said that an appeal will be taken in the Appellate Division of the State Supreme court. He added that notice of the appeal will be filed this week.

Upon hearing the decision, UA announced that it will cancel all advertising for the film here. Howard Hughes' ads announcing the Saturday opening on Broadway have been appearing in New York papers for the past several days.

In his opinion, Judge Walter said: "It seems to me unthinkable that a court should order the defendants to do an act which almost certainly would subject them to criminal proceeding and may cause them to be convicted of a crime."

This was in reference to strong objections of the film advanced by License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding, Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, and New York City Corporation Counsel Dan Rosen.

In reviewing the case Judge Walter observed that the motion picture director of the New York State Board of Education had approved the film and was in direct disagreement with the New York City public officials, who have branded the picture as "immoral and obscene."

However, he continued, this "does not prevent local police authorities or the county district attorney from prosecuting violation of the law and of course would not prevent a jury from convicting the defendants." He further ruled that the State Board of Education's license for the exhibition of the film thus becomes revoked in the city.

No Arbitrary Action

The court found, it stated, no evidence supporting UA's argument that the Police Commissioner and the License Commissioner acted arbitrarily or maliciously in saying they would proceed against the defendants, Brandt and Mayer, should they exhibit the film.

The court's decision, if sustained on appeal, would immediately bar "The Outlaw" from showing in New York City and establish a new principle of police power over films in the city, namely, that a theatre's license could be withdrawn on similar grounds even before exhibition of a film.

The ruling, if upheld, would additionally bring objectionable film advertising into the legal limelight. "Outlaw" promotion copy had been the subject of severe criticism by New York City officials.

Meanwhile, Commissioner Fielding's petition for the Board of Education's reconsideration of its approval of the film will be argued tomorrow at a hearing at the board's office in downtown New York. In the event that the board reverses its original decision, "The Outlaw" would be banned in all of New York State.

IT'S THE
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Short Subject

"The Soviets' Neighbor"

(*The March of Time*)

Czechoslovakia, surrounded by Russia and her dominated countries, and the resultant effect of this territorial engulfment, is the subject of the latest "[illegible]h of Time."

The question of Czechoslovakia's ability to maintain her traditional friendship with the Western democracies is treated in this film, which includes some highly dramatic scenes in that nation's thinking and actions. The fate of the man who carried out the destruction of Lidice—Karl Hermann Frank—and one of history's great forced migrations, the expulsion of the Sudeten Germans, are effectively presented. A general idea of the country and its people, the reconstruction and its politics, is conveyed.

Release date, Nov. 1. Running time, 17¾ minutes.

Three Cases

(*Continued from page* 1)

It is pointed out at the Department that if the Griffith case is considered, first by the high court, its decision in that case will have a definite impact upon the industry-wide Paramount, et al, New York suit.

While the Government has 60 days in which to appeal the Griffith case, it is believed Justice Department attorneys will "hold up" an appeal until the New York case can be appealed first, placing it on the docket ahead of the Oklahoma trust case.

Paralysis Ban Off

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 23.—Health officials have lifted a city-wide infantile paralysis quarantine which had closed all theatres, schools, churches and other places of public assembly after one person died and two others were stricken in a sudden outbreak of the disease.

Review

"Notorious Gentleman"

(*J. Arthur Rank—Universal*) *Hollywood, Oct. 23*

MADE in England under the title "Rake's Progress," this is the kind of sophisticated film that should do well with those American audiences which enjoyed such similar British offerings as "Blithe Spirit," though it is far less suitable for the family trade. The history of a thorough-going scamp, it is amusing, light-heated and witty. But its moral implications are, to American tastes at least, fundamentally unsound. For the scamp neither repents nor changes his ways, and his death is depicted, not as a consequence of earlier wrong-doing, but as a purely irrelevant end to a career which its protagonist thoroughly enjoyed.

Rex Harrison adds to his acting stature with a sparkling performance as the ne'er-do-well whose only aim is to get as much fun out of life as possible, while expending the least amount of effort. Lilli Palmer, cast as a young lady who marries him on a strictly business basis, and then has the misfortune to fall in love with her husband, is utterly charming. Others in the cast include such excellent players as Godfrey Tearle, Griffith Jones, Margaret Johnston and Guy Middleton.

Laid in the interval between the two great wars, the screenplay, written and produced by Sidney Gilliat and Frank Launder, takes Harrison from England to Brazil, to the continent of Europe and back to England again, all to a running accompaniment of wisecracks and popping champagne corks. The dialogue is sometimes brilliant, and certain scenes are memorable, due to Gilliat's deft direction. Technically, the picture matches comparable Hollywood product. The nature of its subject matter, and the method of its presentation limit its appeal to mature audiences.

Running time, 109 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL.

MPEA Roundup

(*Continued from page* 1)

said that Korean managers have been placed in charge of 98 per cent of the theatres formerly Japanese-owned. For the most part, Mayer continued Korea theatre managers are inexperienced.

The survey revealed that many of South Korea's 96 theatres are in bad physical shape. Despite poor showmanship and the "amazing potpourri" of prints circulating in Korea, the demand for new American films is intense, he added.

228 ABC Affiliates

Two new stations, KVOS, in Bellingham, Wash., and WRTA, Altoona, Pa., will join American Broadcasting's 226 affiliates on Nov. 1.

Coast Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

laboratory workers, to yield him full possession of their headquarters, rolls records and monies, declaring that the local officers were suspended and himself in charge.

Simultaneously, Brewer served a letter of notification to all members that they are required to report for duty before six P. M. tomorrow on penalty of being ruled ineligible for re-employment pending clearance by him.

As a means of averting possible physical violence if Local 683 maintains the headquarters barricade, as threatened, Brewer informed the members that temporary headquarters would be established elsewhere until court action could be taken to seize the premises.

IATSE's Roy Brewer this afternoon made a formal attempt to take over local 683 premises but withdrew when the local stood pat on its declaration it would defend its position. On the other hand, the CSU announced notice had gone out to all painter locals in Southern California, comprising some 30,000 members, asking that pickets be provided for a mass sympathetic demonstration Saturday morning at some studio not yet selected.

Tonight the CSU said regular picketing would begin tomorrow at RKO-Pathe's studio in Culver City, which has not been included in picketing until now. A meeting of IATSE Costumers Local 705, called for tonight following rumblings that costumers might follow the laboratory workers example in respecting picket lines, was cancelled late today on telegraphic orders from president Richard Walsh.

'Blue Skies' Record

"Blue Skies," Paramount's Irving Berlin Technicolor musical, wound up its first week at the Paramount Theatre here yesterday with the biggest gross in the 20-year history of the house, according to the home office. It is understood that the gross was approximately $123,000, exceeding by $1,000 the previous record made by "Lady in the Dark."

Stoltz Holds PRC Exploitation Meet

CHICAGO, Oct. 23.—Under the direction of Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising and publicity for the PRC, the company's exploitation men held their first joint meeting here today to discuss future production under new and expanded budgets, plus plans to exploit and publicize product.

Present at the meeting were Lige Brien, exploitation manager; Milt Overman, exploiteer assigned to the Dallas territory; H. M. Addison, Atlanta; Leon Brandt, Chicago; Ira Gross, Pittsburg, and Arthur Jeffrey, of Eagle-Lion Films.

The exploitation men witnessed a screening of "Her Sister's Secret," and attended a press party at the Ambassador Hotel, given by newspaper and trade paper men for Harry H. Thomas, president, and Stoltz.

Thomas and Stoltz are leaving Chicago for Hollywood and a visit to the studio, while Brien will return to New York and the exploitation men proceed to their respective territories.

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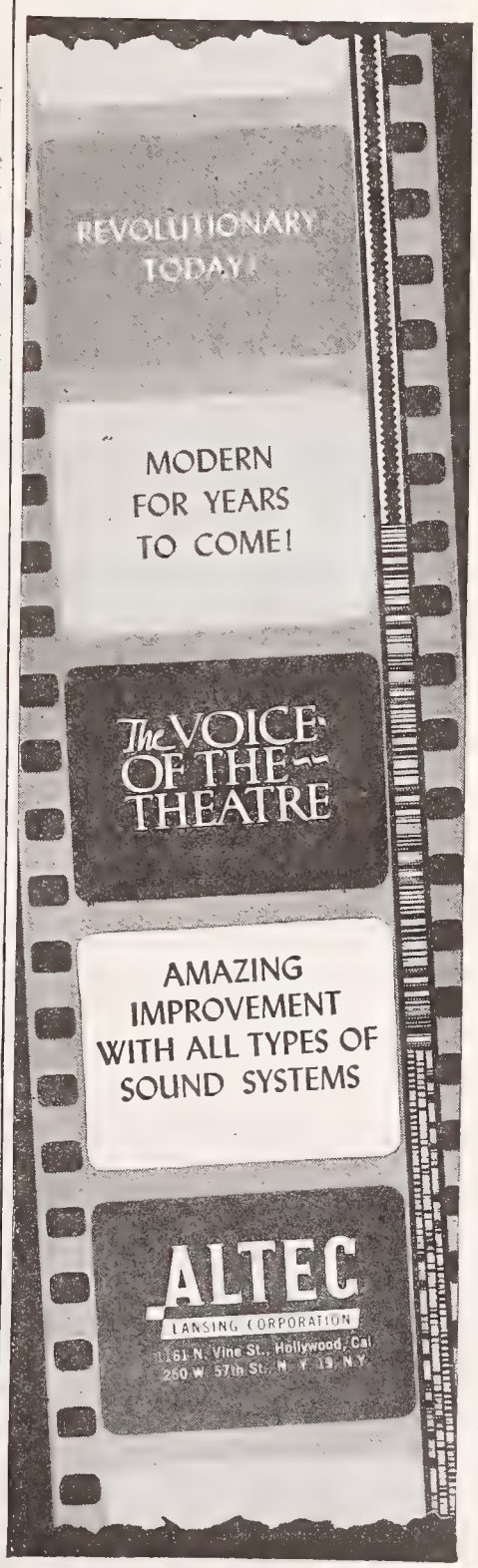
"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28

2:30 P. M.

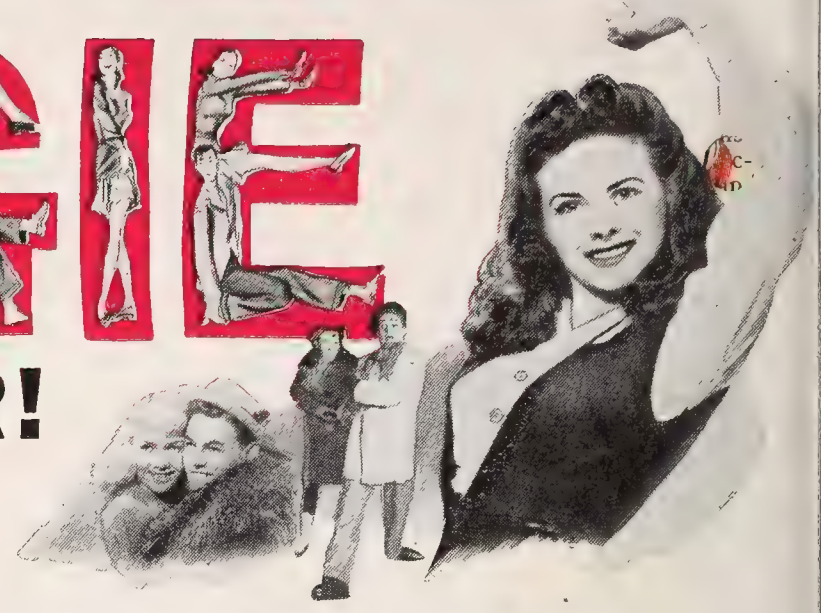
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20th DOES IT AGAIN!

MARGIE



IN TECHNICOLOR!

THE BIGGEST NON-HOLIDAY WEEK IN

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Darryl F. Zanuck Presents JEANNE CRAIN in "MARGIE" in TECHNICOLOR with GLENN LANGAN • LYNN BARI • ALAN YOUNG and Barbara Lawrence • Conrad Janis • Esther Dale • Hobart Cavanaugh • Ann Todd Hattie McDaniel • Directed by HENRY KING • Produced by WALTER MOROSCO • Screen Play by F. Hugh Herbert • Based on Stories by Ruth McKenney and Richard Bransten

IT'S A FACT:

No company ever had such a line-up as PRESIDENT'S DRIVE Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS AUG. 25TH - DEC. 28TH **Century-Fox**

"My Darling Clementine" • "Anna and the King of Siam" • "Three Little Girls in Blue" in Technicolor • "Claudia and David" • "Smoky" in Technicolor

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 83 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25, 1946 TEN CENTS

U. S. Court Reiterates: No Drastic Divorce Order

Films' Video Is Imminent, Austrian Says

Likens Pessimists to Early 'Talkies' Scoffers

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—"The engineering fraternity is going to produce a technically feasible television system for the motion picture and television industries," RKO Television Corp. president Ralph B. Austrian told the delegates at the Society of Motion Picture Engineers convention at today's session which featured three papers on television.

Quoting the present heads of various film companies who sounded pessimistic predictions regarding the talking picture in 1929, Austrian said: "It's only going to take one sellout to

(*Continued on page 6*)

Coast Unions Meet; Deadlock Prevails

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24.—The Conference of Studio Unions' strike against the majors neared the close of its fourth week without tangible indications of an end in sight, although two all-union assemblies called for the purpose of promoting a settlement were well attended.

The Costumers Local 705, which last night telegraphed all Hollywood union officials to attend a meeting this afternoon to hear new proposal for the basis of a strike settlement, submitted a plan tantamount to an agree-

(*Continued on page 3*)

23 Literary Works On MGM's Program

Screen adaptations of contemporary novels and the classics will predominate Metro Goldwyn Mayer's future product output, the company discloses in a list of 23 story properties now in production or slated for future film treatment.

Now before the cameras is "Green Dolphin Street," by Elizabeth Goudge, with Lana Turner, Donna Reed and Van Heflin. Being edited are "High Barbaree," by Charles Nordhoff and Norman Hall, starring Van Johnson, and "The Sea of Grass," by Conrad Richter, with Katharine Hepburn and

(*Continued on page 6*)

Hughes' Suit Trial Around 1st of Year

Howard Hughes' anti-trust suit against the Motion Picture Association has been placed on the trial calendar in U. S. District Court, here, following the producer's dropping last week of his appeal for an injunction to prevent MPA action against his film, "The Outlaw." Indications are that the case may come up for hearing around Jan. 1.

Scheduled for non-jury trial, the case has been assigned number 770 on the calendar, with the court having reached number 500 at present. Remaining hearings now are proceeding rapidly, according to the calendar commissioner's office.

Fielding Plea for 'Outlaw' Ban Today

New York License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding will attempt to have the motion picture division of the New York State Board of Education revoke its license for the exhibition of "The Outlaw" at a closed hearing at the division's offices here this morning. The film would be banned in the entire state if the division reverses its original decision approving it.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Decree Hearings Are Concluded; Exhibitor Associations Split on Substitute for 'Auctions'; Final Decree Now Up to Court

By TOM LOY

The Government will fail in its efforts to force the theatre-owning defendants in the industry anti-trust suit to sell their interests in houses held jointly with independent exhibitors, rather than to buy out such interests up to a least 95 per cent, according to strong indication given from the bench yesterday as hearings on a final decree closed in U. S. District court here.

At the same time, while attorneys for MPTOA and CIEA were silent on the subject, Southern California Theatre Owners Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations reported to the court that most of their clients would prefer an injunction against arbitrary refusal to grant some run, rather than accept the competitive-bidding proposal outlined in the judges' June 11 opinion. Such an injunction had been suggested by the major defendants on Tuesday.

Robert L. Wright, Special Assistant to the Attorney General, admitted that the Department of Justice's suggested ban on cross-licensing among the theatre owning defendants was designed to force them to sell out some of their holdings

(*Continued on page 6*)

Treasury and SEC Approve U-I Merger

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Approval by the Treasury Department and the Securities and Exchange Commission of the proposed plan of consolidation of International Pictures with Universal Pictures, Inc., has been granted.

Universal officials stated that as a result of the approvals the consolidation very likely can be consummated within the next three weeks. It was indicated that a considerable amount of detail still remains to be completed and, in addition, the company is awaiting action by the New York Stock Exchange on its application for the listing of the securities of the new company.

Details of the proposed consolidation were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Oct. 15. The plan calls for acquisition by Universal of all assets of International in exchange

(*Continued on page 6*)

The Decree Takes Shape

BASED solely upon indications of agreement between the government and defense counsel and on statements made from the bench by the presiding jurists during the three days of hearings in U. S. District court here on a final decree in the industry anti-trust suit, the following tentative conclusions have been drawn as indicative of probable court action on the decree. There will be no official or conclusive decree provisions until they are written by the court.

Competitive bidding, or "auction" selling, as now understood by the trade, will be eliminated. Either it will be basically modified or it will be replaced by an alternative selling proposal, similar to the compulsory licensing of a run with arbitration provisions included, as proposed by defense counsel.

No harsh or drastic rules for divestiture of affiliated theatre interests are likely. The government's proposal that a defendant be required to

(*Continued on page 6*)

Schwartz Resigns As ATA Vice-President

Fred Schwartz has resigned as New York regional vice-president of the American Theatre Association in consequence of his differences with the organization in its legal fight to eliminate auction selling from the proposed consent decree. His position as favoring the competitive bidding has been known for some time and his resignation which was received by ATA yesterday, has been expected.

Schwartz, who is vice-president of Century Circuit here, was elected to the ATA post at its organizational convention last April in St. Louis.

Young, Dietz to Speak On MPA Programs

Harold Young will discuss the importance and functions of the director, on Monday, at the third meeting of the series being sponsored by the community relations department of the Motion Picture Association for Eastern previewing groups of national organizations, at the Museum of Modern Art at 10 a. m.

Howard Dietz, vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, will talk on problems of producing films for mass audiences, on Nov. 4.

Linz and Galanter In New MGM Posts

William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation for M-G-M, has assigned Norman Linz, now in charge of the M-G-M "Show Builder," unit one, as exploitation representative for Seattle and Portland, succeeding Ted Galanter who has been transferred to the San Francisco territory. Linz who takes up his new duties on Monday, will make his headquarters at the Seattle office. Richard L. Schuette, formerly connected with various circuits, replaces Linz as manager of the "Show Builder" unit.

Seven Italian Films For U. S. Release

World Wide Film Corp., of New York, yesterday announced seven Italian films it had acquired for American distribution, six features produced by Lux Film Studios, Rome; they are: "A Yank in Rome," "Rossini," "L'Elisir D'Amore," "Two Anonymous Letters," "Gelosia," "The Sin of Papa Martin" and "Marco Visconti."

Carolina Meet for Charlotte, Jan. 26

CHARLOTTE, Oct. 24.—The annual convention of Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina will be held here next Jan. 26-28, Ben L. Strozier, president, has announced. Annual election of officers will be held during the meeting.

Another 'Frisco 1st-Run

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 24.—The Tivoli Theatre, downtown moveover house of the Blumenfeld Circuit, will become a first-run on Oct. 30.

Manufacturers Ask Owners to Meeting

Chicago, Oct. 24.—The Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association has invited members of National Allied Theatres, through Jack Kirsch, president, to attend the association's first postwar annual conference, to be held in conjunction with the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, on Nov. 8-11, at the Secor and Commodore Perry hotels in Toledo.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH HUMMEL, vice-president of Warner-International, will sail today on the *Queen Elizabeth* for his Paris headquarters, the air-pilots strike having cancelled his scheduled flight yesterday.

•

G. J. MALAFRONTE, Universal manager of branch operations; MIKE CLINE, "U" auditor, and CARL GENTZEL, M-G-M auditor, were Charlotte Film Row visitors this week, from New York.

•

O. F. OLDKNOW, National Theatre Supply district manager in Los Angeles, and MRS. OLDKNOW, are vacationing at Hot Springs, Ark.

•

KENNETH MEANS, manager of the United Artists Theatre, San Francisco, and MRS. MEANS, have returned there from their honeymoon.

•

JOHN R. CLARK, Technicolor executive in Hollywood, is en route to Rochester, N. Y., from where he will arrive in New York next Thursday.

•

JUSTINE GRIFFITH of the Imperial Theatre, Whiteville, Tenn., is in Millington Naval Hospital for treatment; she was a WAVE.

•

GEORGE KASNA has resigned as advertising-publicity director of Loew's State and Orpheum Theatres, Boston, to enter the toy business.

•

E. O. WILSCHKE, assistant to the vice-president of Altec Service, has left New York for a two-week trip through the South.

•

E. C. DEBERRY, Paramount head booker in Charlotte, has been transferred to New Orleans as salesman.

•

HARRY D. BUCKLEY, United Artists home office executive, is en route to Hollywood for labor conferences.

• •

EARLE BEATTY of the M-G-M legal department has left New York for Seattle.

•

GEORGE C. RITCH, president of Standard Vendors, is visiting New York from Louisville and Baltimore.

HERBERT SPENCER BERG of Vanguard Films, here, today is celebrating his 49th (?) birthday.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern and Canadian Warner division manager, and BERNARD R. GOODMAN, exchange supervisor, are in Pittsburgh today.

•

JACK ELLIS, United Artists district manager here, has returned to New York from a three-day trip to Oneida and Gloversville, both in New York.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ of Kay Film Exchanges in the South, are in New York from Atlanta, returning there after the weekend.

•

ERICH WOLFGANG KORNGOLD, Warner studio music composer, will return to Burbank over the weekend, from New York.

•

SID BLUMENSTOCK, 20th Century-Fox home office exploitation director, has returned to New York from San Francisco.

•

IRENE SHARAFF, Samuel Goldwyn designer, will address the costume art class at Columbia Teachers' College, here, tomorrow.

•

HUGH SYKES, back in Charlotte after four years in the Navy, has joined the Screen Guild exchange in that city.

•

HARVEY SMITH, publicity director of Georgia Theatres, Atlanta, is back there from a trip to New York.

•

L. W. McCLINTOCK, Paramount Memphis branch manager, is in New York for conferences.

•

H. NEAL EAST, Paramount branch manager in San Francisco, is back at his office from New York.

•

RAY BEESON has become assistant manager of the Lincoln Theatre, New Haven, Conn.

•

PAT HALLOREN has moved from booker to salesman at the 20th Century-Fox exchange in Omaha.

Stars to Aid SPG Show

Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Claude Rains, Evelyn Keyes, John Huston, Robert Montgomery, Gene Kelly and Adele Jergens are, according to the Screen Publicistis Guild, here, among the stars who will serve as sponsors for "Screen Publicists in Art—1946," an art exhibit of the work of New York's motion picture artists and press agents, which will open on Nov. 1, at the Barbizon-Plaza Art Galleries.

Services for Finnegan

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Oct. 24.—Funeral services were held here yesterday for Gerald E. Finnegan, 25, former manager of the Court Square Theatre, who died on Oct. 21. He started at the Court Square as a part-time usher, while in high school, working up to manager.

Henry Hoke at AMPA

Henry Hoke, author and authority on direct advertising, will be the principal speaker at the next luncheon-meeting of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, in the Town Hall Club, here, on Thursday, Nov. 7. Hoke is the author of "A Primer on Copywriting" and others books, including the novel, "Blackmail." Rutgers Nielson, president, will preside, with Leon J. Bamberger as member guest master-of-ceremonies.

Rank Film After 'Killers'

J. Arthur Rank's "Notorious Gentleman," produced in England by Sidney Gilliat and Frank Launder, is slated for an indefinite engagement at the Winter Garden Theatre, here, following "The Killers," which will enter its 10th week next Wednesday. Universal-International is releasing.

Merger of Composer Groups Is Expected

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Plans for a merger of the Confederation Internationale des Societes D'Auteurs et Compositeurs with the Federation of Inter-American Societies of Authors and Composers is seen as a possible outcome of the conference of the CISAC being held here this week.

Primarily composed of delegates from Latin America, the Inter-American Federation has representatives here to confer on the merger.

ASCAP delegates attending the meeting are John G. Paine, Deems Taylor, Fred E. Ahlert, Gene Buck, Lester Santly, Herman Starr, Wallace Downey and Alpi Jean-Bernard.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
ROSALIND RUSSELL & ALEXANDER KNOX
"SISTER KENNY"
AN RKO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing
'The COCKEYED MIRACLE'
FRANK MORGAN
KEENAN WYNN
AUDREY TOTTER
IN PERSON
STAR AND GARTER REVUE
24 of AMERICA'S LOVELIEST GIRLS

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

JEANNE CRAIN as
"MARGIE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus on Stage — Frances Langford - Jon Hall
Carl Ravazza - Harmonica Rascals
Extra! AL BERNIE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

THE first shipment of elephants from India to arrive in the U. S. in seven years will dock at Boston on Sunday, en route to Hollywood motion picture studios, relieving a shortage of elephants in the Film Capital. The behemoths, all females (males are said to go insane in captivity—especially in Hollywood) are being attended by three mahouts, Senegalese named Herathmudiiyansalage Kalu Banda, Ellawanamudiyansalaga Ukky Banda and Aluthgammamalagedera Punchi Rala.

(One linotype operator and two proofreaders quit our printers on this one.)

▽

Cleveland's "Man of the Week", this week, is Nat Wolf, zone manager of Warner Theatres in that area. He is the first man from this industry to be elected to the Carter Hotel Hall of Fame and to have his picture hung in the Carter's lobby for one week. All for his community contributions.

▽

What with the continuing red-meat shortage hereabouts forcing monotonously repetitive chicken dinners on Sundays, 20th Century-Fox's announcement of a new production entitled "Chicken Every Sunday" comes currently at a most appropriate time, albeit unsympathetically, title-wise.

▽

George Skouras' Skouras Theatres' home office is the only spot in this business—to our knowledge—which gives daily luncheons to its employes, gratis.

▽

Continuing controversy over percentage demands of distributors upon exhibitors recalls the all-time hig hpercentage, levied for the roadshowing of "The Birth of a Nation," which in its early days played on an 80-20 basis—80 percent going to the distributor, and 20 to the exhibitor.

▽

A dispatch from Port Hope, Ontario, reports that the Port Hope Board of Trade's annual theatre night, coming up, at the Capitol Theatre, will feature giveaways of shortening, nylons, soap flakes, and, believe it or not, that other highly scarce item of *nails*. Police reserves have already been alerted.

▽

The government in Mexico City has given in to the demands of theatre owners in that city by cutting bullfights to two-a-week, instead of three, the exhibitors claiming that the blood-and-sand performances cut deeply into box-office receipts.

▽

Eastman Kodak has a wartime secret automatic 16mm device which photographs, processes and projects pictures on a screen all within 15 seconds!

▽

Earl Layton, 23-year-old Washington, D. C., resident, is treasurer of the Earle Theatre in that city, in daytime, and attends New York University's theatre management course at night—commuting by plane, at a cost 10 times his tuition fee.

Recordings on Full Scale: Moskowitz

M-G-M's entrance into the record manufacturing field is described as representing a full-scale attempt to gain a top position in that industry rather than provide a means for film exploitation by recordings, or the investment of surplus capital.

Charles C. Moskowitz, Loew's vice-president, heads the Loew executive committee set up to supervise the M-G-M record project, indicates that the new company will probably have a second manufacturing plant on the West Coast next year when equipment becomes available. It is understood that the company has also studied a site in St. Louis for a plant, but Moscowitz said that all additional expansion moves will have to wait until the initial plant in Bloomfield, N. J. is in full-scale operation.

M-G-M Records has already signed Kate Smith, with Moskowitz indicating that several other deals are being made with leading recording artists not under the M-G-M banner.

Further indication of the aim of the new record company to achieve a high position in the disc industry, alongside RCA Victor, Columbia and Decca, is pointed out in the fact that personnel has been drawn from leading manufacturers. Frank B. Walker, who has been named general manager of M-G-M Records, was formerly in charge of records for RCA Victor, and Arnold L. Pipper, who will be in charge of manufacturing and sales direction, was also an RCA Victor executive.

Coast Deadlock

(*Continued from page 1*)

ment to submit the CSU-IATSE jurisdictional dispute to arbitration. Both factions gave 705's proposal passing consideration but retained their positions.

The Screen Actors Guild tonight was to report directly to all union leaders on the conversations of its delegation with the AFL International presidents at the Chicago convention, but no concrete suggestion for settling the current dispute was to be offered. Some held hope of getting opposed leaders together, feeling that a meeting might germinate discussions leading to peace.

IATSE laboratory workers who have been observing CSU picket lines in defiance of Richard Walsh's orders this morning established their own picket lines at two studios, Local 683's president Russell McKnight declaring: "The demonstrations are the result of a growing demand for aggressive action in our fight for a signed contract, local autonomy and the end of strike-breaking activities in studios." At nightfall the local still retained possession of its headquarters, with IATSE International representative Roy Brewer proceeding by due process of law toward occupation of the premises.

Informed quarters saw no prospects of easement of the situation this weekend.

Price Quits Paramount

Jack Price has resigned from Paramount. For 22 years he was associated in the Atlanta, Jacksonville and New Orleans offices. Price has not disclosed his future plans.

Production on Coast Drops to 41, Against 46

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 24. — Production activity has begun to show the effects of the labor unrest, as mass picketing continued at major studios late last week, with the shooting index declining to 41, compared with the previous week's 46. Ten films were finished, and five were started; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "Millie's Daughter," with Gladys George, Paul Campbell; "Law of the Canyon," with Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Nancy Saunders.

Shooting: "The Hunter Is a Fugitive," "The Lady from Shanghai," "Twin Sombreros," "They Walk Alone," "The Guilt of Janet Ames."

Enterprise

Started: "The Other Love," with Barbara Stanwyck, David Niven, Robert Stack, Joan Lorring.

Shooting: "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Finished: "Merton of the Movies," "This Time for Keeps," "Summer Holiday."

Started: "The Personal Touch," with Lionel Barrymore, Lucille Bremer, James Craig, Alma Kruger, Keye Luke.

Shooting: "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "Unfinished Dance," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Shooting: "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Paramount

Finished: "Golden Earrings."

Shooting: "Variety Girl," "The Big Haircut," "Desert Town" (Wallis); "Unconquered" (DeMille).

PRC

Started: "The Corpse Came Calling," with Hugh Beaumont, Cheryl Walker, Paul Bryar, Ralph Dunn, Louise Currie.

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "They Won't Believe Me."

Shooting: "Banjo," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer," "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Hit Parade."

Shooting: "Web of Danger."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," "The Homestretch."

Shooting: "Boomerang."

United Artists

Shooting: "Red River" (Monterey); "New Orleans" (Levey); "Vendetta" California); "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Universal-International

Finished: "Slave Girl."

Shooting: "The Egg and I," I'll Be Yours."

Warners

Finished: "Pursued" (U. S. Pictures).

Shooting: "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night Unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed."

British Limitation On Films Expected

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—A limitation in playing time of American films in England by the British Board of Trade is believed to be a step to protect independent British producers who were being smothered out by large film makers of the United Kingdom and by U. S. pictures, the State Department said here today. "I think it was an expected move," George Canty, film consultant at the Department, stated.

While Canty has not received details of the "limitation," he expressed the belief that the British Board of Trade was concerned about the monopoly in film exhibition imposed "primarily by British producers," and the limitation naturally had to include American product, Canty stated.

The Department has not received any protest from industry export representatives to date, Canty asserted.

Canty emphasized that if the new rule discriminates in "any way" against American product, the U. S. Government will take appropriate action and write a protest to the British Government.

Two Stars Win Honors

Michele Morgan, for her performance in the French film, "Symphony Pastorale," and Ray Milland, for his portrayal in "The Lost Weekend," have been awarded the International Award Committee's prize as the foremost screen players in current productions. Miss Morgan, star of United Artists' "The Chase," received her award in Cannes, France, this week, and is expected to arrive in New York tomorrow.

Nebenzal Buys 'Butterfly'

Seymour Nebenzal, producer, has acquired world-wide screen rights to Puccini's "Madame Butterfly," with production scheduled for about April 1. Puccini's score will be utilized in connection with a screen play written by Carmine Gallone, Italian producer, director and writer. The figure for the purchase of the Gallone screen play was reported to be in excess of $150,000.

Vets in "Years" Contest

Title of Samuel Goldwyn's film, "The Best Years of Our Lives," will be the theme of a veterans' 15-minute radio script contest sponsored by radio station WNEW, here, with prizes of $300, $150 and $50. Scripts are to be submitted by Dec. 4, and winning one will be presented over WNEW on Dec. 18.

Army Honors Bob Hope

WASHINGTON, Oct. 24.—Bob Hope received the Medal of Merit today from Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in recognition of the film-and-radio star's wartime contributions to national morale. Later Hope called on President Truman who congratulated him.

Mr. EXHIBITOR:

This 2-page advertisement, appearing in the current issue, is the first of a series of 2-page advertisements to appear this fall in TIME.



Advertisement

AMERICA

Living, Loving.

"In the beginning was the word."

The wisdom of these six words from the Old Testament* is respected by veteran movie-maker Samuel Goldwyn. In a career that all but spans the entire life of his industry, astute Producer Goldwyn has established a noteworthy record for wisely choosing words for translation to the screens of the world for the enjoyment and education of its people. *Dodsworth, Dead End, Wuthering Heights, The Little Foxes, The Pride of the Yankees* are among the 90 pictures that have resulted from his handiwork. But always he first had to find the words — significant words that would add up to significant stories, words that would be remembered.

One sultry August day in 1944 word-conscious Samuel Goldwyn was reading a news magazine, alert for words that would somehow suggest his next movie. The world was bloody with war. If, in the midst of this human agony, the world at large was too preoccupied with the desperate present to contemplate its future, Producer Goldwyn was an exception. His thoughts jumped forward to his country's future when a picture, spread across one of the magazine's pages, caught his sharp eye (TIME, Aug. 7, 1944). Out of the windows of a travel-soiled Pullman car stuck eleven pairs of khaki-clad shoulders, eleven faces, some smiling, some seemingly bewildered, some almost grimly expectant. Below the window were chalked two words: "Home Again!!"

"Home again," he murmured to himself. This was it. Some day America would again be home to all of them — all of them whose fate was not eternal sleep in foreign soil. The world would be weary of war. Why not, then, a picture about America and Americans? Its streets, drug-stores and banks. Its living, loving people; working, playing, loafing — in the new America of peace.

Producer Goldwyn's hand reached out for the phone. "Get me MacKinlay Kantor — no, not Eddie — MacKinlay Kantor, the writer. He's in Palm Beach." *Valedictory, Long Remember, Gentle Annie, Happy Land* had long ago stamped MacKinlay Kantor as a writer with deep sympathy for the American scene.

In a week the writer was in Hollywood hard at work on the story the producer had suggested to him and hired him to do. The result: *Glory For Me*, published as a novel by Coward-McCann and circulated as the choice of the Literary Guild.

Still there was no screenplay. So Goldwyn had the telephone to his ear again, talking long distance to New York with Pulitzer Prizewinning Playwright Robert Emmet Sherwood. (*Idiot's Delight, Road to Rome, There Shall Be No Night*). In short order, Mr. Sherwood was in Hollywood, at work on the screenplay in Mr. Goldwyn's own home.

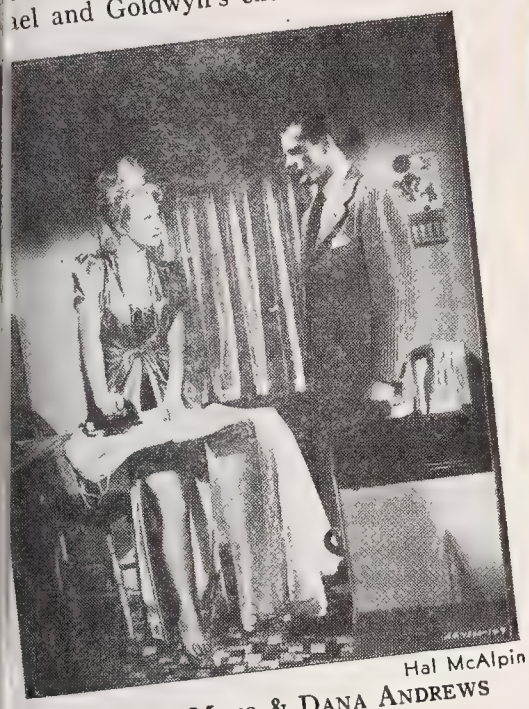
Next, Mr. Goldwyn assigned the

* Genesis

Advertisement

the words to the screen: Di-
iam Wyler, Academy Award
Mrs. Miniver, director of
Dead End, *Wuthering Heights*,
Foxes and a score of others—
whose name had never been
with any but the best produc-
out of the lieutenant colonel's
ne wore in the AAF where he
his string of outstanding films
nphelle and *Thunderbolt*, Di-
yler brought the excitement, im-
y set his heart to putting the idea
n.

while the producer and the direc-
sidered other principals vital to
en translation of Sherwood's script
antor's novel from Goldwyn's idea.
otographer Gregg Toland, famed as
otographer of *Intermezzo*, *Grapes*
ath, *Citizen Kane* and a score of
memorable pictures, was hired. And
Myrna Loy, Fredric March, Dana
ews, Teresa Wright, Hoagy Car-
el and Goldwyn's exciting new dis-



Hal McAlpin

VIRGINIA MAYO & DANA ANDREWS
Working, Living, Loving.

covery, Cathy O'Donnell were busy study-
ing their lines for the roles in which they
were cast. Then Mr. Goldwyn made a
surprise announcement: the addition to
the cast of Virginia Mayo and Harold
Russell. Blonde, beautiful Virginia Mayo
had played leads before in *The Princess
and the Pirate*, *Wonder Man*, *The Kid
from Brooklyn*, though never in a tough,
dramatic part. Harold Russell, a onetime
Army sergeant, had appeared before a
movie camera only once before—in an
Army Signal Corps film. However, Harold
Russell is as American as apple pie and
Mr. Goldwyn felt somehow that he would
be unforgettable.

Now, two years and $3,000,000 later,
Samuel Goldwyn's greatest picture is fin-
ished. Soon it will be seen on the screens
of the world. A masterpiece of the con-
temporary scene, its title has been changed
to *The Best Years of Our Lives*. It may
well prove to be the best picture of our
years.

RELEASED BY
RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

and it happens to you in

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES"

a truly great motion picture

Produced by SAMUEL GOLDWYN
Directed by WILLIAM WYLER
Screenplay by ROBERT E. SHERWOOD
From the Novel by MACKINLAY KANTOR
Released thru RKO Radio Pictures



IN THE *Goldwyn* MANNER!

Mr. EXHIBITOR: "The Best Years of Our Lives" is being advertised in 30 great national publications for a combined total circulation of

123, 354, 131

A circulation unprecedented in motion picture advertising.

U. S. Court

(*Continued from page* 1)

to independents in "closed" cities but said the Government may not press for such a ban in one-theatre towns where the evidence shows a second house could not be supported.

A formula for exempting road shows from the court's injunction against price-fixing in exhibition contracts was presented by Edward C. Raftery, United Artists' counsel, who proposed that each defendant be allowed one such exemption per year, provided its negative cost amounted to at least $3,000,000. Counsel for the majors concurred in the suggestion, but Wright, opposing a cost standard altogether, said he would urge that any exemption be applied to the non-theatre-owning defendants only.

Raftery also urged that Westerns be exempted from provisions of the decree, which, under the Government proposal, would define a feature as any film of 4,000 feet or more. This, too, was opposed by Wright, who said he saw no excuse for exempting a class of pictures "just because they're popular."

Proskauer Urges Arbitration

Retention of the industry arbitration system, as a mandate of the court, was strongly recommended by Joseph M. Proskauer of Warners, who pointed out that the Government had called for such a system in the amended complaint on which the case was tried. Wright, hitting at the present arbitration arrangement as "financed by the defendants and operating under rules set up by them," said he did not want the court to continue it without Department of Justice consent, which, he indicated, would not be forthcoming.

An air-tight clause giving the New York court continued control in the future over all operations of the decree, with power to set aside any feature of it which might prove unworkable, was urged by Proskauer. Judge Augustus N. Hand indicated that this would be done, commenting: "If this thing becomes impracticable as a means of controlling your monopolistic tendencies, I had in mind that the Government could come in later and ask for divorcement."

The defendants, on the other hand, sought exemption from judicial supervision in liquidating pools that have been set up among themselves, Whitney North Seymour of Paramount arguing that such changes could not increase the number of houses owned by the defendants.

Seymour also sought permission for Paramount to retain certain theatres in Virginia, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Nebraska, where trustees in bankruptcy had been forced to dispose of a portion of their interest to preserve the rest. Judge Hand appeared, however, to be cool to the suggestion, saying: "We've ruled on that already."

MANY OF THE BEST THEATRES EVERYWHERE ARE PLAYING
"THE CAPTAIN SHOW"
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.

The Decree Takes Shape

(*Continued from page* 1)

sell a partial theatre interest and be deprived of the right to buy a partner's interest will be rejected.

The government's proposed ban on cross-licensing for affiliated theatres appears doomed.

The government's proposal that competitive bidding be conducted on a flat rental basis only is unlikely to be incorporated in the final decree.

A full year's product may be sold in advance, picture by picture and theatre by theatre, and subject to a probable 20 per cent cancellation right.

Price fixing, or the inclusion of minimum admissions in contracts, will be prohibited. Distributors, however, probably will be granted the right to have knowledge of minimum admissions as set by exhibitors in order to establish clearances.

Reasonable clearance will be continued.

The government's proposal for exclusive runs appears to be unlikely to be accepted, but a guaranty of some run is probable.

Basic rules for divestiture of affiliated theatres, as outlined in the court's June 11 opinion, are unlikely to be materially changed.

Pooling agreements, master agreements and the like will be prohibited.

Road shows are likely to be permitted under limited conditions and with specific qualifications.

Some form of voluntary industry arbitration is likely to be recommended by the court, if not ordered by it.

Jurisdiction of the case to be retained by the court which would entertain petition for theatre divorcement if the final decree proves impracticable.

In opposing Wright's insistence that the court should enjoin "expansion of holdings in any manner whatsoever," Seymour explained that the defendants had included provisions for application for exemption in some situations from the ruling that partnership interests of more than five per cent and less than 95 per cent would not be allowed. He pointed out that Paramount had holdings of some $125,000,000 in approximately 1,000 such houses and said their mandatory sale would be "shocking." Judge Hand thereupon commented: "I don't think we'll do any such thing as that."

An appeal to the Supreme Court from the injunction against specifying admission prices in exhibition contracts will be made by United Artists, Raftery told the court. He asked and received permission to submit a separate decree proposal on behalf of his company. A similar privilege was granted to Thomas Turner Cooke, Universal counsel, with 10 days allowed for the submission of these and any amended findings of fact and conclusions of law the defendants may have to offer.

ATA's position on the some-run proposal was stated by Thurman Arnold, counsel for the group, who approved arbitration of disputes arising under this injunction, if it should be chosen as an alternative to competitive bidding. He held, however, that arbitration should be within the industry but "without the sanction of the court." Col. Robert T. Barton, expressing CSA's view, said the principles of the some-run plan were preferable to auctions if the court was of the opinion that they were needed to implement its other injunctions.

Judges John Bright and Henry W. Goddard, who, with Judge Hand, comprise the statutory court presiding in the industry suit, indicated that additional briefs would be accepted by the court during the next 10 days. Thereafter, the court will begin study of the mountainous documents and record before it and will draft the final decree. The task is expected to consume several months.

Appeals to the U. S. Supreme Court cannot be filed until the final decree has been entered by the court.

M-G-M Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

Spencer Tracy.

Also in production are: MacKinlay Kantor's "The Romance of Rosy Ridge," and a musical version of Eugene O'Neill's "Ah, Wilderness," which is to be retitled "Summer Holiday." "The Yearling," based on Marjorie Kinnan Rawling's Pulitzer Prize novel, is finished and will be released next year.

Others to come include: "Cass Timberlane," by Sinclair Lewis; "The Hucksters," Frederic Wakeman; "East River," Sholem Asch; "Chimes of Bruges," George Rodenbach; "Green Mansions," W. H. Hudson; "The Fortunes of Richard Mahoney," Henry Handel Richardson; "B. F.'s Daughter," J. P. Marquand; "The Burning Secret," Stephen Zweig; "If Winter Comes," A. S. M. Hutchinson; "Black Oxen," Gertrude Atherton; "Christian of the Bounty," Charles Nordhoff; "Along the Mississippi," a musical version of Mark Twain's "Huckleberry Finn";

Also, "The Forsyte Saga," John Galsworthy; "Robinson Crusoe," the Defoe classic; "A Love Story," Bernard Schubert and Mario Silva; "Return to Night," Mary Renault; "Scaramouche," Rafael Sabatini.

Fielding Plea

(*Continued from page* 1)

Edward C. Raftery, president of United Artists, distributor of the film, will argue the case for the company. Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the education board's film division, said yesterday that the time when the board will render its verdict depends on the volume of evidence submitted. He said that Charles A. Brind, education board counsel, will be his advisor on the legal aspects of the case.

Ask U. S. Bar Guitry

PARIS, Oct. 24.—The French National Intellectual Union has made a protest against proposed appearances in the U. S. of Sacha Guitry, dramatist and actor. The Intellectual Union attacked Guitry for his "obliging attitude toward German occupation chiefs."

Quotes of the Day As Hearing Ended

***Judge Augustus N. Hand*— I don't feel inclined to listen to this eternal argument much longer. We can't go on in the horrible, horrible pastime of settling decrees. It is the most obnoxious thing I've had to do since I've been on the bench. . . Is this court supposed to live and endure forever?**

***Joseph M. Proskauer* — All those who have lost arbitrations think the system is bad. All those who have won think it is great.**

***John W. Davis* — Now the mask is off. Inter-defendant licensing is a means of divestiture — slow poison rather than the guillotine.**

***Col. Barton of Richmond* — We still have some of the faith of our fathers in free enterprise.**

Austrian at SMPE

(*Continued from page* 1)

start the ball rolling; it's only going to take one man or one company to start theatre television on its way, precisely as one company started sound pictures on their way despite the practically unanimous opinion that it was a foolhardy, silly novelty."

Other aspects of television were discussed in papers by Ralph V. Little, Jr., of RCA, who described a new 16mm. camera capable of converting a 24-frame cinema film to a 30-frame television film, and by Harry R. Lubcke of Don Lee Broadcasting.

Today's SMPE night session was held at the Disney Studio.

Approve U-I Merger

(*Continued from page* 1)

for 280,000 shares of Universal common, subject to a reduction to 125,000 shares upon delivery by Universal of waivers of its rights as owner of the International preferred and Class A stock, which it will receive as part of the latter's assets.

Friedman Gets U. S. Medal for War Work

Joseph Friedman, European supervisor for Columbia Pictures, with headquarters in London, has been awarded the "Medal of Freedom" by the U. S. Government in recognition of his wartime work as industry chairman of the London war activities committee. Conferred in a ceremony at the American Embassy, the medal was also presented to Friedman in recognition of the work of all American film companies participating in the London committee.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Sept. 28	SHADOWED Anita Louise Michael Dunne D—(7042)				ACCOMPLICE Richard Arlen Vida Ann Borg D—66 mins. (Rev. 9/24/46)		(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) (Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(September Releases) BLACK BEAUTY (Rev. 7/17/46) CLAUDIA AND DAVID (Rev. 7/24/46) IF I'M LUCKY (Rev. 8/28/46) (Re-release) SUN VALLEY SERENADE (Rev. 7/28/41)		
Oct. 5	THE THRILL OF BRAZIL Evelyn Keyes Keenan Wynn Ann Miller M—91 mins. (7006) (Rev. 9/9/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE Frank Morgan Keenan Wynn C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) NO LEAVE, NO LOVE Van Johnson Keenan Wynn C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46) (Re-issue) RAGE IN HEAVEN Ingrid Bergman Robt. Montgomery D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D—72 mins. (607) (Rev. 9/24/46)		DRIFTIN' RIVER O BRUTE MAN Tom Neal Jane Adams						CLOAK AND DAGGER Gary Cooper Robert Alda Lilli Palmer D—106 mins. (603) (Rev. 9/9/46)
Oct. 12	SO DARK THE NIGHT Steven Geray D—70 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		DANGEROUS MONEY Sydney Toler D—66 mins. (Rev. 10/11/46)		GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)				Comet Prod. LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)		
Oct. 19	BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Rev. 9/13/46) LAND RUSH (Rev. 9/17/46)		WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby			(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46)		(October Release) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)		BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean			HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46)	(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders Louis Hayward		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605) (Rev.10/17/46)
Nov. 2			BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46) SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown				(Block 2) NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46) GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46) CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46) CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46) DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney (Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color)	STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46) (Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)			
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks		MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D			HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542)				(Nov. Releases) MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven NOTORIOUS GENTLEMEN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton		SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang			(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46) MARGIE Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46) WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)	(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46) (Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett		SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely Lasses White	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)	STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O						THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—(607)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason										
Dec. 7									(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd	(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (Color) TEMPTATION	

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*



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VOL. 60. NO. 84 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1946 TEN CENTS

Johnston Will Seek Strike Cure-all in UK

To Study British Union Formula for Use Here

Embarking on a tour of England and the Continent, Friday, Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, said here that he will give considerable study to the British film industry's labor-management relations program—one which has been reasonably effective in avoiding strikes—for possible adaptation as a basis for resolving jurisdiction issues in Hollywood studios.

He made specific reference to the British Trade Unions Conference which has developed machinery to settle inter-union disputes and which, with few

(*Continued on page 6*)

Brulatour Dies, Industry Pioneer

Jules E. Brulatour, 76, died Saturday night at Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, after an illness of several weeks.

Brulatour was born in New Orleans, the son of Thomas Brulatour and Marie Mossy. He was educated at Mt. St. Mary's College, Maryland; Spring Hill College, Alabama, and at Tulane, New Orleans. In 1898 he became associated with Manhattan Optical Co., at Creskill, N. J., manufacturers of photographic papers, lenses and cameras, traveling Coastwise as sales representative.

He was one of the organizers and first president of Universal Film Co.,

(*Continued on page 2*)

Strike Threat Faces New York Exchanges

Strike action tying up the New York exchanges of M-G-M, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox and Columbia, looms as a definite possibility, following a breakdown of negotiations involving salary increases for employes represented by the Screen Office and Professional Employees Guild, Local No. 109.

A meeting of the entire SOPEG membership, to discuss the situation

(*Continued on page 6*)

Coast Strike Nears End; Arbitration System Being Set

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—Speedy conclusion of the studio strike loomed tonight as the Conference of Studio Unions went into a mass meeting in the wake of dramatic developments set in motion Friday by the Screen Actors Guild in its role as peacemaker. Following a round-robin telephone conference with American Federation of Labor arbiters, CSU relinquished its claims in the jurisdictional dispute over set erection, but insisted the strike would continue until the producers give its locals new contracts and permanent arbitration machinery is set up.

Producers Cooperate

The producers immediately pledged cooperation to these ends and CSU and International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employes representatives met with SAG executives this afternoon to work out the arbitration procedure. This necessarily will be subject to the ultimate approval of Richard Walsh, IATSE president, who is now in New York.

Foresee Obstacle

Informed observers saw as a chief obstacle to an overnight settlement CSU's tacit obligation to support IATSE's Laboratory Workers Local 683 in its conflict with the International's officers. However, the most pessimistic foresaw no more than a few days delay in working out this and other remaining problems.

NY Pleads for Ban On 'Outlaw'; Delay Decision One Week

Whether "The Outlaw" will be barred from exhibition in the entire state of New York will remain undecided at least until the end of this week as a result of the informal hearing conducted here Friday morning by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the motion picture censorship division of the New York State Board of Education, on the plea by Benjamin Fielding, city license commissioner, for revocation of the film's state license. A second session to enable attorneys for United Artists and Howard Hughes to present their arguments will be held next Friday afternoon, at the education board's offices here.

Commissioner Fielding, who threatened to withdraw licenses of Harry

(*Continued on page 7*)

Iowa-Nebr. Owners Meet Opens Today

DES MOINES, Oct. 27.—This city will be the mecca for scores of independent theatre owners of Iowa and Nebraska when they hold their annual mid-year convention here, tomorrow and Tuesday, with all business and social events held in the Hotel Fort Des Moines.

Among those planning to appear on the program are Robert D. Blue,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Some Companies Whittle Clearance in L. A. Area

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 27.—Only scattered instances of clearance reduction are reported in this territory, with no perceptible change expected in the general picture, although some distributing companies are whittling down some out-of-town situations, a few days here and a few there, with reports from exhibitors that most of the cuts are made where the later run will pay a premium for earlier playdates.

There has, however, been some tightening of the margin between playdates at theatres where the element of "substantial competition" might be open to argument. In other words, the change in clearance in favor of the later runs is more a matter of zoning than of rearrangement of clearance periods.

There are 52 situations in the territory of Southern California and Arizona that play day-and-date with Los Angeles first-runs, an arrangement that has existed for several years. This has not changed, although there was an attempt during the war by some distributors to break it down under a plea of print shortages. Additionally, there are eight situations that play seven days after LA first-runs, with no indications of change to come.

The schedule for the city of Los Angeles remains substantially without change. Second-runs charging 40 cents or more play 21 days after first-run. Other runs are as follows: third at 35 cents, 35 days; fourth at 30 cents, 49 days; fifth at 25 cents, 63 days; sixth at 20 cents, 84 days, and the remainder at 15 cents, 119 days.

MPTOA Polls Members On Selling Plan

Maintains Hope for Own 'Auction' Alternative

Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America is polling the independent exhibitor members of its board of directors to determine their wishes with respect to the substitute for auction selling proposed by attorneys for the defendant companies in Federal Court here last week.

Until the poll has been completed, MPTOA will take no stand on the plan which proposes a guaranty of a run, with provisions for arbitration in the event a desired run is not obtained. Results of the poll will be presented to the New York Federal District Court within the 10-day period ending next

(*Continued on page 6*)

Expect British Film Stock on 'Big Board'

An increased listing of British film securities, and possibly those of some other foreign countries, on the New York Stock Exchange may be expected to follow current studies by Exchange officials, here, paving the way for reciprocal agreements between nations for transactions in stocks and bonds, a spokesman for the Exchange said here recently.

At present, he pointed out, the only such British company listed on the "big board" is Electrical and Musical Industries, dealers in synchronization and sound equipment, and other items.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Army Operates 377 Theatres in U. S.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—An average of 252 feature pictures are exhibited annually at each of the 377 theatres operated by the Army Motion Picture service within the United States, it was disclosed here at the weekend by the War Department, operating in 234 posts in the interior. Many releases are given to the Army prior to public exhibition, it was said.

While it is impossible to estimate

(*Continued on page 7*)

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic general sales manager, will leave New York today for New Orleans and other points South and West on a 10-day trip.

•

HERBERT (SPENCE) BERG of Vanguard Films, here, calls attention to a typographical error in this column last Friday, which reported his 49th birthday; it was his 52nd.

•

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, and MRS. SKOURAS, announce the engagement of their daughter, DAPHNE DOLOROS, to OREN ROOT, JR.

•

JAMES MCGUINESS, M-G-M producer, and MRS. MCGUINESS, are in Washington from the Coast as guests of CARTER BARRON, Loew's Eastern division manager.

•

DAVID BADER, publisher of *The 16mm. Reporter*, and MRS. BADER, are parents of a baby girl, born at Woman's Hospital, here.

•

LILLIAN ROBERTS, former film trade paper writer, has joined Emrel Associates, New York art studio, handling motion picture accounts.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, assistant general sales manager for M-G-M, is due back in New York from the Coast on Nov. 4.

•

CHARLES SKOURAS, president of National Theatres, is due to arrive in New York today by plane from the Coast.

•

G. O. WOODHAM-SMITH, general counsel for J. ARTHUR RANK, sailed from New York on the S. S. *Queen Elizabeth* on Friday.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign manager, is due to leave New York for Europe this week.

•

HARRY MCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation chief, is due back in New York from Cincinnati today.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount Eastern production head, is due in Hollywood from New York on Nov. 11.

•

HERBERT NUSBAUM of M-G-M's home office legal department, is due back here from the West today.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, M-G-M reprints and importations chief, will leave New York today for Atlanta.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, UI assistant general sales manager, returned here from the Coast over the weekend.

•

C. J. LATTA, Warner circuit zone manager in Albany, visited New York over the weekend.

•

ISABELLE AUSTIN, of the New York Roxy Theatre publicity department, returned here today from Bermuda.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

IF there are exhibitors who still require proof that their wishes and first interests are of no concern to the Department of Justice in its anti-trust litigation against the industry, let them look at the New York Federal court record of last week in the decree proceedings.

The government alone, among the three principals in the litigation—the court, the defendant companies and the Attorney General's office—had no relief of any kind to offer the nation's exhibitors at the conclusion of their long fight against the court's plan for competitive bidding, or "auction" selling.

That plan of film marketing is opposed by perhaps more than 90 per cent of exhibitors.

Although the plan itself was proposed by the court, the three Federal jurists who sired it listened long and patiently to every exhibitor spokesman who appeared in court to denounce it. Thereafter, the court stated that it was greatly moved by the exhibitor protests against "auction" selling and invited suggestions for alternatives to its own plan.

The government sat in court and heard those exhibitor pleas for relief from auctions, too. But it was not moved as the court was moved, nor did it invite or encourage an alternative.

•

The defendant companies, acting upon the invitation of the court, went into session among themselves immediately in an endeavor to devise a workable alternative to "auction" selling. They so advised the court on the second day, outlined their idea of a substitute plan and were directed by the court to discuss their plan with exhibitor organization counsel.

Regardless of the ultimate fate of that plan, it evolved from the companies' recognition of and respect for exhibitor wishes and rights in the court proceedings.

There was no such recognition of exhibitor rights and wishes on the part of the government. The government not only offered nothing at all but it announced in court it would oppose the companies' plan. It would stand by its own earlier proposal for a cross-licensing ban for affiliated theatres, which the court had already indicated clearly was not within the purview of its opinion.

That meant that, insofar as the government was concerned, if it was not to have its own way, then the exhibitors could be left saddled with "auction" selling.

•

It is pointless to assay the merits of the defendants' alternate proposal. The only point of consequence is that exhibitors wanted to be rid of the "auction" selling plan.

The court and the companies were willing to help.

The government was not.

This record is significant because it illustrates conclusively, if any proof is needed at this late date in the litigation, that the Department of Justice is interested in neither exhibitor wishes nor exhibitor needs. As has been said here before, the Department is interested first, last and in-between, in doing something *to* the defendants and the industry, not *for* the exhibitor.

The three-judge Federal court sensed something of this when it reminded Robert L. Wright, chief government attorney in the New York anti-trust suit, that an industry should not be wrecked because some of its components had violated some of the anti-trust laws.

The remedy, it was plainly indicated by the court, lies not in tearing the industry apart, but in enjoining its members from further violations and proceeding along new paths from there.

Success for the Department in this suit would be as much a defeat for exhibitors as for the actual defendants. The Department demonstrated as much by its utter disregard of exhibitor wishes and exhibitor welfare last week.

It seems quite apparent that those exhibitors who pin their hopes to the shirt tail of the Department are sentencing them to a rough ride and a crash landing.

• •

Courtroom conversation-piece:

Joseph M. Proskauer, Warner counsel, to Abram F. Myers, Allied States general counsel: "It would seem we won't have any lasting peace until you sit down with John Davis (Loew's counsel) and I."

Myers: "I can think of a quicker way than that. We could all jump in the lake and stay there."

Proskauer: "I can't join you in such a compact. I am not one to whom the movies are a be-all and an end-all."

Newsreel Parade

THE opening session of the United Nations Assembly in New York is featured in all current newsreels. Other subjects of varied types appear in the remainder of the news clips; complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 17—President Truman opens United Nations General Assembly in New York. Sports: Hockey season opens near Montreal; riding the rapids in the Enns River, Austria; trick rope-jumping by Los Angeles girl. Electric-eye trap for baboon fails in Chicago zoo.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 215—United Nations special: Delegates welcomed to New York; luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria; President Truman's address at opening session. Sports: Canoists ride the rapids of the Enns River in Austria; "submarine" basketball game played in Hollywood pool.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 18—The search for peace starts at United Nations Assembly, New York. Bodies of Nazi war criminals after hangings. Babies in Paris give thanks for clothing.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 20—United Nations delegates hailed in New York welcome. Ceylon celebrates festival of the Buddha's tooth (sic). Push-button parking for tomorrow's car demonstrated in Los Angeles.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 549—Harry S. Truman opens United Nations Assembly in New York. Steaks and chops on parade at Kansas City livestock show. Huntsville, Texas, prisoners stage rodeo in state penitentiary. Fancy rope-jumping by girls in Los Angeles.

Brulatour Dies

(*Continued from page* 1)

and in 1912 became U. S. distributor of motion picture film for Eastman Kodak. Brulatour built the Paragon and Peerless studios at Fort Lee, N. J., and was also one of the organizers of World Film Co.

Surviving are his widow, Hope Hampton; three children by a previout marriage, C. Jules Brulatour, Mrs. Harry C. Mills and Mrs. F. W. Cochran, and two brothers, Henry and Thomas Brulatour, and a sister, Mrs. R. Postlethwaite.

Funeral services will be held at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, New York, at 11 A. M., tomorrow. Interment will be private, at Mt. Kensico Cemetery.

Offices of Jules E. Brulatour, Inc., at Fort Lee, Chicago and Hollywood will be closed all day tomorrow.

Cincinnati Owners Want Clearance Cut

Cincinnati, Oct. 27.—No changes have been made in clearances in this territory, and none are contemplated, as far as can be learned. However, subsequent-run exhibitors have for some time felt that the present clearance setup is unfair and discriminatory, and a spokesman for the independents declares that several inter-member conferences had been held recently to discuss the subject, with steps to be taken in the not too distant future to seek clearance reductions to a more equitable basis.

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Odeon Raises Peters; Harris Heads Kalee

TORONTO, Oct. 27.—The Board of Odeon Theatres of Canada has elected George W. Peters as a new director to fill the vacancy due to the recent death of Thomas J. Brass in Toronto. Peters, a Toronto man who has been with Canadian Odeon since its outset, having been executive assistant to the president and the company secretary. Peters was also appointed a member of Odeon's executive committee and will be a director of General Theatres Corp., Toronto, which is an investment and real estate company.

In connection with the board session, for which J. Earl Lawson presided, announcement was made of the appointment of Ed. J. Harris of Toronto as general manager of Gaumont-Kalee, Ltd., succeeding Oscar R. Hanson. This related company is also headed by Lawson and was formed earlier in the year for Canadian distribution of British theatre equipment and for servicing Odeon theatres.

Max Rothstein Joins Joseph Steiner

Max Rothstein, film editor, has joined Broadcast Pictures, here, as secretary of the corporation, replacing Russell Mack. Rothstein has been with 20th-Fox and De Lux Laboratories for the past 30 years and has been supervising film editor on hundreds of pictures.

Immediately on completion of "Boomerang," which Rothstein is now cutting for 20th-Fox, he will start working with Joseph Steiner, president of Broadcast, who further announces that negotiations are practically completed with Movietone Studios to film "Rhythm Rhapsodies," his first.

Stoltz and His PRC Exploiteers Meet

CHICAGO, Oct. 27.—Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising-publicity for PRC Pictures and the company's exploiteers have held their first joint meeting in Chicago to discuss future production under the company's new and expanded budget and the company's plans to exploit and publicize its product.

Present at the meeting were Lige Brien, exploitation manager; Milt Overman, exploiteer assigned to Dallas; H. M. Addison, Atlanta; Leon Brandt, Chicago; Ira Gross, Pittsburgh, and Arthur Jeffrey of Eagle-Lion Films.

Hurwitz at Forum Tues.

Leo Hurwitz, producer-director of "Native Land," will discuss producer-director problems in film productions tomorrow, at the Film Forum in the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, here, where the picture will be screened. Paul Bennard is chairman of the Forum.

RCA in Skouras Deal

A sound equipment service agreement has been negotiated between RCA and Skouras Theatres, providing for both service and the furnishing of replacement parts to all 65 Skouras theatres.

6,500 Trailers for Christmas Seal Drive

Completion of a trailer publicizing the 40th annual "Christmas Seal Sale" has been announced by the National Tuberculosis Association. Cary Grant, Myrna Loy and Shirley Temple jointly voice an appeal for funds to carry on the work of tuberculosis control in the United States. The film was made in Hollywood for the NTA by RKO Radio, with Dore Schary directing.

Approximately 6,500 prints will be used during the seal sale, from Nov. 25 to Christmas Day by theaters in cooperation with local tuberculosis associations. The picture will run one minute and 10 seconds. There will be no collection of money in theaters in connection with the showings.

Springer Makes Eight Managerial Changes

J. R. Springer, general theatre manager of Century Theatres has effected eight changes in personnel, as follows:

William May, manager of the Freeport Theatre, has been transferred to the Grove in the same capacity; John Matthews, manager of the Community, has been transferred to the Freeport; Louis Hartman, manager of the Park, transferred to the Community; Edward Cline, relief manager, transferred to the Park as manager; Joseph McGovern, assistant manager at the Freeport, has become a relief manager; Arthur S. Gundersen is the new assistant manager at the Franklin; Alfred Cohn, is the new assistant at the Nostrand, and Wilfred J. Park, is now assistant at the Lynbrook.

20th-Fox Completes 'Edge' Opening Plans

Preparations for the world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor Edge," at the Roxy Theatre, here, on Nov. 19 have been completed by 20th Century-Fox officials. A two-day program of events will start on Monday, Nov. 18 with the arrival of Hollywood stars headed by Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney, and will close with a reception in honor of Zanuck and the visiting celebrities on Tuesday night following the premiere showing. Invitations are going to the chief delegates of the 51 nations here for the United Nations General Assembly.

Twentieth Century-Fox will use the largest electric sign on Broadway, to be assembled by Nov. 10, atop the Schraft Building at 43rd and Broadway, to herald the premiere.

Navy Wants 'Paradise'

The Foreign Language Club of the U. S. Naval Academy at Annapolis has asked the Alexander Korda office, here, distributors of "Children of Paradise" ("Les Enfants du Paradis") to book the film into the Naval Academy Theatre as quickly as possible. Requested by Lt. V. K. McKinley, in charge of training aide, negotiations are being completed for the booking.

Trade Ads Are Fair Tax Deduction: IRB

WASHINGTON, Oct. 27.—All trade advertising is considered a "fair" tax deduction as long as the expenditures are "reasonable and proper," William Sherwood, Assistant Commissioner of Internal Revenue, said here in response to recent inquiries on the subject at the Bureau.

Pointing out that each case involving advertising deductions is handled on "its own merits," Sherwood asserted that advertising by professionals in the motion picture industry is a proper basis for deductions.

Promotional Ads

Ads which promote a picture, paid for by either producer, distributor or exhibitor, also fall in the deductible category, it was said. Advertising in the trade press by individuals and companies is "not questioned" at the Bureau, Sherwood added.

Sherwood explained that no written ruling has been set up by the Bureau on advertising. "Each case is considered on its own merits and we have an unwritten set of rules which is elastic and which absolutely does not question deductions for trade press and general promotion," Sherwood added.

Disney Files Suit In $600,000 Claim

Walter Disney Productions has filed a counter-claim suit in Federal Court, here, for $600,000 against Southern Music Publishing Corp., claiming that Southern had breached a 1943 contract by failing to "properly" exploit certain music in his films, and thereby "jeopardized" his investments therein. Disney also asked the court to direct the publishing firm to re-assign to him all of his music that was granted under terms of the 1943 agreement.

Southern had previously sought an injunction to restrain Disney from assigning tunes in the new "Song of the South," to Santly Joy, Inc.

See $350,000,000 Antenna Market

A $350,000,000 potential market for "ghost-free" television antenna installations for apartment house residents is predicted here by Solomon Sagall, president of Telicon Corp.

One of the most serious obstacles impeding the introduction of commercial television, he said, has been the problem of satisfactory reception for the 5,000,000 apartment house families, which probably represent the bulk of customers for television receivers.

McGrail to UA Publicity

John McGrail, film publicist and newspaperman, will join United Artists' home office publicity department today, under publicity manager Tom Waller, it was announced Friday by Paul N. Lazarus, director of the department. McGrail, prior to service in the Pacific as a lieutenant commander, was a Will Hays' advertising code administrator in Hollywood.

RKO Tradeshow Off

RKO Radio's national trade showing of "Deadlier Than the Male," originally scheduled for Nov. 7, has been postponed and the new date will be announced shortly.

Short Subject

"Northern Rampart"

(This Is America—RKO-Radio)

Alaska, a keystone of national defense and a storehouse of natural resources, is interestingly revealed in the latest of the This Is America series. This two-reeler casts a realistic spotlight on this territory of plank Main Streets, totem poles, ghost towns, glaciers and forests. The photography, shot against the rich, natural background of Alaska, is at times dramatic and always excellent. Because public interest in Alaska is greater now than in many years, this authentic, timely "Northern Rampart" should prove a compelling reel. Running time, 18 minutes.

Eastman Makes 8 Changes Abroad

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Oct. 27.—Harold A. Ritter has been appointed manager of the sales organization of Kodak-Pathe, French subsidiary of Eastman Kodak. Georges Moreau heads motion picture sales and technical liaison, and George Marot is secretary general of Kodak-Pathe. Henry Shilton has resigned from the board of Kodak-Pathe and to advise Blake on Continental business.

In Holland, J. L. de Graaf has been named manager of Kodak N. V., The Hague, succeeding E. E. Pinel, who has returned to Lausanne. B. W. de Graaf, formerly of Kodak's establishment in Zagreb, Jugoslavia, is assistant manager.

Angel Herranz as succeeded Juan de Julian, retired, as manager of Kodak's Spanish subsidiary with headquarters in Madrid.

Para. Sales Confab Ends; Started Sept. 30

Paramount home-office conferences, initiated on Sept. 30 by Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, to consider problems presented by the new method of selling product, ended over the weekend.

Participants in the talks were Hugh Owen, Eastern and Southern division sales manager; Earle W. Sweigert, Mideastern division sales manager; J. J. Donohue, Central division sales manager; George A. Smith, Western sales manager, and district and branch managers.

Candy Sales Pushed In New WB Setup

Warner Brothers Service Corp., recently formed to handle candy sales in WB houses, reports Friday that the new corporate setup has appreciably bolstered sales in over 400 Warner theatres handling candy.

Samuel Carlisle, treasurer, stated that all but 20 of the circuit's theatres had installed either candy bars or automatic machines.

WHOSE Legs

ARE THESE?



NATIONALLY ADVERTISED IN BULL'S-EYE MEDIA...

to the 54,225,201 CIRCULATION

of fifty Detective, Mystery, "Pulp" and Men's Magazines—Sunday Newspaper Comic Sections . . . Life, Look, Liberty, Saturday Evening Post, Collier's, American and Fan List.

10 OF HOLLYWOOD'S MOST BEAUTIFUL BRUNETTES ALL HAD MOTIVES FOR MURDER!



RAFT ON A RAMPAGE

of hard-boiled loving and two-fisted action—to blast out the secret of the one dame who knew all about Hollywood's sensational Glamor Murder!



GEORGE RAFT

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IN

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WITH

VIRGINIA HUSTON • JOSEPH PEVNEY

MYRNA DELL

RKO RADIO PICTURES

Produced by JOAN HARRISON • Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN

Screen Play by JONATHAN LATIMER

SMPE Coast Meet Hailed 'Greatest'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 27.—In points of attendance, number of papers read, and the over-all importance of the year's achievements reported on, the Society of Motion Picture Engineers' convention, here, has surpassed all previous records, convention vice-president William C. Kunzmann declared at the weekend.

"This was the greatest and most successful convention in the history of the SMPE," Kunzmann said on Friday night as the delegates prepared to attend the final evening sessions at the Academy Award Theatre, here.

The outstanding feature on the final day's program was a report delivered by Col. George W. Goddard, USA, whose paper, "Photographic Things to Come," embodied hitherto undivulged facts about photographic devices employed in the late war. Goddard went on to predict that "engineers, in due course, will perfect camera developments that will make these accomplishments appear commonplace." He disclosed that Army photographers had been able to make three-dimensional photographs of an area a hundred miles in diameter from extreme altitudes, and photographed whole landing beaches on a continuous strip of film with one operation.

N. Y. Strike Threat

(*Continued from page* 1)

and determine what action will be taken by the union, has been called for Wednesday evening at the Hotel Capitol, here.

The inability of representatives of exchanges and SOPEG to agree on wage increases has developed in the course of discussions on re-opening of the wage clause in the contract signed a year ago. Only the wage issue is involved in the negotiations since other terms of the exchange contract apply until July, 1947.

Offer 'Highly Inadequate"

In recent talks the exchanges increased their offer of a flat five per cent raise, which was made last month and rejected by the SOPEG exchange members, to 10 per cent. The latest offer has been turned down by the union negotiating committee and the exchange employes, who maintain that the offer is "highly inadequate in the face of the skyrocketing cost of living."

A spokesman for the companies, when advised that the union was weighing the question of a strike, asserted that "a strike is not possible under the contract now in effect, because it contains a 'no-strike' clause."

Sidney Young, national representative of the United Office and Professional Workers of America and a member of the union negotiating committee, declared that the discussions which had been going on were a reopening of the wage clause and, according to the contract, "is not subject to arbitration."

Exchange negotiators in the talks were Clarence Hill of 20th Century-Fox; Henry Kaufman of Columbia; Harry Buckley of United Artists, and Charles O'Brien of Loew's. Hill and Kaufman are now on the Coast.

The SOPEG committee consists of Otto Langer, guild representative; John Cunniff, M-G-M exchange chapter chairman, and Sidney Young.

British Stock

(*Continued from page* 1)

Other companies have not as yet made formal application for listing, but it was indicated that some had sent over "feelers."

G. I. Woodham Smith, general counsel for J. Arthur Rank, British film industry leader, prior to his departure Friday from New York for London on the *Queen Elizabeth,* following a month's stay in this country, stated plans had not yet been made to seek New York Stock Exchange listings for the Rank companies. He pointed out that, under present conditions, permission of the British Treasury would have to be obtained.

Countries other than Britain which ultimately may have film securities listed, under plans now being worked out, are Mexico and Argentina, the Exchange spokesman said, but final passage on these is regarded as less certain in view of the Exchange's standards which must be met with regard to management, financial structure, etc.

Mexico and Argentina

Mexico and Argentina, however, are comparatively free of difficulties to listing their securities in the U.S., as are Switzerland, Sweden, Canada and all countries in South America. Many of the latter, including, notably, Brazil and Argentina, would like to list their securities here, but this is largely contingent upon what arrangements can be made for the listing of U.S. securities in those countries, it is understood.

This fall the Exchange's board of governors is expected to act on a proposal to abandon certain of its rules, described as obsolete and restrictive, and standing in the way, presumably, of the listing of many foreign securities.

Establishment of fixed rates of exchange is expected to have a strong bearing on the international investment picture. To that end the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the International Monetary Fund will hold meetings of their boards of directors in Washington on Friday. The U.S. Treasury has informed the Exchange that the gold content of the dollar bill will remaain at $35 per ounce, and the other participating countries, it is anticipated, soon will make known their intentions so that the various rates can be brought into parity. Once rates are fixed, no participating country would be able to raise or devalue its currency more than 10 per cent.

The Anglo-American economic and financial agreement will become fully effective at the middle of next year, thus speeding the listing of British securities here.

Bitner Buys WEOA

INDIANAPOLIS, Oct. 27.—Purchase of radio station WEOA at Evansville for $200,000 was announced here by H. M. Bitner, Jr., president of WFBM, who also announced plans for construction of a new studio for WEOA, which now shares facilities with WGBF in Evansville.

New NBC Affiliate

Station WFLM, Flint, Mich., will become affiliated with National Broadcasting as a basic supplementary outlet, it is announced by Sheldon B. Hickox, Jr., manager of NBC station relations. Exact date of affiliation depends on completition of the station's construction, expected about Jan. 1.

Eric Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

exceptions, is said to have proven successful.

Johnston left on the *Queen Elizabeth,* accompanied by Irving Maas, vice-president of the Motion Picture Export Association, and Gerald Mayer, Gerald Movius and Joyce O'Hara, all members of the MPA staff.

Maas will inspect MPEA operations in Europe and conduct a meeting of all MPEA Continental managers and representatives in Paris, Nov. 3-7. This will be the organization's first field conference abroad.

Can Return Quickly

Johnston said he is making the trip at the behest of MPA member company presidents and hastened to add that this does not lessen the importance of the current studio labor row. In the event the present Coast jurisdictional fight assumes more serious proportions, Johnston said he will return to the states "on 24-hour notice." Otherwise he will be gone about five weeks.

The MPA chief said he had offered his services to the American Federation of Labor at its recent convention in Chicago, but the labor leaders there felt that AFL unions' intra-mural squabbles should be settled among themselves.

Johnston will tour England, France, Germany, Czechoslovakia, Austria Hungary, Italy, and "probably other countries." The basic purpose of his trip, as he defined it, will be to further the interests of the U. S. film industry, which, he said, is encountering "difficulties in almost every country." These, he explained, are in the form of "restrictions, exclusions and foreign government subsidies" which now preclude an open market for Hollywood product. He observed that there have been indications of a lessening of the barriers against free trade in the Blum-Byrnes film accord in France, and "other evidences."

Johnston expressed the opinion that all industries, not excluding the film business, are "overpricing" themselves abroad by asking larger revenues than justified. This could be adjusted by more efficient production and the absence of strikes which have increased production costs so substantially, he said.

Returning to other MPA matters, he reported the organization's projected pension plan is still under study and will be presented to the MPA board for approval when the program is completed.

He said the appointment of a Production Code Administration representative in London is "a matter for the British to determine."

NBC Promotes Mack

Lathrop Mack, account executive for National Broadcasting's national spot-sales department, has been promoted to Western division manager by James V. McConnell, national director of the network's spot-sales. He will replace Robert E. Howard, who has been elevated to Coast sales.

160th CBS Station

Station KAVE, Carlsbad, New Mexico, has joined the CBS network as its 160th affiliate, it is announced by Herbert V. Akerberg, CBS vice president in charge of station relations.

O'Connor Uncertain About 'Dimes' Drive

Basil O'Connor, president of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, discloses here that the matter of film industry participation in the annual March of Dimes campaign, particularly audience collections, has not yet been decided upon. The idea of another collection basket drive is known to be frowned upon by many exhibition.

O'Connor said he had rejected proposals for one joint campaign in theatres because it would mean the Foundation and the Red Cross, which he also heads, would surrender their right to appeal to the public directly. The annual March of Dimes is held each January.

MPTOA Polls

(*Continued from page* 1)

Monday, which the court designated.

Indications are that most exhibitors, if forced to choose between the distributors' proposal and auction selling, would take the former. The court has indicated that, if the distributors' plan is not approved by the exhibitors, it will not be incorporated in the final decree. That is the stand that has been taken by American Theatres Association, Confederacy of Southern Associations and Southern California Theatre Owners Association.

No Stand on Proposals

The Conference of Independent Exhibitors Association, which includes Allied States, has taken no stand on the distributors' proposals but probably will present a memorandum of some kind on the subject to the court before next Monday.

The court has indicated that, if the distributors' plan is not approved by the exhibitors, it will not be incorporated in the final decree.

MPTOA, meanwhile, has not abandoned hope that its own proposal for an alternative to auction selling which is before the court as part of MPTOA's *amicus curiae* brief will receive serious consideration from the court. The MPTOA proposal calls for the enjoining of all illegal distribution practices and the opening of the market to the fullest competition.

"We hope our proposal will receive serious consideration from the court," Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel, said at the weekend.

TBA Meets Thursday

A meeting of the board of directors of the Television Broadcasters Association will be held here on Thursday afternoon; J. R. Poppele, president, will preside.

A meeting of the commercial operations committee of TBA, headed by G. Emerson Markham, will be held on Wednesday.

7 New MBS Outlets

Seven new Mutual Broadcasting affiliates are announced by Carl Haverlin, vice president in charge of station relations; they are: KMBY, Billings, Mont.; WWNS, Statesboro, Ga.; WPLH, Huntington, W. Va.; WSCG, Elberton, Ga.; KPDR, Alexandria, La.; WKAL, Rome and Utica, N. Y.; WBBQ, Augusta, Ga.

Exhibitors of Texas Convene in Dallas

Dallas, Oct. 27—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas will start a two-day session here today, with the New York anti-trust suit and its potential bearing on trade practices to be the major problem under consideration.

Iowa-Nebr. Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

governor of Iowa, who will talk Monday; Jack Kirsch, Chicago, president of National Allied; Claude Lee, New York, public relations representative of Paramount; Sidney Samuelson, Philadelphia, and Leon Bamberger, New York, of RKO Radio.

A complete report on the Government's New York suit will be given by Kirsch and Samuelson. Affiliation with American Theatres Association is expected to headline the discussions, which will include the checking problem, opposition to practices inaugurated by some distributors refusing to allow dating and/or playing new releases by non-competing independent theatres until after they have played key runs, auction selling and percentage pictures, and the consent decree.

The business meeting will be held at one P. M. tomorrow. One of the highlights will be an all-industry banquet that night; a floor show will follow. On Tuesday the business meeting will open at 10 A. M., with a luncheon to follow at noon.

Tim J. Evans of the Lyons Theatre, Clinton, Ia., executive secretary of the Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska, is handling arrangements. Other officers are: Leo Wolcott, chairman of the board; Howard E. Brookings, president; George March, vice-president.

Agnes Mengelgrew Is New Para. Club Head

Mrs. Agnes Mengelgrew was installed as the first woman president of the Paramount Pictures Club (formerly the Paramount Pep Club) at the organization's annual banquet in the Hotel Astor, here, on Friday night.

On hand for the occasion were executives and employes of the company's home office, New York branch, Paramount News and film laboratory.

Film Club To Resume

San Francisco, Oct. 27.—The Film Colony Club, composed of several hundred women engaged in local theatre offices, film exchange, and affiliated industries of the industry, will resume activities at a dinner-meeting on Nov. 8. The club, which suspended its meetings during war-time, plans a variety of civic, welfare, and social activities.

To Show 'Murder'

"Wanted for Murder," an Excelsior Film production to be released by 20th Century-Fox, will be tradeshown in all exchange centers on Oct. 31, William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th-Fox, has announced. The picture will be screened in Cleveland on Oct. 30, and in Seattle and Portland on Nov. 1.

'Outlaw' Ban

(*Continued from page* 1)

Brandt's Republic and Gotham and Arthur Mayer's Rialto theatres if "The Outlaw" were exhibited beginning last Saturday, as scheduled, presented arguments at Friday's hearing. Also present in support of his contentions were Patrick J. Meehan, deputy commissioner, and Charles F. Preusse and Daniel Rosen, both of the city's corporation council department.

Attending the hearing on behalf of the exhibition of the picture were: Edward C. Raftery, president of UA; Paul Lazarus, Jr., advertising manager of UA; Milton Diamond, counsel for Howard Hughes, and Sidney Diamond, councel for Hughes Productions.

Raftery moved for adjournment of the hearing until Friday, it was learned, shortly after the session began, explaining that he had been active in the U. S. District Court hearings on the N. Y. anti-trust suit and had, therefore, not been able to prepare arguments for "The Outlaw" session.

Dr. Bowen, with whom the decision on the censor board's license apparently rests, explained that he had become acting director only recently and had not had adequate time to familiarize himself with previous cases. As far as he knows, he added, this is the first time a request for revocation of a film's license has been based on its promotional campaign.

Coincident with its attempt to have the state board's film division maintain its original decision, UA last week filed for appeal of Justice Carroll G. Walter's denial of its motion for a mandatory injunction to compel compliance by Brandt and Mayer of their contract for exhibition of "The Outlaw." The petition for appeal is expected to be heard on Nov. 8 or 22.

British Gain Ground In the Netherlands

Washington, Oct. 27.—Since liberation in May 1945, about 160 films have been released in the Netherlands, and more than half are British productions, according to a dispatch received by the film division of the Department of Commerce. Before the war, approximately 500 films were shown annually in Netherland theatres. About one-half were United States films, one-fifth German, and the remainder French, British, and Scandinavian. Under German occupation the number shown fell to 120 films in 1943.

Attendance at motion - picture houses dropped sharply during the occupation. Prior to the invasion, monthly attendance at theatres was estimated at about 5,000,000. By July 1941, because only German propaganda films were being shown, monthly patronage declined to 1,400,000 and by 1944, to less than 200,000.

Plan Weekly Opera Day

San Francisco, Oct. 27.—Grand opera one day a week in a film theatre, with "Carmen" leading off on Nov. 6 at the State, in Eureka, has been projected by George Mann, head of Redwood Theatres, and Hal Honore, its general manager. Tickets will be priced from $2 to $3.30. Mann, who operates theatres in rural areas, has scheduled the second opera, "Barber of Seville," for the Strand in Modesto on Nov. 20.

377 Army Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

the number of Army theatres overseas, it is said that the average Army theatre abroad exhibits 208 films each year.

Post theatres change features on the average of five times weekly, while theatres abroad run four weekly. The Department reports that it is impossible to estimate the number of theatres operated abroad because they are directly under zone and area commanders, rather than operating as a central group of houses, such as the interior theatres.

New England Houses Increasing Prices

Hartford, Oct. 27.—Admission prices have been increased at a number of theatres in the New England area. Two Warner circuit theatres in Hartford, the Strand and Regal, have increased admissions five cents, the Music Box Theatre, New Britain, has placed a five-cent increase on children's admissions only, and the Park and Greendale, Worcester, Mass., have increased their prices to 44 cents.

2 More E-L Producers

Hollywood, Oct. 27.—Implementing a pre-arranged Anglo-American talent exchange plan, Eagle-Lion has signed English producer Isadore Goldsmith to produce here. Additionally, E-L has signed Leonard Picker, formerly with Columbia, to a producership.

Mexico Is Seeking Foreign Film Talent

Mexico City, Oct. 27 Ambitious to stress quality, Mexican producers are looking to Europe for cooperation, in the form of inducing high-bracket directors and players to work in Mexico.

Panamerican Films has contracted Joseph von Sternberg to direct a Mexican version of "The Blue Angel," with Maria Felix in the Marlene Dietrich role. Von Sternberg is due here about Nov. 1. Martha Eggerth is expected here in January to make a picture which Louis Lowenthal and Paul Koner are to produce. She may make a second picture in Mexico.

This campaign for quality has prompted the reorganization of Clasa Films Mundiales, one of the largest producers. Espinosa Iglesias, circuit operator, and Carlos Troullet, banker and picture production expert, are conducting the reorganization which is expected to be completed by the end of this month and, it is said, will have a new bearing on the company's 1947 production program.

Buster Keaton, from Hollywood, has finished his first picture in Mexico, "The Modern Bluebeard," produced by Alejandro Salkind, and he is considering offers for another film here.

Republic Signs Simon

Hollywood, Oct. 27.—Fanchon Simon, co-founder of Fanchon and Marco, has signed with Republic Pictures as an associate producer, with his first assignment, "Books Are Lighter than Rifles," to start in early 1947.



cheer leader!



When it comes to bringing forth a CHEER . . . for your attractions . . . you can't top The PRIZE BABY! His lusty voice arrests ATTENTION . . . and his showmanlike way of performing makes him the center of ATTRACTION! . . . He's HEARD! . . . He's SEEN! . . . He's PERSUASIVE! . . . and when he goes into his act . . . it's a lead-pipe cinch . . . that he'll have the crowd CHEERING with him . . . as he leads them . . . right up to your BOX OFFICE!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 85 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29, 1946 TEN CENTS

Theatre Candy Sale Hit by Price Rises

Vending Machines Seen Facing Deficit Operation

Operators of theatre candy-vending machines and candy counters who have been facing an increasing price squeeze during the past few months as a result of rising costs of candy, are facing an even more severe curtailment in profitable operations as a result of a new Office of Price Administration order permitting candy manufacturers to increase price ceilings until they receive a return of five per cent net profit on net sales.

Recent new increases in prices and contemplated additional increases in view of the fact that the manufacturers claim they cannot reduce the size of their

(*Continued on page 7*)

US Sees Barriers Lifted on Film

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—U. S. State Department spokesmen here express the belief that many anti-Hollywood trade barriers will be eliminated as a result of study of trade practices now in progress in London with 19 countries participating.

Working under the United Nations Economic and Social Council, barriers imposed against American motion pictures will be "rapidly eliminated" as the representatives of member countries discuss trade problems, the State Department said.

Principles and rules under discussion are embodied in a suggested charter for an international trade organization. A program formulated by the State Department and sub-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Warshauer Heads WB Studio Advertising

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Allen G. Warshauer has resigned as Coast studio advertising manager of Eagle-Lion Productions, to become Warner's studio advertising manager, a newly-created post, under Morton Blumenstock, national advertising-publicity director, who has headquarters at the company's home office in New York.

$38,559,484 Tax in Month

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Continuing to soar, Federal box-office tax collections reached an all-time high of $38,559,484, for August. Collections amounted to $9,000,000 above the $29,589,568 for August, 1945, and fell only $1,000,000 behind the top-figure collections of July, 1946.

It is indicated at the Treasury Department that 1946 will be a $2,000,000,000 tax year for theatres.

August collections on Broadway amounted to $5,050,561, the report from the Third Internal Revenue District of New York, including Manhattan above 23rd St., climbing almost $1,150,000 over collections during August, 1945.

Throughout the year, tax collections have increased steadily over reports made during 1945.

Peace Terms Being Set on the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28. — Studio picketing continued today with concentrations at the Consolidated and Pathe laboratories at the start of the fifth and possibly final week of the Conference of Studio Unions strike.

First step toward finalizing setup of machinery for arbitration of future jurisdictional disputes was taken today when a committee composed of representatives of CSU, IATSE, the Screen Actors Guild and neutral Teamsters Union met to polish details of the setup and undertake unanimous agreement on a personality to be employed as arbitration board chairman, a salaried position for which a non-industry figure will be sought.

Promise of an early settlement of

(*Continued on page 8*)

'Dimes' Drive Meet; May Seek Film Aid

The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, in opening meetings here yesterday, at the Roosevelt Hotel, started to map strategy for the annual March of Dimes drive, and at a session today may discuss a request for film audience participation. The annual drive will be staged from Jan. 15 to 30.

Regardless of the decision of the Foundation to solicit among film audiences, a spokesman for the film industry yesterday said that exhibitors would not "go along" in audience collections.

N.Y. 1st-Run Grosses High

New York first-run theatre grosses for the most part are enjoying sturdy business this week, fairly close to the top-level grosses of last week. "Margie," "Deception," "The Jolson Story" and "The Dark Mirror" lead the field.

"Margie," with a stage show headed by Jon Hall, has the Roxy's "SRO's" shingle in almost constant use. The show set a record non-holiday gross of $117,000 in its opening week and the second week is good for $113,000, which is uncommon business.

"Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra is playing a merry tune at the Paramount, with a lofty $120,000 gross for the second week. The second week of "The Dark Mirror," at the Criterion, figures to bring in $38,000, with no complaints. "Deception" is doing splendidly on a $44,000 second

(*Continued on page 8*)

"Song of the South"

[*RKO-Radio-Walt Disney Productions*]

Hollywood, Oct. 28

HERE is a new Walt Disney production—and a new kind of Walt Disney production—that is as fresh as a daisy, blithe as a butterfly, and a heap more permanent thing of beauty and joy forever. Neither Disney nor anybody else ever made a picture like it, but you can bet all the lettuce in the larder that there will be many more made in its pattern. It figures to spin turnstiles, with momentum mounting as the run progresses and the news gets around, in anybody's situation.

The film is about 30 per cent cartoon and 70 per cent "live-action" and all of it in Technicolor at its best. It represents gloriously the successful culmination of the Disney experiments in combining the two forms. For the most part, it utilizes them alternately, although merging them some of the time with striking effect, and the subject—the memorable

(*Continued on page 7*)

CIEA Ignores Alternative To 'Auctions'

Stern Urges Industry Trade Practice Parley

By GENE ARNEEL

The Conference of Independent Exhibitors Associations will ignore the alternative for competitive selling proposed by the defendant companies in the New York equity suit and presented to exhibitor organizations interested in the case for their consideration at the suggestion of the court last week.

Jesse Stern, CIEA associate counsel and former board chairman, declared here yesterday that the organization "does not believe that the court now has the proposal actively under consideration" and consequently it will not file any additional documents in regard to this or other matters.

The proposal would enjoin a distributor from arbitrarily denying a run requested by an exhibitor who operates

(*Continued on page 8*)

No More Documents Submitted by U. S.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney-General, asserted here today that the Government does not intend to submit additional papers in the New York District Court anti-trust case, unless something "unforeseen" occurs during the current 10-day leave given the defendants by the court.

Expecting a final judgment to fall far below the Government's demands, Wright and his assistants are presently planning an appeal to the Supreme Court on the grounds that "divorce-

(*Continued on page 8*)

Kahane's Duties Are Increased at Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Benjamin B. Kahane, Columbia production vice-president and general studio manager, and industry pioneer, will henceforth supervise all Columbia productions not handled directly by Harry Cohn, company president. Kahane has been with the studio for some 10 years and will continue under a new long-term contract.

Personal Mention

NEIL F. AGNEW, Vanguard's distribution vice-president, returned to New York yesterday from Hollywood.

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TOM LOY of MOTION PICTURE DAILY's editorial staff, and MRS. LOY, who were married in Plainville, Conn., last Saturday, have arrived in New Orleans.

•

BETTE DAVIS, Warner star, and her husband, WILLIAM GRANT SHERRY, will arrive at the Hampshire House, here, on Friday, from Hollywood.

•

PAUL GUSDANOVIC, Cleveland circuit owner, and MRS. GUSDANOVIC will leave that city on Nov. 16 for a winter vacation in Miami.

•

MARGARET ETTINGER, motion picture public relations counselor, is due in New York this morning from Hollywood.

•

F. J. A. MCCARTHY, Universal-International's Southern and Canadian sales manager, left here yesterday for Dallas.

•

LOUIS J. KAUFMAN, Warner circuit executive, is in Cleveland for a few days, from New York.

•

HAL B. WALLIS of Hazen-Wallis Productions, is due in New York from Hollywood shortly.

•

DONALD HYDE of United States Pictures, is due here on Thursday from Hollywood.

•

SAM HORWITZ, David Selznick representative, is in Cleveland, from New New York.

•

JULES LEVEY is en route to New York from the Coast.

Fredman Addresses Film Executives

The British industry will be content to seek its own level in the American market but its producers are confident of their ability to make product worthy of top playing time, here, according to Ernest W. Fredman, editor and publisher of *Daily Film Renter*, London trade paper. He was guest of honor at a luncheon tendered him yesterday at the Hotel Astor by Jack Alicoate, editor and publisher of *The Film Daily* which is editorial correspondent for Fredman in the United States.

Fredman also urged the American industry to appoint a "big name" who would treat with the British government, at "diplomatic level," as a means of circumventing newspaper criticism against the American industry.

Among those present were Nate J. Blumberg, Spyros P. Skouras, Murray Silverstone, Phil Reisman, Joseph H. Seidelman, Francis Harmon, Ben Henry, Sir Arthur Jarratt, Cecil Bernstein, representatives of various foreign departments and representatives of the trade press.

45% of Tickets Sold For a Year: Reade

Subscriptions for reserved seats on an annual basis at the new Park Avenue Theatre, opening publicly here tomorrow night, total 45 per cent of capacity, Walter Reade, owner, declared here yesterday. The first long-term subscription motion picture house, Reade is said to have invested $1,000,000 in remodeling and equipping the former Anderson Art Galleries, at Park Avenue and 59th Street, into a de luxe 586 seat house.

A private premiere tonight, by invitation only, will include a screening of "Notorious Gentleman," prior to its opening on Broadway. Film executives here will attend this evening.

Reade said that subscriptions signed to date are at a point he did not plan to attain until Jan. 1. Subscriptions for both evening performances are sold one year in advance at the rate of $1.50 plus 30 cents tax for the nine P. M. showing, for a total of $93.60 for the same seat, on the same night of 52 weeks. The annual reservation rate for the seven o'clock performance is $62.40, based on a charge of $1.00, plus 20 cents tax. Tickets for the two matinee programs, beginning at one o'clock, are not reserved and are scaled at 60 cents.

Throughout a 250-seat smoking mezzanine are "love seats," "two-seaters," used exclusively in one section of a motion picture theatre for the first time. Earphones for the hard of hearing, a television lounge, a clubroom for backgammon and card games, and a "snack bar" where coffee and cold drinks are served free, are some of the features of the house.

Reade said that the program policy would be selection of "top-notch subsequent runs," with a Park Avenue "News of the World" reel, on a split-week. The opening pictures will be "Anna and the King of Siam," followed by "A Stolen Life," "Without Reservations," "Two Guys from Milwaukee," and "Centennial Summer."

250 Attended the Iowa-Neb. Meet

DES MOINES, Oct. 28.—Two hundred and fifty exhibitors and industry representatives attended the opening business session of the Iowa-Nebraska-Allied Independence Theatre Owners convention this afternoon at Hotel Fort Des Moines. Leon Bamberger, director of promotion for RKO Radio, spoke on "Showmanship."

Dave Palfreyman, public relations man for Motion Picture Producers of America and assistant to Eric Johnston also gave a talk. Speakers at the banquet were Gov. Robert Blue and Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head.

Gottlober to USO

Sigmund Gottlober, executive director of the Foreign Languages Film Critics Circle, has been named chairman of the foreign language publicity division of the New York USO Campaign, by Thomas D'Arcy Brophy, chairman of the USO public information committee.

Services Here Today For Jules Brulatour

A Requiem Mass for Jules E. Brulatour, 76, industry pioneer, who died Saturday night in Mt. Sinai Hospital, New York, will be said at St. Ignatius Loyola Church, here, at 11 A.M. today, with Father Raymond O'Connor officiating. Interment will be private, at Mt. Kensico Cemetery.

He was president of J. E. Brulatour, Inc., distributor of Eastman motion picture films, and an organizer and first president of Universal Film Co. Offices of his firm at Fort Lee, N. J., Chicago and Hollywood will be closed all day today. He became U. S. distributor for Eastman Kodak motion picture film in 1912.

Warner Brothers home office, all branch offices and the Burbank studio will close for five minutes today, at 11, in tribute to the memory of Jules Brulatour.

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—"Jules Brulator's passing is an irreplacable loss to the industry," Harry Cohn, Columbria president, said today, adding: "I have lost a great personal friend."

Frank W. Vincent, 61, Agent, Dies on Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 28.—Frank W. Vincent, 61 years old, film talent agent, died last night at Santa Monica Hospital, following an operation performed there 10 days ago.

Vincent was formerly general booking manager of the old Orpheum circuit, then became a vice-president of Radio-Keith Orpheum. In 1932 he resigned to form his own talent agency here. Surviving are a daughter, Mrs. Lorraine Goodrich and a brother, Walter W. Vincent, pioneer circuit operator in New York. Funeral arrangements have not been completed.

Both Distribution Sides at NCA Meet

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 28.—Adding a new twist to exhibitor conventions, Ben Berger, president of North Central Allied, plans a double bill of distributor main speakers for the association's mid-year convention at the Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis, Nov. 18, with "each speaker given equal billing."

The two scheduled to headline the program are William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, and Jack Schlaifer, sales director for Monogram. Berger said Rodgers will replace Eric Johnston as spokesman for the major companies.

Friedl Back to Work

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 28.—Fully recovered from a breakdown suffered late last June, John J. Friedl, president of Minnesota Amusement Co., will return to his post here on Friday. He has been in the East the past two weeks and is now in Texas vacationing at his orange grove. Harry Franch, assistant to Friedl, and other executives of the company, have been substituting for Friedl.

Lumber Shortages For Studios End

Washington, Oct. 28.—Lumber production is reaching an all-time high of 33,000,000,000 board feet, the Civilian Production Administration announces. The CPA's forest products division says that its Los Angeles office reports film supplies of lumber for set studios are receiving adequ[illegible] construction because of production increase.

200 at Dinner for Miller and Zucker

CLEVELAND, Oct. 28.—More than 200 attended the Dave Miller-Lester Zucker testimonial dinner here, tonight, at the Statler Hotel. Top Universal and Columbia officials attended, as well as exhibitors and exchange personnel from Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Oil City, Sharon, Toledo and the Cleveland exchange territory.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY & 47th St.
Starts Tomorrow
ROBERT YOUNG - BARBARA HALE
FRANK MORGAN
"LADY LUCK"
AN RKO RADIO PICTURE

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
1st N. Y. Showing
'The COCKEYED MIRACLE'
FRANK MORGAN
KEENAN WYNN
AUDREY TOTTER
IN PERSON
STAR AND GARTER REVUE
24 of AMERICA'S LOVELIEST GIRLS

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
in Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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... what
sinister
secret
lay
behind
The
Dark
Mirror?



INTERNATIONAL PICTURES
presents

Olivia de Havilland

Lew Ayres

IN

NUNNALLY JOHNSON'S
PRODUCTION

"THE DARK MIRROR"

with THOMAS MITCHELL

RICHARD LONG • CHARLES EVANS • GARY OWEN

Produced and Written for the Screen by Nunnally Johnson

Original Story by Valdimir Pozner

Directed by

ROBERT SIODMAK

An International Picture

OLIVIA deHAVILLAND

With TWICE the box office appeal...in a dynamic DOUBLE role!

LEW AYRES

Returning to screen stardom...more romantic...more exciting!

Produced by **NUNNALLY JOHNSON**

in the famed tradition of his "Woman in the Window"!

"THE DARK MIRROR"

Guaranteeing these big bright box office grosses!

with **THOMAS MITCHELL**

In a Fame-winning "best performance!"

Directed by **ROBERT SIODMAK**

who guided "Spiral Staircase" and "The Killers"



National Magazine Ads will reach more than 50,000,000 readers of 2 issues of LIFE . . 2 issues of LOOK . . SAT. EVE. POST, COLLIER'S ...GOOD HOUSEKEEPING !



H. L. Mandell Heads Midwest Territory

Harry L. Mandell has been appointed special sales representative for Eagle-Lion Films by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. Mandell, who will take over on Nov. 11, will have headquarters in Chicago and will supervise Chicago, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, Detroit, Cleveland and Indianapolis.

Mandell was for 15 years with the sales department of Warners, and left WB in 1944 to join Film Classics in an executive capacity.

Theatre Candy

(*Continued from page* 1)

standard items because of packaging difficulties, are further diminishing the margin of profit and even resulting in losses in theatre candy sales since the price in vending machines cannot be raised at this time above a nickel because of mechanical reasons. Large operators of theatre candy stands have thus far been unable to get six or seven cents for regular five-cent sel'ers.

Operators of vending machines and stands have suggested a reduction in candy returns to exhibitors which is now running 30 per cent from vending machines and 25 per cent from stands, but to date they have met with no success in this direction. Substitutions of lesser-known brands for well-known brands has also been suggested, but vetoed.

Producers of blended maple syrup and blended country cane syrup have been provided with the same automatic adjustment procedure given producers of blended corn syrups, all factors combining to push the five-cent candy bar up to six and seven cents. Suggestions are heard in some quarters that the only solution will soon be a boost of five cent items to a dime, providing of course that the vending machines can be so adjusted.

B'nai B'rith UNO Tribute Tonight

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, will salute the United Nations at the Hotel Astor here tonight with several hundred from the motion picture and allied entertainment industries expected to be present.

Benjamin Cohen of Chile, Assistant Secretary General of UN, will be the featured speaker. Others participating in a program arranged by Jack H. Levin, Cinema president, and Marvin Kirsch, program chairman, will be Dr. Isidor Lubin, president of Confidential Reports, who is U. S. member of the Economic and Social Council of the UN Economic and Employment Commission, and Christopher Cross, U. S. radio liaison officer of UN.

Guild Protests Dismissal

The Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, here, has stationed pickets at the Allerton Theatre, Bronx, in protest of the dismissal of Morton Schenkman as manager of the theatre. George Dunn, president of the union, states that Schenkman was not allowed to return to his job when the theatre reopened last week, after remodeling.

"Song of the South"

(*Continued from page* 1)

Uncle Remus Tales—suits the purpose perfectly. It is more than probable that the picture marks the beginning of a new career for its producer.

Unlike any previous Disney picture, this one gives showmen some player names of picture importance to advertise. These include Ruth Warrick, Lucile Watson, Hattie McDaniel, Bobby Driscoll and Mary Field, foremost in a cast supporting a sensationally competent gentleman recruited from the Amos and Andy program to portray Uncle Remus. His name is James Baskett, his personality and voice are of the kind film producers never have been able to find enough of, and you can write him down in the book of the future with confidence.

The screenplay, by Dalton Raymond, Morton Grant and Maurice Rapf, concerns a little boy's experiences on a plantation, where he is visiting his grandmother, and these are composed of utterly natural childish adventures in the couse of which he listens, beneficially, to the tales told him about Brer Rabbit, Brer Fox and so on by the venerable and understanding Uncle Remus. The tales are done in cartoon, and the human story in regular form, which sounds astonishingly simple in view of the tremendously satisfying results obtained.

The picture is totally wholesome, emotionally exhilirating and altogether charming. Showmen can invite everybody they know to come to see it, including the whole of the strictly family audience and also the confirmed sophisticates, with complete assurance.

Harve Foster directed the actors, Wilfred Jackson is down as cartoon director, and Perce Pearce functioned as associate producer.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 20.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Radio To Hear Its Problems in Labor

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Faced with new industrial relations problems arising out of the lifting of Government wage controls, the radio manufacturing industry's industrial relations directors will meet at the Bismarck Hotel here, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, under the auspices of the Radio Manufacturers' Association's industrial relations committee.

Besides hearing talks by authorities in the fields of collective bargaining and labor relations, the directors will have an opportunity to discuss informally some of their own problems growing out of reconversion and the shift in emphasis from Government controls to employer-labor negotiations. A forecast of what lies ahead for the industrial relations manager will be made at a Friday luncheon, by E. H. vanDelden, director of industrial relations for the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Toledo.

Broadcast Pictures' Officers, 4 Films Set

Production schedule of the new Broadcast Pictures, Inc., which will start with "Rhythm Rhapsodies," in January, will include three others, according to Joseph Steiner, president, who added that the corporate setup is now complete, with Richard Hancox as vice-president; Max Rothstein, secretary, and Adolph Lund, treasurer

Following "Rhythm Rhapsodies," BPI will film "Sudden Death," "No Time for Living," and "Investigations, Ltd.," which Steiner will produce, Rothstein being co-producer, and Hancox associate producer and production manager.

$100,000 T. & D. Fire

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 28 — The American Theatre at Chico burned with damage estimated at over $100,000. The fire occurred around 2:00 in the morning and the alarm was not turned in until it had reached an advanced stage. The American, a 1,000-seater, is owned and was operated by T. and D. Jr. Enterprises.

Write Video Script

Paula Seligman, formerly with the Paramount and Republic story departments, and Raymond Bud Gamble, television producer, have written a script for television, titled "Wide Is the Gate," and dealing with atomic energy.

Paradise Clearance Is Reduced Here

Clearance in licenses entered into by Loew's, Inc., and Paramount for films to be exhibited at two neighborhood theatres in Brooklyn has been reduced to three days in an award by I. Russell Stein of the New York district of the American Arbitration Association. The decision was made in a case involving a complaint by Paradise Theatre operators against Loew's and Paramount, alleging that competition between the complainant's house and the Avon, operated by Gaven Amusement Corp., is "so slight and unsubstantial that no clearance between the two should be countenanced."

In reducing the Avon's clearance over the Paradise to a maximum of three days, Stein concluded that "competition exists sufficiently substantial to warrant clearance, but it is not of such intensity as to require a clearance of seven days." Minimum clearance generally in effect in the New York area is seven days.

L. C. Griffith, Circuit Head, Is Improving

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 28.—L. C. Griffith, circuit operator, was reported today to be "considerably improved." Confined for the past month at St. Anthony hospital, Griffith suffered a paralytic stroke. Doctors are still unable to say how long it will be before he will be able to leave the hospital.

BECAUSE OF THE DEATH

OF

JULES E. BRULATOUR

THE

OFFICES AND WAREHOUSES

OF

J. E. BRULATOUR, INC.

FORT LEE CHICAGO HOLLYWOOD

WILL CLOSE

ALL DAY TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29th

N.Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

week at the Hollywood.

At the Music Hall "The Jolson Story" and the stage presentation still make for a highly profitable combination, with $130,000 in view for a third week. This is big, and below the previous week's draw by only $6,000.

"Two Years Before the Mast," with $40,000 for a fifth week, continues quite favorably at the Rivoli. "No Leave, No Love," with Les Brown's orchestra, is going over well with $72,000 for a second week at the Capitol; the show took in $79,100 in its opening week. "Rage in Heaven," an M-G-M "reprint," will follow on Nov. 7.

The ninth week of "The Killers" at the Winter Garden will bring close to $25,000, which is good enough. The film will bow out after the 10th week and is to be followed by "Notorious Gentleman." "Henry V" is headed for another $13,000 gross, in the eighth week at the John Golden Theatre, where the intake these last few weeks has shown little variation. The film originally had played 12 weeks at the City Center.

'Cloak and Dagger'

"Cloak and Dagger," with Alvino Rey's orchestra, is experiencing a rather slow fourth week at the Strand, with $38,000 expected; "Nobody Lives Forever" will replace it on Friday.

The Astor will have another $20,000 gross on "Caesar and Cleopatra"; this is the ninth week of the run. "Sister Kenny" will gross an estimated $24,000 in a fifth and final week at the Palace; the fourth week brought in $28,000. "Lady Luck" will open there tomorrow.

The Victoria is doing nicely with "The Westerner," which should do about $16,000 in its third week. "Angel on My Shoulder" is standing up fairly well at the Globe, where a $22,000 second week's gross is indicated. "Decoy" will go into the Rialto on Friday, succeeding "The Raider" which is on its way to a fair $6,500 for a fifth and final week.

"Fantasia" continues a successful run at the Republic with a $7,500 fifth week's gross apparent. "Bachelor's Daughters" is down at the Gotham, where $6,500 is expected for a fourth and final week; Republic's "The Plainsman and the Lady" will move in on Saturday.

Petrillo Lists Others Signing New Pact

CHICAGO, Oct. 28.—James C. Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians, said today that "all" of the representatives of the transcription industry concerned in negotiations for a 50 per cent wage increase had agreed to the union's demands.

Among the companies he said had accepted the agreement were the National Broadcasting, Empire Transcription, Langford Transcription and Central Transcription and Recording.

Demonstrate RCA Video

RCA Laboratories will stage a demonstration of new television equipment at its offices in Princeton, N. J., tomorrow.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BALTIMORE

A strong list of attractions, suitable weather and fewer holdovers, all combine to give most box-office figures a fairly substantial boost. Openings were strong and weekend business added up to better than average. Also, no competition from outside sources are on the calendar. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,750)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $17,500)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, with a stage show. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $18,000)

CAPTAINS COURAGEOUS (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,500)

PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN (Mayer-Burstyn)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,000)

ATLANTA

Ideal autumn weather prevails and business is good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

YOUNG WIDOW (UA)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,200)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—ROXY (2,446) (44c-60c) 2nd week, on a holdover from the Fox. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,600)

SHADOW RETURNS (Mono.) and THE CATMAN OF PARIS (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,200)

NO LEAVE NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

CINCINNATI

Returns currently are showing considerable improvement over recent weeks, and plus-average signs are in evidence on practically all fronts; weather is mild. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20-Nov. 1:

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Freddie Slack's orchestra and vaudeville. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $22,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000)

MY PAL TRIGGER (Rep.) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross $1,900. (Average: $1,600)

WILD BEAUTY (U) and EL PASO KID (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 3 days. Gross: $950. (Average, 7 days: $7,500)

STELLA DALLAS (Film Classics)—KEITH'S (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 9 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, 7 days: $7,500)

ONE MILLION, B.C. (Favorite Films) and OF MICE AND MEN (Favorite Films)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,500)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Capitol. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

CIEA Ignores

(*Continued from page* 1)

in competition with a theatre not owned by the distributor.

CIEA, whose membership comprises National Allied, the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and other groups, would have accepted the plan six months ago, and as an intra-industry matter, but will not lend its approval to it as part of the court decree, Stern said.

The position of American Theatres Association in regard to the proposed substitute for competitive bidding will be determined by principals of the organization here this week. The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America is now canvassing the independent exhibitor members of its board to learn of their reaction to the plan.

In further discussion of the present litigation, Stern advanced the idea of intra-industry machinery that would bring peace to the business without recourse to the courts. Making it clear he was speaking for himself and not CIEA, he urged that the heads of the large distributing companies "get around the table" with representatives of exhibitor organizations to explore the possibilities of harmonious arbitration of all issues.

Overtures

Overtures to such an arrangement should come from responsible distributor leaders, such as William F. Rodgers, Stern suggested, and the plan could be developed if "honest-to-goodness attempts are made by both sides with the exhibitors forgetting politics and distributors dismissing sales tactics from their minds," he said.

The idea must be brought into being before the final disposition of the anti-trust suit, Stern said, explaining that theatremen now would be willing to make certain concessions in effecting harmonious relations but subsequently will make the distributors comply to the letter with the ultimate decree provisions. To this, he added, "the decree is against the distributors and not the exhibitors."

He said the Department of Justice "would not be half so serious in carrying out this litigation if all the evils complained about are eliminated in some sort of intra-industry machinery."

Coast Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

the strike was dulled somewhat when IASTE's Roy M. Brewer disclosed the condition under which the arbitration plan would be okayed by Richard F. Walsh, IATSE head. These include working out an arrangement under which workmen supplied by IATSE as replacements for the strikers will be taken care of. It is understood about a thousand were in this category under similar circumstances last year.

Producers paid IATSE replacements two months' standby-by salary after the strikers returned to their jobs. Nevertheless CSU leaders, having abandoned claim to disputed jobs held by IATSE set erectors, claimed the strike can be terminated within a week "if goodwill prevails."

CSU's conditions now consist of receipt of signed contracts for 12 locals, completion of arbitration machinery and settlement of IATSE Local 683's conflict with International officers.

Thanksgiving Nov. 29

WASHINGTON, Oct. 28.—Thursday, Nov. 29 was proclaimed Thanksgiving Day by President Truman, here, today. Nov. 11 was again proclaimed Armistice Day.

No More Documents

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment is the only way to eliminate monopoly within the industry."

Several basic recommendations fostered by the Justice Department are expected here to be ignored by the court when it formulates a final decree. It is believed here that the court will cripple the auction-selling provision and will refuse to adopt a cross-licensing ban.

Wendell Berge, Assistant Attorney General in charge of the anti-trust division, states that an appeal would be necessary regardless of how favorable the final judgment.

Film Ready for Astor

Shooting on the all-Negro picture, "Wham Sam," starring Louis Jordan and his band, has been completed at Filmcraft Studios in the Bronx. Produced and directed by William Forest Crouch, the film features June Richmondo, Manton Moreland and Bea Griffith. The picture will be distributed by Robert Savini of Astor Pictures. Crouch recently completed the first of a series of one-reel short subjects for Universal, based on the radio show, "Juvenile Jury."

Sees Barriers Lifted

(*Continued from page* 1)

mitted to the assembly, calls for agreements on the following subjects:

1) Achievement and maintenance of high and stable levels of employment and economic activity; efforts "must" be made to eliminate regulations, restrictions and discriminations affecting international trade; restrictive trade practices "must" be curtailed, and recommendation that an International Trade Oroganization be established to carry out the three objectives just outlined.

George Canty, State Department film consultant, states that if the proposals are adopted, and finally approved by all member countries, the film industry will achieve more freedom. Canty asserts that there are still many nations where barriers are imposed against American film product. "The only way to rid the industry of these barriers is to get other nations together for a common trade program," Canty added.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 86 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1946 TEN CENTS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.

57½ Million Habitual Theatregoers

Audience Research Cites Growth of 5½ Millions

Steadily mounting in size during the past six years, the American motion picture audience today numbers 57,500,000 persons who attend the theatre at least once every three weeks, compared with a public of 51,000,000 in 1941 when Audience Research, Inc., was first commissioned to undertake a scientific measurement of opinions and reactions by film patrons, Jack Sayers, vice-president of the American Institute of Public Opinion affiliate, declared here yesterday.

Concomitant with the rise in

(*Continued on page 7*)

B'way Films Fail To Entice Tourists

With the exception of Radio City Music Hall, New York's de luxe first runs get very little of the millions of dollars which tourists spend in the city annually, according to a study entitled "The Tourist in New York," just completed by Lynn Farnol, advertising-publicity director of Samuel Goldwyn Prod., which is slated for publication and distribution by the Port of New York Authority.

Farnol's study estimates that more than 88,000,000 tourists were in New York last year, a 61 per cent gain over 1937; that millions more will be counted this year and still more in 1947, as transportation and hotel facilities improve. It is estimated that they will bring with them next year

(*Continued on page 7*)

Mexican Industry In Trouble: Banker

By LUIS BECERRA CELIS

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 29.—Lack of sufficient theatres and insufficient exhibition time in them at both home and abroad are cited as prime reasons for the bottleneck which the film business here is experiencing at present, by Jose L. Campos, manager of the Banco Cinematografico, the industry's own bank. He holds that if Mexican pic-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Monogram Total in 1946-47 Will Be Coast Tops: Broidy

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—King brothers have signed with Monogram for six $1,000,000 productions in conjunction with a Monogram expansion program which will result in the company's producing more pictures during the next 12 months than any other Hollywood studio, Steve Broidy, Monogram president announced here today.

During the next year, the Kings will produce three of a scheduled six pictures, making a total of 53 films for Monogram, Broidy said.

Also under way in Monogram's program of expansion, Broidy disclosed, is a schedule calling for the construction of new sound stages, a new studio, construction of a mill,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Warners Ask Leslie Suit Dismissal

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Warner Brothers today asked Federal Court to dismiss Joan Leslie's $2,700,000 damage suit against the company, asserting no damage was done her by the failure to give her star billing in "Two Guys from Milwaukee," and asking the court to assess the costs to the complainant.

In a long review of the studio's contractural relations with the player, the company declared it voluntarily

(*Continued on page 6*)

Strike Peace Move Continues Today

Hollywood, Oct. 29.—The coast strike remained in status quo today, with picketing continuing uneventfully, and peace moves, if any, are being made behind closed doors.

The Screen Actors Guild inter-faction committee, which met Monday to work out permanent arbitration machinery and select an outstanding personality to head the setup, is to reconvene tomorrow in further effort to that end.

General belief in a settlement, which appeared imminent last week-end, probably cannot be accomplished this week.

Iowa-Neb. Allied Joins Nat'l Body

DES MOINES, Oct. 29.—Iowa-Nebraska Allied late today voted affiliation with National Allied. The convention passed a resolution directing officers to take the necessary steps.

Action followed explanations by Jack Kirsch, national Allied president, aind Sidney Samuelson, Philadelphia. This group was last affiliated with National Allied 15 years ago when it withdrew after a dispute.

The group thus ruled out consideration of ATA membership first brought up at the annual meeting last spring.

The convention voted to hold the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Army in Full Shift to Paid Film Admissions

The Army Motion Picture Service, the War Department's Special Services Division, completing reconversion from a wartime to peacetime basis, expects to have a policy of paid admissions at 35mm. showings in all overseas theatres throughout the world by Dec. 1, according to Gordon C. McFarland, who recently was appointed special AMPS representative here. The Service also is substituting 35mm. for 16mm. equipment as rapidly as possible, where practicable, under a plan to furnish entertainment for soldiers in fewer, but larger theatres.

At the height of the war the Army had a total of approximately 1,250 houses in its domestic theatre circuits, which by now has been reduced to 400. In overseas theatres 45 16mm. prints of each picture are required in contrast to 138 at the peak of the industry's "gift" film program, McFarland explains.

Paid admissions to 35mm. shows went into effect in the Jap islands, the Philippines and Korea on Oct. 1 and in the Marianas on Oct. 12. The change from free to paid showings is necessitated by the Army's policy which requires that the soldier theatres must be self-supporting, although some funds out of post exchange profits have been made avail-

(*Continued on page 7*)

ATA Action on Sales Proposal Seen Unlikely

Feels Its Position on Plan Is Already Stated

Indications are that the American Theatres Association will let the matter of the competitive selling substitute proposal of the defendant companies rest with the court as it now stands rather than file any additional memoranda on this or any other phase of the New York equity case.

The organization feels that its position on the some-run proposal has already been fully stated by ATA counsel Thurman Arnold who approved arbitration of disputes arising from

(*Continued on page 7*)

H. A. Cole Renamed Texas Allied Head

DALLAS, Oct. 29.—Allied Theatre Owners of Texas closed a two-day meeting at Hotel Adolphus Tuesday with the unanimous reelection of all officers and directors, including Col. H. A. Cole, president. Other officers re-elected were: A. W. Lilly, Greenville, secretary-treasurer; Ruben Frels, Victoria, first vice-president; other vice-president, Mrs. Marthe McSpadden, Electra; P. V. Williams, Mundy, and Phil Isley, Dallas.

In discussion on film buying it was

(*Continued on page 6*)

Argosy Names Lewis Advertising Director

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Cliff Lewis has been appointed publicity and advertising director for Argosy Pictures Corp., the John Ford-Merian C. Cooper producing unit which is committed to a four-picture deal with RKO Radio. He has resigned from the motion picture department of

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

Estimates of key city grosses appear on page 8.

SOPEG Meets Today On Exchange Action

Convoked to consider an "emergency report" of negotiations with the New York exchanges of M-G-M, United Artists, 20th Century-Fox and Columbia for wage boosts, members of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, will meet here tonight at the Hotel Capitol to determine the next step in recently re-opened wage clause talks. The possibility of strike action was raised last week when the union, in rejecting the latest offer of the companies for a flat 10 per cent increase, disclosed that negotiations had broken down.

After exchange employes rejected an initial offer of five per cent increases proposed last month, they authorized the SOPEG executive board to call a strike "if, and when, negotiations collapsed."

With Clarence Hill of 20th-Fox and Harry Buckley of UA on the West Coast, and Charles O'Brien, M-G-M, and Hank Kaufman, Columbia, declaring that they were unfamiliar with the course of the negotiations, no industry representatives of the committee were available or in position to comment here yesterday.

Earlier this week, Sidney Young, national representative of the United Office and Professional Workers of America and a member of the union negotiating committee, asserted that the union realized that the wage discussions are not subject to arbitration under the contract. This has been interpreted as an indication that the union, if it votes to strike, would do so with the knowledge that this action would be in violation of the "no-strike" clause in its contract.

Many Attend Services For Jules Brulatour

Noted figures of the film, theatre and business worlds, yesterday attended a Mass of Requiem for the late Jules E. Brulatour in St. Ignatius Loyola R. C. Church, here.

The Mass was celebrated by Brulatour's friend, the Rev. John O'Connor, of St. Brendan's Church, Bronx, with Dr. Reginald Silbey at the organ.

Among those present were Grace George, actress; Jack Pearl, comedian, and Mrs. Pearl; Dorothy Kilgallen, N. Y. *Journal-American* columnist; George Ruppert, Mrs. Carl Helm, Mrs. William A. Curley and Mrs. Arthur Baer, also Brulatour's partner, Thomas J. Hargrave, and Mrs. Hargrave, Edward Curtis of Eastman Kodak, and Mrs. Curtis, Jack Cohn, Major Albert Warner. William German of Jules Brulatour, Inc., J. Cheever Cowdin, Charles D. Prutzman, Nicholas M. Schenck, Eugene Castle, Mrs. Ed Sullivan, Walter L. Hine, Thomas Roberts of J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency, Thomas Roberts, Jr., of Eastman Kodak Stores and many others.

Brulatour, 75, died Saturday night in Mount Sinai Hospital after an illness of several weeks. He was distributor since 1912 of motion picture films for Eastman Kodak.

Personal Mention

SAM DEMBOW, JR., president and treasurer of E. A. Golden Productions, arrived here yesterday noon by plane after six weeks in Europe.

•

MARTIN STARR, film publicist and radio commentator, will address the Brooklyn Citizens Committee, sponsored by the Board of Education, tomorrow evening on "Hollywood's Influence of Community Good Will."

•

WILLIAM MISHKELL, Tri-States Theatres' Omaha district manager, was the "Cardinal" who crowned the Ak-Sar-Ben King, in the city's top social event of the year.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, UA Eastern sales manager, and DAVE DICKSTEIN, his assistant, are back in New York from a week end trip to Scranton, Pa.

•

G. E. (JERRY) MCGLYNN, M-G-M Omaha branch manager, is in Rochester, Minn., for a physical checkup following an operation of some weeks ago.

•

RUDY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager now in Charlotte, will be in New York all next week.

•

MARVIN EZZELL, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, is due here tomorrow from Hollywood.

•

ROSELEEN CALLAHAN, UA syndicate contact, has returned from a week's honeymoon in Chittenden, Vt.

•

GEORGE COLEMAN, manager of the Calvin Theatre, Northampton, Mass., is a patient in Dickinson Hospital.

•

SAM BOVERMAN of the Paramount home office legal staff has gone to Louisville for a week.

EDWARD L. WALTON, vice-president and assistant general sales manager of Republic, is visiting the company's Charlotte office, returning here early next week.

•

ERNIE GRECULA, GEORGE SMITH and JACK MITCHELL, of Hartford Film Row, plan a Northern New England hunting trip late in November.

•

MILTON J. SALZBURG, president of Pictorial Films, has left New York for a month's sales trip, with stopovers from here to Los Angeles.

•

PAT DUGGAN, vice-president of Samuel Goldwyn Productions, arrived in New York yesterday, accompanied by his wife, LIBBIE BLOCK.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will return to New York from Des Moines today.

•

GREGORY VOJAE, home office special representative for Columbia, is visiting the company's Atlanta branch.

•

WILLIAM PINE and WILLIAM THOMAS, producers releasing through Paramount, have returned to the Coast from New York.

•

WALTER BRANSON, Western division sales manager for RKO Radio, is here from the Coast.

•

RED KANN, vice-president of Quigley Publications, will leave here today for the Coast.

•

JOE DILORENZO of Daly Theatres, Hartford, has returned to his post following illness.

•

CHARLES BARON, Pittsburgh exploiteer for M-G-M, is vacationing here.

Rank Hits Monopoly Charge; Cites US

J. Arthur Rank, British film leader, yesterday denied that the companies which he controls form a monopoly, according to press dispatches reaching here late last night. He made the denial at a Radio Industries Club luncheon in London.

"The film group I lead," Rank said, "has got a large slice of the British film industry—but we have to face eight big American companies. You cannot have a monopoly when you have eight big competitors."

Rank added that a year or two ago the Americans had what amounted to a monopoly of the screens of the world and that "that is the fight we are up against. We are trying to secure screens in every country in the world for British films."

Oldum in Oak Ridge Post

OAK RIDGE, Tenn., Oct. 29.—G. B. Oldum has been appointed assistant to Walter L. Morris, director of theatres in Oak Ridge (The Atomic City). He will arrive here late this week from his home in New York.

Claim Films Fight Dog-Race Measure

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 29.—Possibility of libel suits against the motion picture industry and California horse-race tracks because of their alleged "financing of the fight against proposition No. 2," a state dog-race gambling measure on the November ballot, proponents of the bill having warned by letter all California newspaper editors against usage of material denouncing the pending proposition.

This letter followed notification last week by George Nasser, president of California Theatres Association, that unless trainers advocating dog-racing were allowed on screens throughout the state, an investigation would be demanded by the U. S. Attorney General under the anti-trust laws which prohibit combinations in restraint of trade, commerce or legitimate competition.

Stone Sets 'Pretenders'

Final title of Andrew Stone's forthcoming United Artists release, is "The Pretenders"; the film originally was titled "Strange Bedfellows."

Newsreel Parade

THE departure of the Queen Elizabeth from New York on its maiden East-bound peace-time voyage, and key football games, are two subjects appearing in all current newsreels. The Navy's test flight of the world's largest, first two-engined [illegible]hut copter is also featured in the r[illegible]art complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 18—Navy displays first twin-engine helicopter, at St. Louis. Notables embark on the *Queen Elizabeth* for England. Buffalo-hunting with newsreel cameras, at Elk Island, Alberta, Canada. Vyvyan Donner presents the latest in lounging fashions. New Zealand woman tames eels. Football highlights: Penn, 32-Navy, 19; UCLA, 33-Santa Clara 7; Army, 19-Duke, 0; Notre Dame, 41-Iowa, 6.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 215—Football: Penn sinks Navy; Army crushes Duke; Rice upsets Texas. Newest hair-do fashions from Paris. Twin-engine Navy helicopter in Navy show. Wives and children of "G.I." students invade college campus. "Miss Liberty's" 60th birthday. Film and other notables sail on *Queen Elizabeth*.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 19—Navy introduces world's largest helicopter. Blackbuck antelope "joins up" with a zoo. Latest hair styles in Paris. Headliners sail for Europe on the *Queen Elizabeth*. Football: Army defeats Duke, 19-0; Notre Dame smashes Iowa, 41-6.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 21—Football: Penn swamps Navy, 32-19; Oregon State tops Washington State. Navy, at St. Louis, tests world's largest helicopter. *Queen Elizabeth* leaves New York with celebrities aboard. Gala audience at Paris' opera opening. Slowest entry wins strange motor race in Paris.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 550—Noted persons sail from New York on the *Queen Elizabeth*. Washington demonstrates "driver dont's" in safety campaign. Parking problems solved by new garage in England. Football games: Army vs. Duke; Notre Dame vs. Iowa; Washington vs. California.

Music Hall Books Three New Pictures

M-G-M's "Till the Clouds Roll By" and "The Yearling," and 20th Century-Fox's "The Late George Apley" will have their premieres at Radio City Music Hall, here, Gus S. Eysell, managing director, announced here yesterday. "Till the Clouds Roll By," a musical in Technicolor, based on the life and music of Jerome Kern, will be the Music Hall's Christmas attraction.

The premiere of "The Yearling," Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, will take place at the Music Hall early in 1947, Eysell stated. "The Late George Apley," 20th Century-Fox's film based on John P. Marquand's Broadway play and novel, will be the third playdate.

Injunction Denied in Suit

Temporary injunction against Monogram for the use of the title "Shadows Over Chinatown" has been denied, the case being remanded for trial on Friday, in the suit filed by Nat Saland against Monogram in Supreme Court, New York, according to William McNulty, attorney for the film company. Saland claimed ownership of the title in the motion argued before Judge Carrol Walters.

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INGRID BERGMAN
ROBERT MONTGOMERY
in M-G-M's "RAGE IN HEAVEN"

EXTRA! AT PRESS-TIME!

OPENING AT 4-STAR THEATRE, LOS ANGELES, BREAKS HOUSE RECORD!

Starts CAPITOL – NOV. 7

"Ingrid, we sure wowed them in Cincinnati, Washington, Boston, Indianapolis, Toledo, Dayton and Richmond."

"How about those other S.R.O. engagements Bob, in Worcester, Norfolk, Reading, Harrisburg, Bethlehem, Williamsport, Altoona and Easton."



"WELCOME INGRID AND BOB! YOU'VE DONE SUCH GREAT BUSINESS IN EVERY TEST ENGAGEMENT THAT NOW YOU PLAY BROADWAY'S BIG CAPITOL THEATRE!"

(First time in the history of M-G-M's Ace Broadway house that they book a Reprint but the business is so terrific it's a MUST!)



M-G-M re-introduces INGRID BERGMAN • ROBERT MONTGOMERY in "RAGE IN HEAVEN" with George Sanders • Lucile Watson • Oscar Homolka • Screen Play by Christopher Isherwood and Robert Thoeren • Based on the Novel by James Hilton • Directed by W. S. VAN DYKE II Produced by GOTTFRIED REINHARDT • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Masterpiece Reprint



and that's ex

Review Flashes

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep)—Bright as a newly-minted dollar—plenty of which, parenthetically, it should attract to the cash drawer—is the lighter approach to the problems confronting one GI. In every department, the picture is a standout; would classify as a solid hit from any studio, and definitely is one of the all-time best to come from Republic. Eddie Albert, Faye Marlowe, Gail Patrick. Allan Dwan directed.

BOXOFFICE

Rendezvous with Annie

Republic Comedy 89 mins.

AUDIENCE SLANT: (Adult) An excellent light comedy that should prove to be thoroughly entertaining for all types of adult audiences.

Comment: Republic evidently has gone all out to give "Rendezvous With Annie" the excellent production values it deserves, and Associate Producer-Director Allan Dwan has taken full advantage of a fat opportunity to turn out an excellent comedy. The Mary Loos, Richard Sale magazine story on which their screenplay was based, follows along lines of a true life story that took place in California during the war. That story, too, worked out satisfactorily. Eddie Albert, Faye Marlowe and Gail Patrick, really have a rollicking time in this picture, transmitting their fun to audiences. The picture is exceptionally well done in casting, acting, production and direction from a good story. Who could ask for anything more? Proper exploitation could make this return better than average grosses.

SHOWMEN'S TRADE REVIEW

The Film Daily

"Rendezvous With Annie"

with Eddie Albert, Faye Marlowe 89 Mins.

Republic

LIVELY COMEDY BUBBLING WITH SUBTLETY TOLD WITH WARMTH, SKILL; FINE BOX-OFFICE POSSIBILITIES.

Permitted to mount a screenplay from their own magazine story, the authors of "Rendezvous With Annie," Mary Loos and Richard Sale, turned in a script that was directed with veteran skill by Allan Dwan and played to peak value by a cast of worthies. The writing job is a model, finished work that keeps the plot bubbling with subtlety, humor, characters and incident.

In a theme-wise sense the picture is adult fare. It pokes fun at small town reacting to what on the surface appears to be adultery and illegitimacy. That's what comes of going AWOL—on a three-day pass—from London to New Jersey.

On his first wedding anniversary, Eddie Albert, a corporal in the Air Corps, stationed in the finance office in London, is handed a pass for three days in the British capital. He wants a furlough but that is out of the question. Philip Reed and James Millican, a couple of flyers on the ATC Atlantic route, who value Albert's friendship for his wife's chocolate cake drag him off to New York. He's there the following night and with his wife a few hours later. He returns to London with no one the wiser and brings a piece of cake for Sir C. Aubrey Smith who shares an air raid shelter when Albert's office is alerted for an air raid.

A year later Albert is discharged. He returns home to find his wife in a hospital and the townspeople look down their noses when he learns, happily, that he is a father. But the town attitude's meaning hits him with a jolt when he learns that his son stands to inherit a half million dollars from an uncle, providing Albert can establish his presence in town at a logical time.

Albert has a number of leads to track down from the local banker to Sir C. Aubrey Smith who turns out to be a visiting diplomat. These leads provide diversion and excitement. There is a deadline.

Smith comes through by virtue of the cake and Albert, Jr., gets his inheritance. The telling is smart, the pace quick. Gail Patrick has a good part which she handles very effectively as a night club singer. There's a good song in the proceedings called "Dream Man," by Jack Elliott.

A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Screen Play—MARY LOOS and RICHARD SALE Based on their Magazine Story Associate Producer and Director—ALLAN DWAN

ctly what we've done!

"DAILY VARIETY"

Film Preview

Rendezvous With Annie

"'Rendezvous With Annie" is smooth and glittering farce comedy with a smattering of belly laughs, a steady succession of chuckles and a lot of hearty human interest. It even has a novel gimmick to make the plot go around and, all-in-all, it looks like sure fire box office.

Attempt of Eddie Albert, as a returned G. I. to prove himself father of his wife's baby is a new basis for farce complications. Subject is one of those that could have been made thoroughly risque, but isn't. It is worked exclusively for laughter and the homey touch with Albert making a successful bid for audience sympathy and Faye Marlowe, as his wife, gets heart throbs out of her role.

Albert's dilemma develops when, stationed in London, he makes a trip home to New Jersey to see his wife on a three-day pass. Jaunt is promoted and made possible by two ATC pilots, played by Philip Reed and James Milligan. They persuade him it will be a cinch to sneak him on and off the plane, get him to the home town and back to London without a hitch.

They do just that, although there are some difficulties involving a traveling general picked up in Newfoundland, a banker from Albert's home town met in a New York night club, and a few minor brushes with the military police. Albert spends his night at home, but has to keep it a secret because he is technically A.-) W.O.L.

The real trouble comes when he is discharged from the Army and gets home to find his wife has just given birth to a son. The villagers, with a memory for dates, suspect the worst. So does the family lawyer in the matter of $500,000 left by a deceased uncle of Albert's for the latter's first son. Albert can't disclose the irregular plane trip without getting his flying pals into trouble. He can't prove parenthood without admitting the plane trip and the baby can't get the $500,000.

It is worked out eventually in high comedy involving Gail Patrick, as a night club singer, Sir C. Aubrey Smith, as an English diplomat and air-raid shelter companion of Albert's in London, Wally Ford as a New York reporter, and Raymond Walburn as the village banker.

They all handle their parts to top effect for comedy.

Picture is Allan Dwan's first production for Republic and he has done a top job in his dual capacity as producer and director. The picture is well mounted and photography of Reggie Lanning is notably good.

THE Hollywood REPORTER

'RENDEZVOUS' DELIGHTFUL;

Dwan Scores With Bright Yarn, Cast

"RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE"
(Republic)

Few pictures ever released under the Republic trademark have matched the delightful quality of "Rendezvous With Annie." There are moments in the story and its presentation that are nothing short of inspired. With this production under his belt, Allan Dwan can certainly be hailed as the most promising new light at the Valley studio. The casting values of the show are consistently faultless, many bits are really gorgeous, and Dwan's direction is a work of love. This success cannot fail to put him in a position to write his own ticket anywhere.

The story idea probably stems from that news item about the GI who twice flew the Atlantic in order to spend a single night at home. In this fiction the lad is really shanghaied by a pair of playful fliers who excuse their prank on the grounds that the GI's wife, Annie, baked the best chocolate cake any Army man ever ate. And so she does. There's a big one on the table when Jeff Dolan comes home all the way from England for just one night.

He covers this session of being AWOL so cleverly that his trip is difficult to prove when, after discharge from service, proof is demanded. It happens that Annie has had a baby, a bouncing boy who is heir to half a million dollars. Yet no one will believe he is the son of a GI who has been overseas for more than two and a half years. The chase to gather proof of the legality of the heir is brilliantly shot with fun. But so is the whole picture, thanks to Dwan.

Eddie Albert has the most amusing fall guy of his career to play, and he takes "Jeff Dolan" to town. Faye Marlowe is quite attractive as the wife, Annie. There is a grand part of a nightclub entertainer to engage the distinguished services of Gail Patrick, and she is at her best. Philip Reed and James Millican are excellent as the prankish flyers. Sir C. Aubrey Smith lends warmth and charm to the English gentleman who becomes Dolan's last chance.

Then, there are those gorgeous bits enacted by such surefire dependables as Raymond Walburn, William Frawley, Wally Ford, Lucien Littlefield, Will Wright and Mary Field. Attention of this sort to minor casting always pays off. The Richard Sale who brings roars as Clarence is credited with Mary Loos as co-author of the

"Rendezvous With Annie

(Republic) Comedy 89 Min.

Cast: Eddie Albert, Faye Marlowe, Gail Patrick, Philip Reed.

A completely delightful and sweet yarn by Mary Loos and Richard Sale has been transposed to film by Allen Dwan who produced and directed with a rare sense of humor and wealth of human warmth. "Rendezvous With Annie" is due to gross 'way out of proportion to the budget. It's got those sleeper qualities.

Plot stems from an actual news item—you may have read it—about a flyer during the war who sneaked back home for a secret rendezvous with his wife. When she has a little stranger about nine months later, no one believes anything but the worst, inasmuch as hubby obviously hasn't been home for a coupla years.

That this premise could easily have hit the sexy note bears evidence of both the shrewdly handled script and Dwan's graceful helming—for the story is clean as a whistle and wholesome as fresh bread.

Eddie Albert turns in an utterly loveable portrayal of the nice young G.I. who goes A.W.O.L. to keep an anniversary date with his wife. Albert's performance sparks the whole running time. Charming too is Faye Marlowe, the girl in his life. Gail Patrick, Sir Aubrey Smith and others are highly satisfactory.

IT'S A NATURAL. THE INDEPENDENT FILM JOURNAL





Byrnes, Benton Hail UNESCO Program

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—Secretary of State James Byrnes today hailed the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization as the means of laying the foundation of future world peace in the minds and hearts of men through the use of information media, including cultural motion pictures.

"A major duty of modern statesmanship is to establish conditions of mutual understanding among the peoples of the world," he said, and added, that this can be achieved only if people everywhere work toward this goal.

Assistant Secretary Benton said that UNESCO is both a symbol and an instrument of our determination to construct the defenses of peace in the hearts and minds of men.

Present plans of UNESCO call for the international exchange of motion pictures through a central picture library. Also the production of educational films is a plan of the international group.

If present plans are adopted UNESCO will work to eliminate barriers imposed upon 16 mm. and commercial motion pictures by many nations.

Maine Theatre Files Clearance Complaint

Contending that clearance is "unreasonable and unjust in respect to time and area," the York Beach Theatre of York Beach, Me., has filed a complaint with the Boston tribunal of the American Arbitration Association for abolition of a prevailing 14-day clearance for the Columbia and Olympia Theatres of Porthmouth, N. H. The complaint, which also refers to the York Harbor Theatre as an interested party, names Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Paramount and Warner Brothers.

NYC Theatre Group To Elect Directors

A meeting of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association will be held at the Century Circuit offices, here, on Friday, to elect a board of directors. Fred Schwartz, vice-president of Century, is interim chairman of the organization.

Cohen Leaves Eagle-Lion

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29. — Albert J. Cohen has obtained a release from his Eagle-Lion executive producer contract and has left that studio.

New Siritzky-Pagnol Deal for 8 Films

Siritzky International Pictures has closed a new deal with French producer Marcel Pagnol, under which the company acquires exclusive American distribution rights to eight more of the producer's French pictures which will be imported shortly, it was disclosed here yesterday by Joseph Siritzky. Siritzky added his company now holds American distribution control of all films that have been made by Pagnol. The eight, like the Siritzkys' current Pagnol release, "The Well-Digger's Daughter," will be sub-titled in English, he added.

"Well-Digger's Daughter," currently playing at the Avenue Playhouse, here, will have a continuous run of one year in New York, Siritzky further reported. Following its run at the Avenue, where it is now in its second month, the film will go to the 55th Street Playhouse, thence to the Fifth Avenue Playhouse, Siritzky said.

French Film Benefit

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Charles Boyer is chairman of a committee of film industry heads and stars who will sponsor the American premiere of the French picture, "Les Enfants du Paradis" (Children of Paradise) at the Laurel Theatre in Hollywood, at a date to be determined. Proceeds will be donated by Alexander Korda, whose Tricolore Films, Inc., is releasing the picture, here, to a fund for the reconstruction of the French city of Calais.

Rosenbaum to U-I; To Exploit 'Mirror'

Ed Rosenbaum has been named Universal-International special promotional representative for "The Dark Mirror," "Temptation" and "Magnificent Doll" in Philadelphia, Baltimore and Washington, Maurice Bergman, U-I Eastern advertising-publicity director, reported here yesterday.

Rosenbaum was formerly associated with Columbia as a field exploitation manager; he assumes his new duties immediately.

Advance Gambling Fight

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 29.—Forging ahead to defeat the proposed state proposition to legalize gambling on dog racing in California, theatre groups here have placed a large number of 24 sheets and six sheets throughout the city as part of the campaign. Three trailers have been distributed throughout the state to over 550 theatres, warning the public of the proposed measure.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
TRADE SHOWINGS
OF
"DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL"

NEW YORK — THURSDAY, NOV. 7, at 2:30 P. M. RKO Proj. Room, 630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

BOSTON — THURSDAY, NOV. 7, at 10:30 A. M. RKO Proj. Room, 122 Arlington St., Boston, Mass.

MGM 16mm. Starts In England Friday

Distribution of educational programs in 16mm. in Great Britain by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer will begin on Friday, announces Morton A. Spring, 1st vice-president of Loew's International Corp., here.

The program will be under the direction of Sam Eckman, Jr., managing director and chairman of the board of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Pictures, Ltd., and Douglas Russell-Roberts, 16mm. representative. The first films, which will be released to schools will be programs made up of features of cultural content, such as "Madame Curie," "David Copperfield" and "Treasure Island."

OPA Ceilings Off on Radio, Television

WASHINGTON, Oct. 29.—In an expected move today, the Office of Price Administration decontrolled radio, television and all photographic equipment on the grounds that the supply now meets the demand for these consumer goods.

Radio sets and station equipment has been the last major industry product to remain under control. The order also affects 16mm. photographic equipment, which has been continued under control despite the fact that all 35mm. equipment was taken from the OPA list several months ago.

Legion Classifies Five New Pictures

In its ratings of new pictures, the National Legion of Decency finds one objectionable for general patronage, three acceptable for adults, and one objectionable in part. The classifications follow:

Class A-1, "Johnny Frenchman," Eagle-Lion; Class A-2, "Brute Man," PRC; "My Darling Clementine," 20th Century-Fox, and "Nocturne," RKO Radio; Class B, "Desirable Lady," Belmont Pictures.

Picker to Produce For Eagle-Lion

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29. — Leonard Picker, former executive producer and executive assistant to B. B. Kahane, Columbia production vice-president, here, and for years resident counsellor for the company in New York, has become a long-term contractual producer at Eagle-Lion Studios.

ASCAP Fetes Delegates

The American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP) gave a banquet in honor of the delegates from the Confederation Internationale des Societes d'Auteurs et Compositeurs, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, here, last night. Delegates from 20 nations were present.

Frank Vincent Rites

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Funeral services for Frank Vincent, who died here Sunday night, have been set for Friday. Details wait on the arrival of his brother, Walter E., from New York. The Frank Vincent Agency will continue operation under the direction of Frederick Brisson.

Iowa-Neb.

(*Continued from page* 1)

next annual meeting in Omaha, May 5 and 6.

The following resolutions were passed:

Resist the "third degree" employed by checkers.

Oppose "exhorbitant" film rental terms by most distributors for playbacks, resissues and reprints.

Oppose "many" sales and playhut drives by distributors.

Request distributors to reduce existing clearances to the "absolute minimum."

The convention also passed the following: "We would like to see radio broadcaster Jimmy Fidler muzzled."

Cole Renamed

(*Continued from page* 1)

decided for the first time, all members will send in proposed film deals to the Dallas office of ATO which will act in advisory capacity only, however, with each member free to make the final decision. The Dallas office will amplify knowledge on quotations wherein the exhibitor is in doubt.

A resolution was passed affirming and approving Allied Theatre Owners national organization's stand on the Government suit, commending all actions to date of the Department of Justice in pressing the Government suit.

Nearly 100 ATO of Texas members attended.

WB Leslie Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

tore up her original contract in March, 1942, giving her a new one at $600 weekly with options lifting it to $2,250, and that she disaffirmed this by letter in February of this year, on coming of age, breaching the pact by accepting other employment.

The studio said the player's performance in "Two Guys from Milwaukee" was satisfactory, but the role's importance did not warrant billing her above the title.

The court indicated the litigants will be summoned to present oral arguments.

AVC Film Group Meet

The motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee, will hold an open meeting at the Film Center, here, tonight. Chairman Walter T. Brown will preside. Veterans of World War II affiliated with the motion picture industry are invited to attend.

Thanksgiving Nov. 28

Thanksgiving Day this year will fall on Nov. 28, according to the proclamation made by President Truman, and not of Nov. 29, as stated yesterday through a typographical error.

PRESS BOOKS PHOTO-OFFSET
COLORCHROME CORP.
ART SERVICE
2 BROADWAY NEW YORK 4
WHITEHALL 4-5131-2-3-4-5

57½ Millions

(*Continued from page* 1)

the number of patrons, the industry has experienced a boost in box-office receipts from an average admission price of 32½ cents in 1940 to 46 cents last August, he added. This figure, Sayers emphasized, denotes an average compiled and checked from statements made in polls of the motion picture audience and reflects such factors as how much an individual pays to see a specific picture and whether he sees it at a first-run theatre.

Audience Research, which has its statistical headquarters in Princeton, N. J., has established "reliable procedures" for taking the public's pulse on a picture from conception to birth, Sayers stated.

Keystone of an accurate survey is a breakdown of statistics of the American public according to age groups, education, income, periodicity of attendance, sex and location, he pointed out in explaining that the poll is administered to a large cross-section of the different types found in our national structure. Thus, he said, Audience Research discovered that the average or "ideal" patron in 1941 was a 19-year-old girl with about two years of high school education, residing in a large city and of a middle-income family.

Subscribers

Clients who subscribe to the service include: Universal-International, RKO Radio, Columbia, Walt Disney Productions, Benedict Bogeaus, David O. Selznick, Samuel Goldwyn and Hal Wallis.

Since only major picture companies subscribe to the service most of the work of Audience Research has been in the top-budget field. It is interesting to note, Sayers said, that just as the size of the film public has increased since 1941, so, too, has the "A" picture audience, mounting from 16,800,000 in 1941 to 18,400,000 last February. One of the chief influences operating to boost the size of the audience has been the war srvice program of the industry, he stated.

Mexican Industry

(*Continued from page* 1)

tures are to prosper, their exhibition yield on investments, both at home and abroad, must be raised from the present average of 50 per cent to 85 per cent.

More and better American and British pictures, Campos finds, are cutting heavily into Mexican productions in Mexico and in Central and South America. In many Latin American countries, he said, there are not enough theatres to exhibit all of the pictures offered, and he sees this situation becoming worse for Mexican pictures unless they are so good that they need fear no competition when European studios hit their stride. Campos considers the U. S. to be the only country that has sufficient theatres for the exhibition of Mexican pictures. But, he laments, most Mexican films are exhibited only in Southwestern states.

The banker thinks that the interesting of more people in pictures, many more than Mexico already boasts, and establishing open-air or portable theatres, would be a big hely to producers here.

Monogram Product

(*Continued from page* 1)

commissary and new writers', directors', and publicity buildings. Blueprints have been completed by architect Ernest Hickson and budgets have been approved by Broidy and the company's planning board, which includes W. Ray Johnston, George Burrows and Scott R. Dunlap. Work will begin shortly.

The additional six from the King brothers gives Monogram 13 individual producers and producing units, and marks the first time that Maurice and Frank King, who started in the industry five years ago with a picture costing $17,500 ("Paper Bullets"), have ever signed a contract. They previously made films only on verbal understanding. Their first two to enter production under the contract will be "The Last of the Bad Men," by Jay Monaghan, and Steve Fisher's "The Hunted." Also on their schedule is Arthur Miller's "Focus," MacKinlay Kantor's "Gun Crazy," Phil Yordan's "The Wabash Blues," and Fisher's "I Wouldn't Be in Your Shoes."

Del Ruth Productions

Roy Del Ruth is now producing and directing for Monogram "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," involving an expenditure of almost $1,500,000. This is Monogram's most expensive film. It will be followed by "Mr. Gideon," by Donald Barry, and "Favorite Son," by Tom Rafter, preparations for which are already under way. As on "Fifth Avenue," Joe Kaufman will serve as associate producer on the other Del Ruth pictures.

Also highlighting future Monogram production plans will be "Tragic Symphony," based on the life of Tchaikowsky, which co-producers Benjamin Glazer and Nat W. Finston will make; $1,000,000 budget already has been set for this.

Army Admissions

(*Continued from page* 1)

able during the transition. Admission prices for military personnel are 15 cents for adults, while authorized American civilians pay not less than 25 cents, with children of military or American civilian employes of the Government paying 10 cents.

McFarland, who is charged with negotiating for product, says he has his hands full obtaining the 300 pictures which the Army needs each year to provide five programs per week, including one double bill in each of the domestic houses and approximately 200 programs a week overseas. Lately he has found the supply of films unusually tight, even with booking a number of reissues. "But," he emphasizes, "the industry is cooperating with the Army to the utmost of its ability, as it always has."

Servicemen, McFarland finds from his experience, want pictures containing action above all else. "Although numerous polls have indicated that war themes are unpopular, the gross receipts do not bear out this conclusion," he adds.

The AMPS still is extending its activities to even the smallest islands in the Pacific to serve the occupation forces, which have much time on their hands and must hold the posts because peace treaties have not yet been signed.

Tourists

(*Continued from page* 1)

a billion dollars worth of business.

Conventioneers, who comprise a big section of the visitors' list, will spend $30,000,000 here this year, according to the study. The average conventioneer spends $175 here today against $100 in 1940. Theatres, mostly legitimate, get 10 per cent of his spendings; hotels 25 per cent; shops 18.7 per cent; restaurants 11 per cent; night clubs and bars 16.5 per cent.

The study shows that the main reason given by tourists for their apparent lack of interest in Broadway films is, "we can see them at home." Farnol believes that properly slanted advertising locally could win a lot more tourist patrons to the Broadway houses.

A similar study of New York tourists was prepared by Farnol nine years ago when, as a vice-president of Donahue & Coe, he was handling the Music Hall and the Futurama at the New York World's Fair.

Argosy Names

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ruthrauff and Ryan to accept the new post.

Lewis was formerly advertising and publicity director with the Mark Strand Theatre Company in Syracuse, N. Y., later went in to New York with Publix Theatres. He was assistant advertising manager for Paramount, and four years later was made advertising manager. More recent posts were studio publicity director for Columbia and Paramount.

ATA Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

the proposal, if chosen as an alternative to competitive bidding, providing the arbitration is an intra-industry matter and "without the sanction of the court."

Meanwhile, final papers are now being drawn up by other parties to the suit for submission to the court before the Monday deadline.

Universal will defend the legality of its product franchise deals with independent theatres in a memorandum now being prepared by Thomas Turner Cooke, counsel, and which will be submitted along with other suggestions for incorporation in the proposed decree.

Additional "findings," but no new brief are now being drafted by the five theatre-owning defendants and will be filed later this week or Monday.

Samuel Isseks, counsel for Vanguard Films, said here yesterday the company's proposals for exemption of road shows from the court's decree will be submitted Monday. United Artists' final document also is in preparation.

Stoltz Meets Press

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 29.—Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for the PRC Pictures, was introduced to the Hollywood trade press at a luncheon here yesterday. Stoltz was accompanied by Sam Israel, Eagle-Lion director of publicity, and Robert Goodfried, studio director of publicity for PRC.



Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Killers" continued to do better than average business among holdovers prevailing at first-run theatres here. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,900)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $19,000)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,000)
FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M) and BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,700)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—FOX WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $12,700)
THE KILLERS (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)
LADY LUCK (RKO) and CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,700)
THE KILLERS (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $26,200)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $24,600)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $10,000)
MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,100)
MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)
MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)
MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,800)
FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M) and BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,000)
LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,100)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,100. (Average: $24,100)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $15,400)
THE KILLERS (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $9,300)
THE KILLERS (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE KILLERS (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,600. (Average: $15,100)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,500)
FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M) and BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $21,600)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $16,100)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

Stage shows proved the biggest grossers this week with Danny Kaye's second week at the Chicago grossing $79,000, Frankie Carle's second week at the Oriental netting $42,000, and the Palace's special 20th anniversary stage show, starring Louis Prima, grossing $40,000. All three houses charged straight 95 cents admission. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On Stage: Danny Kaye, 2nd week. Gross: $79,000. (Average: $60,000)
HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) twice daily, 12th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 5th Loop week, on a moveover after 3 weeks at the Chicago. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $18,000)
DECOY (Mono.) and BELOW THE DEADLINE (Mono.)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)
MR. ACE (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Frankie Carle, 2nd week. Gross: $42,000. (Average: $45,000)
BLACK ANGEL (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). On stage: Louis Prima and orchestra (special 20th anniversary presentation). Gross: $40,000. (Average: $24,000)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000)
ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $29,000)
THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $32,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE DARK MIRROR (U)—WOODS (1,200) (95c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Deception" and "Holiday in Mexico" are away out in front of the newcomers, while trade in the holdover houses (with the exception of the Danny Kaye film) continues to sag. Estimated grosses for the week ending Oct. 29-31:

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,800. (Average: $14,000)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $7,250)
DECEPTION (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $34,500. (Average: $22,800)
DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) and 6 days of vaudeville starring Donald O'Connor. Gross, 6 days: $22,000, and Deception (WB) Gross, 1 day: $4,000. (Average: $26,000)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $28,000)
HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $26,000)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $7,800)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average, $28,300)
THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,900)
CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,200)

BUFFALO

Business was good in Indian Summer weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and THE UNKNOWN (Col.)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $19,000)
HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)
MR. ACE (UA) and ONE WAY TO LOVE (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
BLACK ANGEL (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)
THEY WERE SISTERS (U) and DEVIL'S MASK (Col.)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ALIBI (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Very rainy weather and above average receipts was the rule here with few exceptions; some holdovers fell slightly below expectations. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 14 days, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,900)
TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,900. (Average: $13,500)
BEHIND THE MASK (Mono.) and COWBOY BLUES (Col.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c). With vaudeville, 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,700)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 21 days, on a holdover. Gross: $3,600. (Average: $3,600)
TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 21 days, on a holdover. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $4,700)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 21 days, on a holdover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,800)

MINNEAPOLIS

Only the RKO Orpheum, with "Black Angel" and a stage show, did any notable business this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover from the Radio City. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,500)
EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $2,800. (Average: $3,400)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the State. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)
BLACK ANGEL (U)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-85c) 7 days; on stage, Orrin Tucker band and Mischa Auer. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $11,500)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $18,000)
NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $2,500)

KANSAS CITY

Mostly pleasant weather prevailed here. The American Royal drew from 5,000 to 8,000 persons afternoons and evenings. A local drug store gave free tickets to the Philharmonic, with Rise Stevens and Kurt Templeton playing to 10,000 each night on Friday and Saturday, Tommy Dorsey, Sunday night, Sanroma, Monday night. Most first-runs had about normal business. Estimated receipts for the week ending October 29-31:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $1,750. (Average: $1,750)
HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) and DANGEROUS BUSINESS (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)
O.S.S. (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000)
DON'T GAMBLE WITH STRANGERS (Mono.) and HOT CARGO (Para.)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

PITTSBURGH

Business is on the upswing here and grosses are improving, following the disastrous power strike. Over the weekend, "Three Little Girls in Blue" and "Canyon Passage" did great business, the best in many months. Other downtown houses were only a little below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31:

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $9,700)
THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $11,000)
MR. ACE (UA)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)
CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films Reissue) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films Reissue)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $3,200)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,000)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

OMAHA

Box Offices here this week are jingling slightly louder than usual. Weather continues fair and warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30-31:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and THE DEVIL'S MASK (Col.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, for "The Big Sleep," on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $8,600)
SOMEWHERE IN THE NIGHT (20th-Fox) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $9,800)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,000)
TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio) and BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,800)

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 87 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA, 28 WEST 44TH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. (6 COPIES)

'Bargain-Day' Tax Rates Not Permitted: US

Ticket Levy Must Be On 'Standard Admission'

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—Advance sales of theatre tickets at admission prices lower than standard box-office rates of a theatre will not be taken into consideration for excise tax purposes, the Bureau of Internal Revenue disclosed today, in declaring "bargain-day" prices will not be permitted in connection with ticket taxes.

Despite a special district ruling in Cascade County, Montana, the Revenue Act states that the "established price is to be

(*Continued on page 4*)

Grosses Off, But No Trend

Some tapering off of theatre admissions here and in most other cities is indicated in reports from affiliated and independent circuit operators, the majority of whom pin the responsibility on unseasonably warm weather which has cut matinee business, plus a let-up in top product. The consensus represents a denial of reports of a trend toward a general theatre business reduction feared by some industry executives to be a symptom of declining attendance hidden by increased admission scales.

Dan Michalove, head of National Theatres, reports that revenue during

(*Continued on page 4*)

Dismisses Scophony, Ltd., in Video Case

The Department of Justice lost a round here yesterday in its anti-trust suit in the television field when a motion to be dismissed as one of the defendants was granted to Scophony, Ltd., London. Federal Judge Edward A. Conger ruled that the court lacks jurisdiction over the British company.

Other defendants in the action, which is not expected to go to trial

(*Continued on page 4*)

Universal, RKO File Percentage Suits Upstate

BUFFALO, Oct. 30.—Ten Western New York exhibitors today were named in suits filed in Federal Court by Universal Film Exchanges, Inc., RKO Radio Pictures, Inc., and Loew's, Inc. A conspiracy to defraud "by submitting false and inaccurate statements of gross admission receipts" is alleged in the complaints.

The defendants are listed as James Martina, Carmela Martina, Sarah Tantillo, Caroline Perriello, Vincent Martina, Charles V. Martina and Joseph Montessano, all doing business as Martina Theatre and Martina Circuit. An additional defendant in the RKO and Loew's actions is Fred C. Elverson.

The theatres in question, all operated by the defendants since 1940, are located in Williamson, Franklinville, Albion, Mt. Morris, Naples, Clyde,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Sanford Named Altec Theatrical Manager

Bert Sanford has been appointed theatrical sales manager representing both Altec Service and Altec Lansing, according to an announcement made by H. M. Bessey, Altec Service vice-president.

Sanford will be liaison between the Altec companies and theatre supply dealers and sound equipment manufacturers to stimulate the sale of Altec Lansing products and develop closer relationship between the respective companies.

Hughes and Sturges End Partnership

Hollywood Oct. 30.—Howard Hughes and Preston Sturges today dissolved their partnership in California Pictures. Diagreement over production, budgets and casting were reported as the cause. Production was halted on "Vendetta" on which it is said a million dollars has already been expended. Hughes exercised an option to but two per cent of Sturges' stock in the company, thus putting the control in his hands.

Will Explain MPEA To UA Producers

Aims and operations of the Motion Picture Export Association will be described to independent producers releasing through United Artists by Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, during a Hollywood visit which he is about to undertake.

Harmon will leave here for the Coast today. At present, United Artists is a member of the Export Association, but virtually none of its product is available to the MPEA pools abroad. United Artists' producers, for the most part, have been unwilling to relinquish control of their pictures in the areas in which MPEA operates or plans to operate.

Individual UA producers are said to be reluctant to accept MPEA terms governing release of pictures and apportionment of revenues in the for-

(*Continued on page 4*)

RCA Claims First All Electronic Color Video

PRINCETON, N. J., Oct. 30.—Color television pictures, produced by all-electronic means, were demonstrated publicly for the first time here today at the RCA Laboratories.

"This new system," RCA engineers explained, "is a complete departure from mechanical color, shown in various forms since 1925." However, in announcing the advance, RCA officials pointed out that the time period estimated by its enginers in Dec., 1945, when they said five years would be required to bring any color system to the present status of black-and-white television, still holds.

(*Continued on page 4*)

Weather-Forecast Service by Roach

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30. — Gratis weather-forecast service to exhibitors will be inaugurated Dec. 1 by Hal Roach under terms of an exclusive agreement with Dr. Irving P. Krick, professor of meterology at the California Institute of Technology. The service will consist of monthly charts showing expectable temperatures, precipitation and local disturbances in all areas by state and dates.

Krick's forecast, long in use by agriculturists serviced through banks,

(*Continued on page 4*)

$5,000,000 In 'U' Stock to Goetz-Spitz

62,500 Shares at $40 Each to Both of Them

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 30. — The Universal Pictures Co. board of directors has assigned a value of $40 per share to the common stock to be issued for acquisition of International Pictures Corp., thus giving a value of $5,000,000 to the 125,000 shares to be issued to William Goetz and Leo Spitz of International, each of whom will receive 62,500 shares, it is revealed in a prospectus filed by Universal today with the Securities and Exchange Commission here.

On last Aug. 6, the date of the plan, the Spitz-Goetz shares

(*Continued on page 4*)

Set Appeal For 'Outlaw'

Hearing of United Artists' appeal from the New York State Supreme Court denial of its action to compel the Rialto, Republic and Gotham theatres, here, to fulfill contracts to exhibit "The Outlaw" has been set for Nov. 22 in the Appellate Division.

Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president, said yesterday that the record in the case is too voluminous to permit completion of appeal papers in time for a hearing on Nov. 8, the alternate date offered by the court.

Meanwhile, several distribution companies have under consideration a

(*Continued on page 5*)

Keenan Appointed Strike Arbitrator

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30. — Joseph Keenan, secretary of the Chicago American Federation of Labor today was named chairman of the arbitration board to settle all future juris-

(*Continued on page 5*)

In This Issue

Feature reviews appear on page 7. Estimates of the key city grosses on page 8.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warners' Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, and SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager, were in Gloversville, N. Y., from New York yesterday.

•

S. BARRET MCCORMICK, RKO Radio director of advertising-publicity, is due in New York today from Hollywood and Hawaii.

•

WALTER GOULD, United Artists foreign general manager, will leave New York tomorrow by plane for a two-week tour of Europe.

•

DAVID S. (SKIP) WESHNER, Bing Crosby Productions representative in the East, will leave New York for Hollywood today.

•

HY DAAB, Vanguard studio publicist, has arrived in New York from London and will leave for the Coast shortly.

•

WILLIAM G. BRENNER, chief of M-G-M field auditing department, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

•

E. M. SAUNDERS, assistant to WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, is in Seattle from New York.

•

GEORGE BROTHWICK, Motion Picture Association treasurer, is scheduled to arrive here from the Coast tomorrow.

•

RENIE RIANO, Monogram star, was guest of the King Features Syndicate at a reception at the Hampshire House, here, last night.

•

MARION SPITZER, Eastern story editor of Liberty Films, will leave New York for Hollywood today.

•

LEONARDO BERCOVICI, Story Productions Scenarist; will leave New York today by plane for the Coast.

•

DAVID GOULD, United Artists manager in Puerto Rico, has arrived in New York.

•

MOREY GOLDSTEIN, Monogram national sales manager, is in Boston from New York.

•

ROBERT SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, left New York last night by plane for the Coast.

•

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, will be in Washington from New York today.

'U' Reel Commended

Universal Newsreel's Navy Day "story" has received a special commendation from the Navy in a letter received by Thomas Mead, 'U' Newsreel head, from Comm. E. M. Eller, director of the Navy Department's Office of Public Information.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

HE who would seek something on the startling side this morning had better turn elsewhere. This is not the place. He who is interested in an interim report on the affairs of David O. Selznick may find this another hitch in the trousers.

It may not be new to report, again, that Selznick has made up his final mind to embark upon his own distribution, but it's a fact anyway.

It may not sound a fresh note to set down once more that he continues intensely proud of his family name and is determined to emblazon it around the world. But that's still a fact, too.

It will carry that old and familiar ring to enter upon the continuing record that he has delivered six units and is ready with two more under his 10-unit deal with United Artists after which the stock handed him at the outset on a picture-earning basis passes to his permanent possession. A fact, however, remains a fact and this is one, also.

■

UA thought so much of the Selznick imprimatur that it agreed to count any film which David thought sufficiently worthy to carry "Selznick International Presents" on its main title as a two-unit job. If and when a film failed to meet the rigorous Selznick standard and went forth from Vanguard, the unit was reduced to one.

Eight of the required 10 units will be tallied via four attractions when "Duel in the Sun" surmounts laboratory difficulties and enters the race for the top grosses confidently predicted by those whose selling is never divorced from their enthusiasm. "Since You Went Away" counted for two units. "I'll Be Seeing You" made it four. "Spellbound" sent the ante to six and "Duel" will make it eight.

When Hollywood labor pains permit Selznick to proceed, undoubtedly he will proceed with "The Paradine Case," under Alfred Hitchcock's direction. The expectancy is this one will be turned over to UA sometime next year at which time Selznick will have completed his agreement by delivering his units, will have become an unqualified partner in UA and thereafter will be free to do as he wishes.

■

What he wishes is his own company, untrammeled by attractions which he regards as weights around his neck although what the weights and their producers think about Selznick and his pre-empting of UA's attention becomes as required a commentary as any David might supply if he were supplying any at all.

The impatient and impetuous Selznick, moreover, has had his moments with his present distributor, and there is "Duel" to be heard from. Yet, when a producer delivers a film like "Spellbound," which may hit between $8,000,000 and $9,000,000 world-wide, the distributor somehow manages to absorb those moments in stride.

Currently, Selznick again is impatient with UA. He wants to make the break. He also wants that stock. And, having come within tantalizing distance of its ultimate possession, he is managing to apply his own brakes. They may scream, but in the proper tradition they hold as all good brakes do.

■

One of Selznick's major concerns — can "Duel" be roadshown?—is on the way toward solution. Hearings in the anti-trust case in the New York Federal Court indicate a formula will be acceptable on the basis of one roadshow permitted each company per year when the attraction so to be handled costs $3,000,000 or more. At a negative of around $5,600,000, Selznick rides through the stratosphere with layers of dollars to spare.

Whether a proper solution or not is an entirely different matter. Distributors want an out on roadshows, of course, but those who like to ponder a bit beyond the circumspect question if it is investment alone which should project a picture from regular into special handling. The contemplated procedure implies a reward sought at the public's expense for budgets which are exceeded and for errors made at the studios.

■

Three-million-dollar negatives are not unprecedented these days, But the mere weight of dollars invested is no insurance against mediocrity or disappointment smothered in the minks and sables of production excesses.

Happily in the cause of sober judgment, however, is the always inescapable d e s t i n y reposing without challenge in the hands of that public. The ticket buyers mould the outcome, not the cost sheets. If they want to go, that's what they do. If they decide to pass, they also do that.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

PERSONS close to the late Jules E. Brulatour yesterday exploded the myth that has existed down through 35 years that Brulatour, back in 1911, had been given a life-long contract by the late George Eastman, granting him exclusive distribution of Kodak motion picture raw stock in the U. S. and paying Brulatour a quarter of a cent for each foot of the billions and billions of feet of film that has since been sold to the industry, and from which Brulatour reputedly amassed a fortune that stood at many, many millions at the time of his death, here, last Saturday. The truth is that while Brulatour's estate is considerable, it is not as fabulous as is generally believed, nor was his arrangement with Eastman as fantastic.

▽

OPA news for the motion picture industry: Removed from price control in one swoop this week were: fats, oils, ice, dishpans, garbage pails, funeral supplies, including caskets, tubs, crutches, wheelbarrows, tear-gas equipment, grenades (hand), artificial limbs —and photographic equipment.

▽

Lew Lehr is back, telling the yarn about the fellow who drank his breakfast, drank his lunch, and, on his way home to drink his dinner, stopped in at a bar for a "short snort." While he was snorting, a big bay brewery horse entered the tavern, sat down at a nearby table and ordered a martini. The bartender mixed it and sat the cocktail down in front of the horse. "You forgot the olive," the horse remonstrated. "Sorry," said the bartender, and he dropped an olive in the drink. The horse drank the martini, ate the olive and departed.

The snorting onlooker, amazed, called the bartender and said, "That was strange." "Oh, no," replied the bartender, "I often forget the olive."

▽

The lone producer to come forward this week with an announcement of a new production which is *not* a candidate for the top Academy award, is Sack Amusement Enterprises, which sends word to the world that it has just completed "Dirty Gertie from Harlem."

▽

Lady Iris Mountbatten, 26, great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria, has arrived in New York from London, en route to Hollywood to sell 24-carat gold East Indian brocades to the ultra-fashionable movie moguls and mogulettes, at $400 a yard.

▽

Laugh of the week, from Danton Walker's *New York Daily News* column: "Broadway hears that Howard (The Outlaw) Hughes will quit the Motion Picture Association because of 'unfair dues practices.'"

▽

What tremendous promotional possibilities PRC Pictures has in the title of its new production, "The Corpse Came Calling."

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WHAT'S "THE VERDICT?"



"THE VERDICT" IS THE STORY READERS DIGEST CALLED THE MOST BAFFLING EVER WRITTEN. LOOK FORWARD TO IT. WARNERS' NEW SENSATION!!

U-I Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

had an aggregate market value of $5,406,250, based on the closing price of Universal common on the New York Stock Exchange. Closing price yesterday was $28, or a present aggregate market value of $3,500,000 for the 125,000 shares.

According to the prospectus, the Spitz-Goetz equity in International is represented by $100,000 of net book assets. Thus the aggregate assigned value of the 125,000 shares of U common to be issued for the net assets and business applicable to the Spitz-Goetz ownership of International stock, will exceed the book value of such net assets by $4,900,000.

That amount, together with $180,000 representing book value of good will and trade marks comprising part of the net assets to be acquired from International, will be written off directly to earned surplus, the prospectus sets forth.

Universal reported to the SEC that it had been advised that International, from the time of its organization to July 27, 1946, was engaged exclusively in the production of motion pictures, none of which had been released prior to that date. Consequently, International had no revenue and all expenses either were charged to production costs or were deferred.

Purchase Price

The prospectus reveals that Universal purchased for $1,400,000 all of the $1,300,000 par value, non-cumulative, non-voting preferred stock and one-half of the common stock of International. Goetz and Spitz purchased the remaining half of International's common stock for $100,000.

As disclosed earlier, under the plan Universal will issue 280,000 shares of common stock, at the assigned value of $40 per share, to acquire all property, assets and business of International, subject to that company's liabilities. International thereupon will exchange the 280,000 shares in the following proportions: 30,000 shares to Universal as owner of International's preferred stock; 125,000 shares to Universal as owner of International's Class A common stock, and 62,500 shares each to Goetz and Spitz as owners of International's Class B common stock.

The plan has been approved by the SEC and the Treasury Department. Approval of the New York Stock Exchange for the listing of the new stock is being awaited and should permit closing of the Universal-International consolidation within two weeks.

Alvin Joins SIMPP, To Assist Nelson

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—Joe Alvin, formerly with Associated Press and National Broadcasting, has joined the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers as assistant to Donald M. Nelson, to handle public relations and other duties.

Loet Barnstyn Distributing Corp.
Exporters—Independent Distributors
Major Company Releases for Europe
141 West 54th St., New York 19, N.Y.
Telephone CI. 6-6060 Cable: LOETSIE

Grosses Off

(*Continued from page* 1)

the last few weeks has fallen off between five and six per cent, but observes that this could hardly be construed as alarming. He pointed out that unseasonably warm weather has put a dent into afternoon attendance especially.

Russell Downing, treasurer of Radio City Music Hall, sees theatre income rounding itself out as the nation returns to normal. While weekend and evening business has been very good, he said, weekday matinee trade has shown some decline.

Sol Schwartz, RKO Theatres, said here yesterday that "much talk" of a business let-up is not substantiated in gross reports. He said that while matinee business is slightly off the income is "mighty good" at other performances.

Oscar Doob, Loew's general theatre executive, said he fails to see any appreciable reduction in business. Unaffiliated circuit men reported some reduction in grosses in the last 60 days as a result of the weather and some poor product.

New York first runs generally are doing very well, a check-up reveals.

Scophony Dismissed

(*Continued from page* 1)

until next spring, are: Television Productions, Paramount, General Precision and Equipment Corp. and the Scophony Corp. of America. Judge Conger in his opinion stated that Scophony, Ltd., has not maintained offices here since 1942, at which time it turned over all of its rights in the Western hemisphere to Scophony of America. It is held likely that the Department will take an appeal of the decision.

Meanwhile, negotiations between the Department and the defendant companies toward a consent decree have been suspended, contrary to previous reports. The complaint charges the defendants with combining to monopolize television products, patents and processes in the U. S.

Percentage Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Attica, Dansville, Nunda, Arcade and Cuba, all in New York state.

Allegations

By reporting substantially lower receipts, the complaints allege, the defendants were enabled to obtain lower terms for license fees for future picture since the distributors had to rely solely on these reports.

"The gross admission receipts are used by the distributors as a material factor in determining the amount of license fees for flat rentals or the percentage rate for percentage rentals."

The complaint says the defendants were asked in November 1945, according to the complaint, to permit an attorney for the distributors to audit their records but were refused.

Don Russell Rites

KANSAS CITY, Oct. 30.—Don Russell, owner of the News Theatres in Ness City, Kan., who was injured in a highway accident last Saturday, died Monday night. Funeral services were held today at LaCrosse, Kan., where he lived.

Explain MPEA

(*Continued from page* 1)

eign markets in which the Association operates, feeling that they may fare better by marketing their pictures independently instead of on the pro rata basis.

In this respect, UA, unlike most other companies, is in the position of having to accept its percentage of MPEA returns and thereafter divide that among its individual producers. By contrast, the average company retains its MPEA percentage intact.

Harmon, it is expected, will explain to the UA producers the advantage of a united front in many of the foreign markets, without which all but preferential product would be effectively excluded. Some foreign department executives contend that except for MPEA individual producers would not have access to a number of foreign markets in which they elect to sell their product independently.

No Bargain Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

the basis of tax charges for admissions," a Revenue Bureau spokesman pointed out.

If the standard admission to a theatre is $1.00, and a limited number of advance tickets are sold at 75 cents, the excise fee will be charged on the basis of the $1.00 regular box-office admission, rather than the special rate rendered by a theatre, the Bureau ruled.

A decision to appeal the Montana court ruling is expected in the near future. Meanwhile, theatres and other amusement houses in the "immediate Cascade County" area will be permitted a special reduction in cases where the regular price is cut for advance sales, as the court held in its opinion.

The Montana court contended that the "established" admission charge is made at the time of sale, rather than on the basis of a standard normal-time admission fee. Treasury Department attorneys, however, contend that the normal admission charge is the established price, rather than a reduced rate made specially for advance purchasers of theatre tickets.

Meanwhile, outside the immediate jurisdiction of the Montana court, the "iron-clad" rule of "standard box office admissions will be enforced," the bureau stated.

Weather Forecast

(*Continued from page* 1)

have record dependability prompting the claim they will afford exhibitors invaluable guidance in making bookings and additionally will enable them to calculate fuel supply requirements accurately.

Krick was chief of the Weather Information Section for the U. S. Strategic Air Forces and later at supreme headquarters of the Allied Forces in Europe during the war.

Roach will supply the charts to all exhibitors by mail without obligation.

Goldwyn Coming East

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—Samuel Goldwyn and Mrs. Goldwyn leave by streamliner tomorow for an eight weeks' visit in New York and London in connection with the New York premiere and British distribution of "The Best Years of our Lives."

Color Video

(*Continued from page* 1)

It was further disclosed by RCA that a simple, inexpensive radio-frequency converter makes it possible to introduce this all-electronic color television system without causing obsolescence of black-and-white television receivers.

A new color slide television camera, developed by RCA and used in the demonstration, produces signals from 35mm. Kodachrome slides. Transmission of the picture on the slide is achieved in natural colors when a light-beam from a kinescope is focused through the slide and separated into component colors by a system of mirrors and photo-electric cells.

Scanning Rate

Each of the three transmitted images—red, blue and green—is of the same number of lines, that is, 525; also the same horizontal scanning rate and the same picture repetition rate of 30 pictures a second as in present commercial television broadcasting.

The receiving set is equipped with three three-inch kinescopes, which separately receive the signals representing red, blue and green. This trio of kinescopes is called a Trinoscope. From it the three color images are optically projected into a composite picture which appears on a 15x20-inch screen in natural color, "free from any flicker, color fringes or break-up of color," according to RCA, which added: "By this new advance in television, *simultaneous* color transmission, instead of *sequential* transmission, color by color, is achieved.

"Since the electrical characteristics and all of the standards of the green image—including the synchronizing pulses—are said to be identical to those of the present black-and-white standards, any broadcasts from color stations using the electronic simultaneous system can be received clearly on black-and-white receivers by the addition of the easily installed radio-frequency converter, no modifications whatever being required inside the set," the company explained.

Receivers Not Obsolete

"This converter will enable present-day television sets to receive color programs and reproduce them in black-and-white, even when transmitted on ultra-high frequencies. Thus, existing receivers will not be made obsolete by the introduction of color at some future date. On the contrary, their usefulness will be extended. For example, if a football game is broadcast by a color transmitter, the owner of a black-and-white receiver can see it in black-and-white. Even one of the first television sets introduced at the time of the World's Fair in 1939 can be adapted to tune-in the electronic color pictures in black-and-white."

"Likewise, it will be possible for electronic color television sets to receive the broadcasts of black-and-white stations. Furthermore, when electronic color television is established as a broadcasting service, the black-and-white receivers will be able to reproduce the color broadcasts in monochrome," RCA concluded.

Carpenter to WJZ

Delphine Carpenter has been appointed WJZ promotion manager, by John McNeil, station manager.

'Outlaw' Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

proposal that they file briefs in the case as *amicus curiae* on the grounds that the action of the New York City License Commissioner and Police Commissioner in threatening revocation of the three theatres' licenses in the event the picture was shown indicated a course of action dangerous to all product.

Raftery said yesterday he had not heard of this development but added that it would be a welcome one if it materialized.

"After all," he said, "the other companies have more pictures than we and this procedure should be of proportionately greater concern to them. The decision really cuts the legs off the Board of Education, which had granted the picture a state permit. It's the Board's 'baby', too."

Spokesmen for some major companies said that while they were concerned over the issues involved in the case, they felt that as members of the Motion Picture Association, which has withdrawn its seal of approval from "The Outlaw," they would be in an anachronistic position if they were to enter litigation now which has as its objective the vindication of the picture in order to permit its exhibition.

Tomorrow Raftery will argue against revocation of the state board's permit for "The Outlaw," requested by city officials, at a hearing to be held before Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the state censorship division of the Department of Education. City officials argued for the revocation of the license last Friday.

Strike Arbitrator

(*Continued from page* 1)

dictional disputes among studio unions. The appointment, carrying an annual salary of $25,000 was made after three-day conferences by a committee composed of two CSU officials, two IATSE executives, one representative of neutral SAG and one likewise of the the neutral Teamsters Union.

Keenan, now in Chicago, was vice-chairman of the War Production Board during the war, and recently has been in Germany on a Government mission.

The arbitration setup is to be described in a detailed announcement later, and like the selection of the chairman, required unanimous agreement by members of the committee which was appointed last weekend. It cannot begin functioning until approved by the international presidents of all unions concerned.

Wide Authority

As planned, the arbitrator's authority would encompass all disputes between all unions employed in the studios and would be binding on all employers, with provision for an appeal to a higher tribunal to consist of an appointee chosen by each disputant and a third man named by the American Arbitration Association.

Producers have signified their readiness to approve an arbitration acceptable to the disputants. Originally they offered to stand the expense of his employment, but are asked to stand only half the expense under the present arangement.

Although the appointment of an arbitrator does not immediately affect the present strike, CSU and IATSE officials say the remaining should be cleared up within a few days.

Reviews

"Wife Wanted"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Oct. 21

JEFFREY BERNERD and Kay Francis, who generally confine their production activities to subjects which lend themselves readily to exploitation, have chosen for their current offering an exposé of the matrimonial bureau racket. The introduction of story angles only remotely connected with the matter at hand, however, serves to slow down the screenplay, written by Caryl Coleman and Sidney Sutherland, suggested by a novel by Robert Callahan.

Miss Francis appears as a has-been screen star who invests money in a real estate firm, unaware that it is a front for a matrimonial agency operated by a blackmailing swindler. When one of the swindler's victim's dies, supposedly a suicide, a local newspaper assigns a reporter, played by Robert Shayne, to get at the truth of the story. At first suspicious of Miss Francis, he soon falls under her spell, and succeeds in clearing her name, saving her life, and getting the goods on her unscrpulous partner. Veda Ann Borg does a nice job as the swindler's secretary. Teala Loring appears in a few emotional scenes of the type which are her forte. Phil Karlson's direction seems, at times, uncertain of its ultimate aim.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 12.

THALIA BELL

"The Brute Man"

(*PRC*)

"THE BRUTE MAN" is a better-than-average horror film that will satisfy both horror fans and the general theatre-goer. Director Jean Yarbrough has injected into this Ben Pivar production an element of what is popularly known as "Hitchcock" suspense. Rondo Hatton, as the brute man, and Jane Adams, as a blind piano teacher, turn in particularly effective performances.

In this screenplay by George Bricker and M. Coates Webster, based on an original by D. W. Babcock, Hatton is a psychopathic recluse and killer known as "The Creeper." He is befriended by a blind piano teacher Jane Adams, who is unaware of his misshapen countenance or that he is a ruthless murderer. To obtain funds for an operation to restore the girl's sight, "The Creeper" confronts his former college friend, Tom Neal, and the latter's wife, Jan Wiley, and blames them for his plight. Some of the most suspenseful scenes happen at this point in "The Creeper's" eluding a police guard to gain access to his quarry.

After confessing his identity, "The Creeper" strangles Neal and steals his wife's jewels. "The Creeper's" blind friend unwittingly accepts the jewels to finance her operation, and, in attempting to sell them, is horrified that she is allegedly "The Creeper's" accomplice. "The Creeper," believing that Miss Adams has betrayed him, strikes out to add her to his long list of crazed murders. Hatton's attempt on the defenseless girl is steeped in suspense though, needless to say, foiled.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 1.

BILL COPE

Free Studio Labor Advice by Fortune

Hollywood labor problems, from the viewpoint of outsiders, are aired at considerable length in the November issue of *Fortune* magazine, out today.

The illustrated article, under the title "More Trouble in Paradise," states at one point, "It even appears that the studios themselves are well satisfied with a pattern of relatively lower wages for more workers when they should be working to arrive at a formula for paying relatively higher wages to relatively fewer workers." Earlier in the article, however, the writers report that Hollywood labor "draws down the highest individual and highest average salaries paid by any industry in the world."

At another point the article says: "Should another depression hit the industry, management would be partially responsible for sitting on top of an industry loaded with all kinds of excess cost, including labor cost. In such a crisis the movies could become an ailing industry.

"The A. F. of L., on the other hand, does not seem to recognize that it may some day lose its brightest craft-town unless it puts an end to jurisdictional nonsense," the article observes.

Schosberg Leaves Paramount Theatres

Raymond Schosberg has resigned as assistant manager of the candy sales department of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., to enter the confectionery supply business on his own in Pittsburgh, specializing in servicing theatres.

Schosberg will be tendered a farewell luncheon at the Hotel Astor tomorrow, by Leonard Goldenson, Edward Hyman, Leon Netter, M. F. Gowthorpe, Walter Gross, Max Fellerman, Joseph Deitch, Max Schosberg, Evan Perkins, Hal Pereira, Edwin Treusch, C. L. Oswald, Robert Weitman, Jerry Zigmond, Fanny Elman, Fred Mohrhardt, Arthur Israel, Bob Powers, Robert Shapiro, Harry Royster and Loyal Haight.

President Views Film

WASHINGTON, Oct. 30.—President Truman today saw the premiere of a film about the Washington scene called "Invitation to the Nation," in the White House projection room. The picture was produced under the auspices of the local Board of Trade. Carter Barron, Loew's executive, was a member of the committee which planned the film. It will be exhibited locally and before civic groups and schools elsewhere.

Copyright Actions Upheld in Nebraska

Upholding an earlier decision handed down by the U. S. District Court in Lincoln, Neb., the Federal appellate court has ruled that individual members of the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers may bring suit for copyright infringements in states where anti-ASCAP statutes prevail. The appellate decision also upholds the lower court's award amounting to almost $5,000 for five plaintiffs.

The appeals court declared in its opinion that the purchase of music does not carry with it the right for public performance and that a state statute denying that right is illegal. Since ASCAP had refused to do business in Nebraska, the court observed, the plaintiffs exercised their individual rights to file suit for infringement.

Suits were filed in 1943 against Interstate Hotel Co. of Nebraska, Peony Park and Lloyd G. Fox, by Remick Music Corp., Witmark and Sons, Chappell and Co., Jerome Kern and T. B. Harms Co., charging that songs copyrighted by them had been played at public performances by the defendants. The court pointed out that the compositions were bought through the channels of interstate commerce, adding that "none of the Nebraska music dealers . . . acquired . . . exclusive rights to publicly perform the music for profit." Refusal of the plaintiffs "to engage in business in Nebraska on the terms offered them by Nebraska did not confer upon the defendants the right to pirate the plaintiffs' musical compositions," the court said.

The statute in question was repealed last year, after the case was in the hands of the court.

Companies Win Point In Anti-trust Case

DENVER, Oct. 30. — Preliminary moves in the $3,000,000 damage suit filed by Cinema Amusement Co., owners of the Broadway, against 20th Century - Fox, RKO - Radio, and Loew's, has resulted in U. S. Judge J. Foster Symes granting the film companies the right to inspect the Broadway's books.

The suit was filed in Delaware, where two of the companies are incorporated, by Trueman T. Rembusch, secretary-treasurer, and John Wolfberg, Broadway manager. They allege inability to get a suitable run of product for the theatre, and claim they are able to buy only reissues.

Thurman Arnold, attorney for the theatre company, is here collecting material for the trial.

Sinatra Coming Here For Balaban Dinner

Frank Sinatra will make a special trip to New York from Hollywood to attend the testimonial dinner honoring Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, sponsored by the motion picture and entertainment division of the Joint Defense Appeal, on Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Hotel Astor.

Sinatra will join with others in paying tribute to Balaban for his years of leadership in the motion picture and entertainment professions and for his activity with many communal endeavors.

The 2 Biggest Hits on Broadway Today Will Be Your 2 Biggest Holiday Shows From Paramount

PLAY IT

THANKS-GIVING

6th sock week at **RIVOLI**

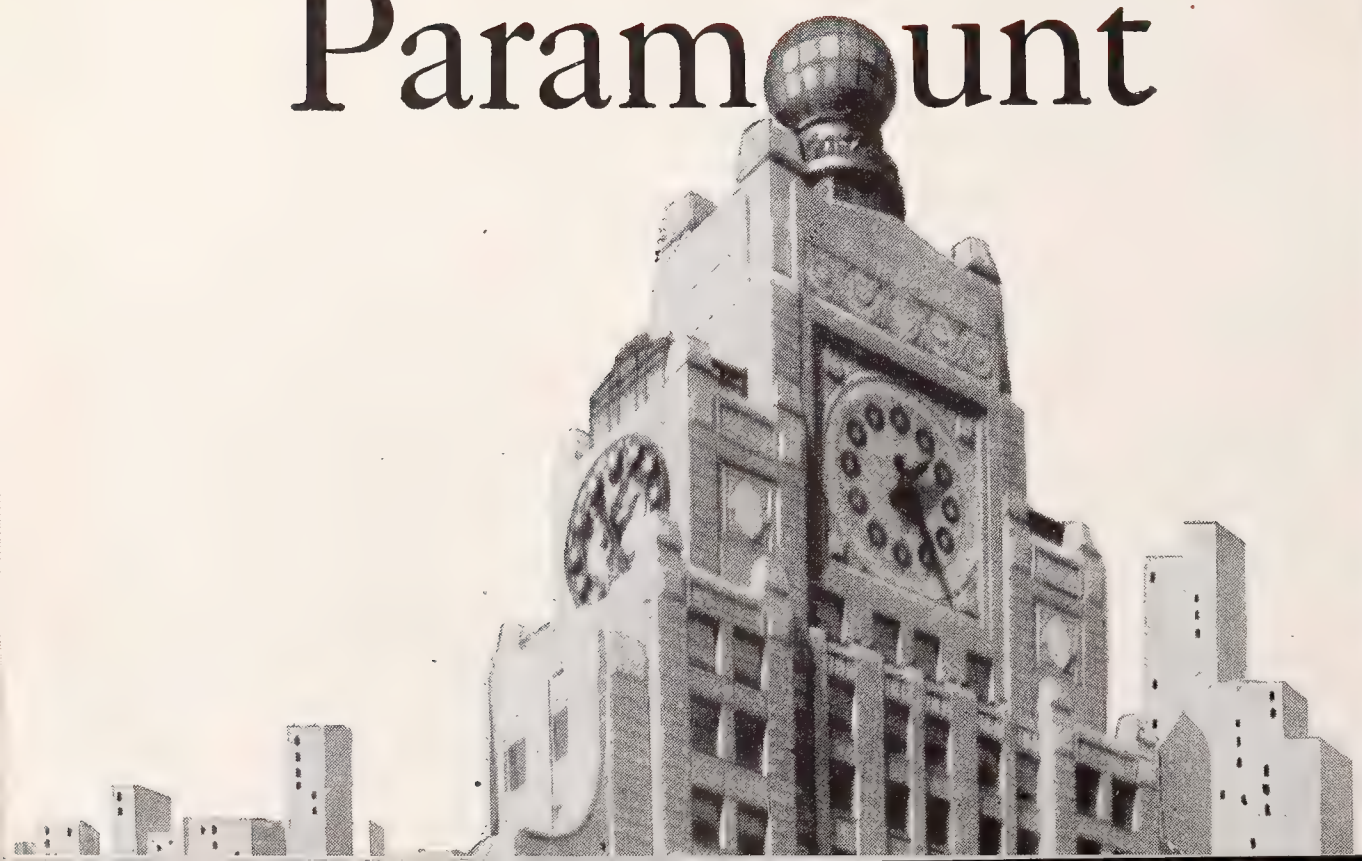
as New York goes gaga about this famed adventure saga! Pre-release dates out-of-town topping everything!

PLAY IT

XMAS

New all-time record-holder at **PARAMOUNT**

. . . . Now in its 3rd smash week! First engagement proves it's the greatest of all Paramount musicals!




TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST
Starring
ALAN LADD
BRIAN DONLEVY
WILLIAM BENDIX
BARRY FITZGERALD
HOWARD da SILVA · ESTHER FERNANDEZ · ALBERT DEKKER · LUIS Van ROOTEN · DARRYL HICKMAN
Produced by SETON I. MILLER
Directed by JOHN FARROW
A PARAMOUNT PICTURE


Paramount Presents
Irving Berlin's
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring
Bing Crosby
Fred Astaire
Joan Caulfield
Billy De Wolfe · Olga San Juan
32 IRVING BERLIN SONG HITS

Exhibitors' Market In Europe: Dembow

Distributors are confronted with an exhibitors' market in Europe, declared Sam Dembow, Jr., president and treasurer of E. A. Golden Productions, here yesterday, after a six-week tour of the Continent. This situation exists, Golden added, because European exhibitors have a backlog of five years' productions to choose from and there is a shortage of houses, both coupled with the fact that, unlike popular belief, the people of many countries are making and do have more money to spend than they have had in years.

He stated that U. S. producers must consider more carefully the foreign market in the planning of productions to offset foreign film competition.

Golden Productions will continue its policy of one feature a year, "for the time being," Dembow declared.

Monogram Realigns Prints, Accessories

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 30.—A realignment of Monogram's prints and accessories departments was placed in effect yesterday, it was announced here by president Steve Broidy. Change in operations was signalized with the arrival in Hollywood of John S. Harrington, who for the past three years has headed the two departments with headquarters at the company's New York office.

Harrington will in the future supervise the activities of the departments, from here, while actual handling of prints in New York will be under Ralph Smith, and accessories under Al Marx. Harrington will handle and allocate prints and accessories direct from the studio, to expedite all items to meet release dates.

PRC Appoints Honeck, Promotes Spiers

Stuart Honeck has been appointed branch manager of Film Classics in Milwaukee, replacing Ed Spiers, Jules K. Chapman, assistant general manager, announced here yesterday. Honeck has been in the industry about 25 years, much of that time with Warner Brothers.

Spiers, also in the film trade about 24 years, starting as a salesman with Warners, has been promoted to Chicago branch head for Film Classics, with supervision also over Milwaukee.

Circuit Vacations Increas

Century Theatres has liberalized its vacation allotment, new arrangements, which affect both home office personnel and field and theatre staffs, being a minimum vacation of two weeks and a maximum of four weeks. This procedure joins such previously announced Century employee benefits, as the incentive plan and free insurance plan.

'Bess' Televised

Marking the first time a film exploitation stunt is to be televised "Bess," equine star M-G-M's "Gallant Bess," will perform her routine for General Electric's television station, WRGB in Schenectady on Oct. 31, the day the horse appears in the town as part of its nationwide tour.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BOSTON

Opening of the Community Fund Drive with a big outdoor show featuring a personal appeal by Bob Hope, plus a heat wave, dipped most business. Mickey Rooney's personal appearance at the RKO Boston failed to equal Dick Haymes' record gross of $77,000, school being in session and "Bobby Sockers" were limited to only the shows they could attend. Estimated receipts for the week ended Oct. 29-30:

THE BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show with Mickey Rooney, Connie Haines, Leonard Sues. Gross: $60,000. (Average: $27,400)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $5,400. (Average: $6,900)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $25,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,500. (Average: $23,500)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,100)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,900)

SAN FRANCISCO

Ideal weather might be the cause of poor business in town this week, but it does not explain the slump of the previous three weeks. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30-Nov. 1:

GASHOUSE KIDS (PRC) and SECRETS OF A SORORITY GIRL (PRC)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $5,700.

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and STRANGE JOURNEY (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $32,000)

VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) with vaudeville, 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $32,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

LAURA (20th-Fox) and THE LOST WEEKEND (Para.)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000)

GASHOUSE KIDS (PRC) and SECRETS OF A SORORITY GIRL (PRC)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $1,000.

JOHNNY IN THE CLOUDS (UA) and GIRL OF THE LIMBERLOST (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $27,000)

CLEVELAND

Perfect weather proved serious box-office competition with "The Killers" being the only picture drawing sizeable attendance. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 29-30:

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,800)

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN (Mayer-Burstyn) and HYMN OF THE NATIONS (Mayer-Burstyn)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,500)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Avergae: $10,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $21,400)

THE KILLERS (U)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $22,600)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,650)

DENVER

"Monsieur Beaucaire" is having a strong second week at the Denham and will hold. "My Darling Clementine," with "High School Hero," takes top money at the Denver, Esquire and Webber. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

THE KILLERS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire, and Webber. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $11,500)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $15,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—ESQUIRE (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Webber. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $3,500)

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,500)

BLACK ANGEL (U) and PERSONALITY KID (Col.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and INNER CIRCLE (Rep.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire, Webber and Aladdin. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,000)

ST. LOUIS

Reissues and holdovers and some mediocre product were held responsible for a poor week here in most houses. The weather was very good, with many people taking advantage of Indian Summer to remain outdoors. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 30:

DECEPTION (WB) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $20,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S CENTURY (1,500) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,000)

LIVES OF A BENGAL LANCER (Para. Reissue) and RHYTHM ON THE RANGE (Para. Reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,500)

TORONTO

The theatre week in Toronto saw holdovers at two of the six first-run houses and there was a wide variety of screen themes to bring reasonably good business against opposition which included college football, National League hockey and Kenilworth horse racing. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 31-Nov. 1:

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (Rank-U)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $4,700)

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—IMPERIAL (3,343) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $14,300)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,300. (Average: $13,300)

A STOLEN LIFE (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $14,600)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $11,400)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (Rank-U)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $6,800)

INDIANAPOLIS

All first-run films are average or better in the briskest week here in some time. Mild weather and the state teachers convention helped. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 29-30:

THE DARK HORSE (U)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c) 7 days, with Hal McIntyre's orchestra on the stage. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $21,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,800)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $14,400)

IN OLD SACRAMENTO (Rep.) and NIGHT TRAIN TO MEMPHIS (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,700)

Reade Plans Other Reserved Houses

Three more long-term subscription film theatres are planned by Walter Reade. On Tuesday night he opened his Park Avenue Theatre, here, with an invitational premiere of "Notorious Gentleman." He said annual-reservation de luxe houses were planned for Back Bay, Boston; the "Main Line" in Philadelphia, and at a yet unselected location in Washington.

Approximately 500 film executives and press representatives and their guests were present for the reception and screening in the $1,000,000 theatre here, which, Reade declared, was the 51st theatre he had acquired.

In the nation's first annual subscription motion picture, for which an official of Read's office stated that 45 per cent of the capacity had been reserved, subscriptions are $93.60 a seat annually for the nine o'clock showing and $62.40 for the seven o'clock program.

'Lady' Tradeshow Nov. 28

M-G-M will hold a tradeshowing of "Lady in the Lake" in all company exchanges on Nov. 25, except in Washington where the screening will be held on Nov. 28.

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VOL. 60. NO. 88 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1946 TEN CENTS

See All Runs 'Unfrozen' By Final Decree

Distributors Believe Bidding Will Prevail

The final decree from the New York Federal District Court which will culminate the Government anti-trust suit against the industry is certain to include provisions which will "unfreeze" runs in every situation, many home office distribution executives are convinced after reviewing developments during hearings on the decree held here last week.

No theatre not otherwise fully qualified to retain the run which it has had in the past will be able to continue with that run in the future on the grounds that it has traditionally enjoyed such a run, or on the grounds of being an old, established customer, distribution men believe.

Few executives will hazard a guess as to the exact type of selling for-

(Continued on page 7)

ABPC Near Closing For Anglo-American

LONDON, Oct. 31.—Confirmation of long current reports that Associated British Pictures Corp. was negotiating for acquisition of Anglo-American Films was given here today by Max Milder, Warners' managing director here, and Louis Jackson, governing director of Anglo-American.

Warners holds a large interest in ABPC. Milder's statement said that the negotiations which have been in progress are "nearing completion."

Jackson added that Lady Yule's

(Continued on page 7)

SOPEG Looks for $275,000 Back Pay

Retroactive wage increases totalling an estimated $275,000 are expected to be distributed today to SOPEG home office employes, according to the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109. Except for United Artists and National Screen Service, the back wages date back from July 29.

New Taxes in California

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 31.—Pressed by demands of a growing population, many of California's cities and towns are seeking new revenue by methods that will further dent exhibitors' already heavily taxed grosses, with the most popular method currently being the municipal sales tax.

The city of Burbank is pondering methods of getting new money which include an enlarged program of business license taxes and a municipal sales levy, a two-headed arrow aimed at box-office tills. The sales impost, half of one per cent, would apply also to the Warner studio, here, and is seen as bringing in $200,000 more annually.

Such a tax already is in effect in

(Continued on page 6)

NCA Discussions Limited to Members

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 31.—While all independent exhibitors in the Minneapolis film zone, regardless of affiliation, have been invited to attend the Nov. 18 mid-year convention of North Central Allied at the Nicollet Hotel, here, only paid-up NCA members will be allowed to participate in the discussions, it was disclosed in a bulletin issued jointly by NCA president Ben Berger and Don Swartz, executive secretary.

Earlier it was stated that all would be permitted to enter discussions. The change in plans is regarded in some quarters as a move to forestall reported demands from conservative elements for a change from a militant to a cooperative policy in dealing with distributors.

NCA's latest bulletin warns exhibitors against buying product on an "adjustment" basis, adding that sales-

(Continued on page 7)

Booker-Salesmen of PRC Meet Tomorrow

Executives of PRC will leave New York today for Chicago to attend a national convention of booker-salesmen, tomorrow, at the Blackstone Hotel in that city.

The meeting, described by PRC as the first of its kind to embrace bookers nationally, is in line with a policy to consider PRC bookers full-fledged members of the sales force, function-

(Continued on page 7)

French Decree Fosters Quota

By MAURICE BESSY

PARIS, Oct. 28 (By Airmail).—Three major events have altered film industry practices here; they are: a decree has been issued for the application of the French quota agreement signed last May in Washington by James F. Byrnes and Leon Blum; a new law has reorganized the general administration of the industry and has created a National Center of the French Cinema, and, admission prices have increased from 25 to 66 per cent.

The May agreement stipulated that all French theatres show French features for four weeks out of each 13. In applying this agreement, the Au-

(Continued on page 7)

Film Leaders, Stars Arrive in England

SOUTHAMPTON, Eng., Oct. 31.—Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, headed a large delegation of American and British film figures who arrived here today on the *Queen Elizabeth* from New York.

In the group were Adolph Zukor, G. I. Woodham Smith, Joyce O'Hara, Irving Maas, James Perkins, George Weltner, Gerald Movius and a group of film stars headed by Ray Milland and Pat O'Brien, here for a command performance. Zukor weathered the crossing in good style and said he would have a statement to make next Tusday when he will present Perkins, Paramount's newly appointed managing director here, to the trade.

Johnston reserved formal comment until a press conference which he will hold at Claridge's, in London, tomorrow morning, to be attended by political and industrial correspondents as

(Continued on page 6)

Los Angeles Jurist Joining Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—Lester William Roth, veteran Los Angeles jurist, will join Columbia January 1 as a vice-president, President Harry Cohn announced today. Roth, practicing law here for the past 30 years, served two terms as Superior Court judge.

Announcement follows the disclosure last week that Vice-President B. B. Kahane, 10 years with studio,

(Continued on page 7)

Numbering of Tickets Will Not be Altered

US Insists System of Serialization Remain

WASHINGTON, Oct. 31.—Many ideas and suggestions on a substitute for the Government's requirement that theatre tickes be numbered from one to 500,000, have been received at the Treasury Department, it was learned from the Bureau of Internal Revenue here today.

It was pointed out that there will be absolutely "no change" in present serial number requirements. By the use of serial numbers, at each end of a ticket, the Treasury can check excise tax returns whenever it desires. The Treasury must approve any ticket changes.

The suggestions have come from ticket and equipment manufacturers.

(Continued on page 7)

Wage-Hour Demand May Prolong Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—Hopes that the studio strike might be ended this week appeared dashed today by the Carpenters Union, a CSU unit, which last night passed a resolution introducing wages and hours into what has been a jurisdictional dispute until now.

Subject to adoption at a meeting set for Sunday the resolution would empower negotiators to demand changes in the work week equivalent to a 20 per cent increase over the present interim-agreement scale Belief is that the resolution will be adopted with other CSU crafts following the example.

The carpenters, like all other CSU and IATSE unions, received a 25 per cent increase last July under the interim agreement, settling a two-day strike. Pending signing of contracts

(Continued on page 3)

In This Issue

Feature reviews of "Spring Song," "Secret of the Whistler" and "Terror Trail" appear on Page 6.

Hollywood Post Is 'News' to Keenan

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Joseph D. Keenan, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor today told MOTION PICTURE DAILY that news of his appointment as arbitrator in the Hollywood studio jurisdictional labor dispute was "news to me." He said he arrived from Washington this morning and was met by his wife, who showed him newspaper accounts of his appointment.

Salary

Widely syndicated stories from Hollywood were published in news and trade papers throughout the country this morning, declaring that Keenan had been named chairman of an arbitration board in the studio labor controversy, at an annual salary reputed to be $25,000. The appointment was described in the Hollywood dispatch as having been made after a three-day conference between representatives of of the Conference of Studio Unions, the IATSE, Screen Actors Guild, and a participant from a neutral source.

Keenan said that Hollywood had been trying to reach him by phone and he might have more to say later.

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Joseph D. Keenan will go to Hollywood next week for one day on the studio jurisdictional dispute. He says he understands there will be a total of three arbiters.

Goldwyn Eastbound; May Go to England

CHICAGO, Oct. 31.—Samuel Goldwyn will arrive here Sunday from Hollywood, enroute to New York, and while here will confer with Edwin Silverman and other Essaness circuit heads on details of the local opening of "The Best Years of Our Lives," slated to open at the Essaness Woods Theatre in December. Goldwyn may to to England from New York to visit his son, Samuel, Junior.

Futter - Paramount Decision Reserved

Decision was reserved in New York Supreme Court here yesterday on Paramount's motion to have dismissed the complaint filed against the company by Walter Futter. The latter charges he submitted an idea on which Paramount patterned its "Unusual Occupations" series and for which he was not compensated. Futter seeks all the profits realized by Paramount from the series.

Louis Nizer is counsel for Paramount, and Willard S. McKay represents Futter.

Wolterson Luncheon

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—H. L. Wolterson, Dutch financier and film executive, was entertained at a luncheon here today by Motion Picture Association vice-president Byron Price and studio executives. Wolterson is spending a week here studying production procedures.

Personal Mention

HAL HORNE, executive producer of Story Productions, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

•

W. C. MICHEL, honor guest of 20th Century-Fox executives at a studio dinner Wednesday night, entrains for New York at the weekend. He will be accompanied by SHERWIN ADAMS and E. I. SPONABLE.

•

HARALD ASTROM, head of United Artists in Sweden since its organization in 1921, has received a cablegram of congratulations on his activities there from the board of directors and home office executives.

•

HARRY M. WARNER, president of Warner Bros., will be principal speaker tonight at the annual Eagle Scout dinner at the Hotel Biltmore, Los Angeles.

•

EDMOND GOULDING, who directed "The Razor's Edge" for 20th Century-Fox, arrived in New York yesterday. He will attend the premiere of the film at the Roxy on Nov. 19.

•

THOMAS J. BRANDON, documentary films producer, is due in New York from a three-month survey of the markets in England and the Continent.

•

CHARLES KURTZMAN, Boston district manager for Loew's Theatres, leaeves New York today after a brief home office visit.

•

RALPH W. MAW, M-G-M district manager headquartering in Minneapolis, leaves today for his home after two days in New York.

•

DOROTHY FRANCES YAMINS, daughter of New England theatre operator NATHAN YAMINS, was married recently to EDWARD WARREN LIDER.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. executive, has returned to New York from a Western trip.

•

ROBERT PIROSH, RKO Radio contract writer, is expected in New York from Paris today by plane.

•

E. L. WALTON, assistant sales manager for Republic, was in Charlotte this week from New York.

•

JACK KIRBY, district manager for Warner Bros., was in Charlotte this week from Atlanta.

•

HERB CROOKER, publicity manager for M-G-M, has returned to his desk after recuperating from an operation.

•

MERRITT DAVIS, Republic district manager, was a Charlotte visitor during the week from Atlanta.

•

LEON SCHLESINGER, manager of Warner Bros. cartoon by-products department, is here from Hollywood.

•

MAUREEN O'HARA, RKO-Radio star, has arived in Ireland from New York, by plane.

BEN KALMENSON, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Bros., is in Chicago and will return to New York next week.

•

LEE SCOTT, formerly with the National Theatre Supply Company here and now in Seattle for the same company, was a Salt Lake City visitor this week at the home of his sister, NINA SCOTT.

•

CHARLES LEVY, Eastern publicity director for Walt Disney, has gone to Chicago to join LUANA PATTON and BOBBY DRISCOLL, Disney stars now on a personal appearance tour.

•

ROY HAINES, Western division sales manager for Warner Bros., is back in New York following a Midwestern trip.

•

HY DAAB, Selznick International and Vanguard publicist, recently returned from London, left New York for Hollywood last night.

•

SCOTT DUNLAP, Monogram producer, stopped off in Salt Lake City en route from Hollywood to North Dakota for a hunting trip.

•

SAM MILLER, district manager for PRC, is a Salt Lake City visitor, conferring with A. L. Eskine, branch manager there.

•

NASH WEIL, vice-president of the Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Company, has returned to Atlanta from Los Angeles.

•

CAROL BRANDT, M-G-M's Eastern story head, will leave London for New York on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Nov. 11.

•

FRED CURD, Paramount booker at Memphis, is recovering in McLemore Clinic there, from injuries sustained in an automobile accident.

•

DAVID BOWERS of the Warrior Theatre, Warrior, Ala., and MRS. BOWERS, are parents of a new-born baby boy.

•

F. H. SMITH, manager of Paramount's Salt Lake City exchange, is a New York visitor.

•

L. W. MCCLINTOCK, Paramount branch manager at Memphis, has returned there from New York.

•

JOHN DAHL, Columbia booker in Salt Lake City, has returned there from a vacation.

•

HARRY PAUL, branch manager of Wil-Kin Theatres Supply, has returned to Atlanta from Charlotte.

•

ERNEST P. FUGERE has resigned as manager of the Shea Theatre in Turners Falls, Mass.

•

IRVING LUDWIG of the Walt Disney office here has left on a Midwestern trip.

•

DICK FROHLICH, publicity director for ASCAP, is ill with influenza.

Lionel Toll Forms Producing Company

Lionel Toll has formed Principal Pictures, Inc., and has set his first release, "Night Without Dawn," with PRC Pictures. Until recently he was editor of *The Independent*, a local trade publication, to which post he returned some months ago after a period in the Army as a lieutenant.

Toll is both president and producer of Principal, and will start filming in Hollywood in February. He will leave New York shortly for the Coast to arrange production details and line up talent and a production crew.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG
BARBARA HALE · FRANK MORGAN
Lady Luck
RKO RADIO

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
JOAN CAULFIELD
MARJORIE REYNOLDS
'MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE'
IN PERSON
CHARLIE VENTURA AND HIS ORCH.
BOB WILLIAMS
LILYANN CAROL

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

JEANNE CRAIN as
"MARGIE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus on Stage — Frances Langford - Jon Hall
Carl Ravazza - Harmonica Rascals
Extra! AL BERNIE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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SOPEG Meets Today On Exchange Action

Charged as a committee to devise plans for taking "all action necessary to guarantee victory" for the wage demands of employes of several New York exchanges, chairmen of local chapters of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, will confer here tonight.

The committee was created Wednesday night at an emergency session of SOPEG members, who also gave unanimous support to a resolution endorsing rejection by the exchange employes of an offer for a flat 10 per cent raise. Talks between union representatives and executives of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Columbia, United Artists and 20th Century-Fox on reopening the wage clause of their contract were suspended after the exchange employes refused the offer.

No Strike Proviso

Although the contract negotiated last year contains a "no strike" provision, union officials have been raising the question of strike action as a means of enforcing demands for higher increases. It is believed the union had hoped to receive boosts paralleling the $6, or 15 per cent, whichever is greater, granted by the companies to other industry employes here, except those in the exchanges.

Franconi Combines Texas Exchanges

DALLAS, Oct. 31.—Effecting a complete reorganization of his exchange setup, John L. Franconi, franchise holder in Texas for Screen Guild and Film Classics, has combined all releases under one exchange system using the name Screen Guild Productions of Texas.

Franconi's force has been augmented by L. M. Lovelace and B. A. McGuiness as bookers. Former Film Classics of Texas and Screen Guild salesmen, heretofore separate sales forces, are now unified and reassigned to smaller areas, with J. M. Reynolds in Dallas, Connie Recher in West Texas and Don Clark in Central-South Texas.

Syndicate Hires Top Mexican Workers

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 31.—Some sections of the film trade are disgruntled by the hiring of Mexican technicians for the studios being completed at Tiajuana, on the California border, by an American-Mexican syndicate. It is reported that top technicians will get a weekly minimum of $200 from the studios.

The displeasure in the Mexican film circles is that the syndicate aims to take the Mexican industry's best technicians, leaving it without key men. Local companies cannot afford to compete with the syndicate on wage scales.

Tucker in New Post For RKO Radio

George F. Tucker has been appointed manager for RKO Radio in Puerto Rico, replacing Mark Raymon, resigned. Tucker, formerly a member of the RKO U. S. sales organization, is now in San Juan under the supervision of Latin-American division manager Ned F. Clark, who has gone to Puerto Rico for that purpose.

16mm. Heads Weigh Overseas Problems

In an endeavor to arrive at solutions to the many problems of 16mm. film distribution abroad, a number of company executives supervising 16mm. operations overseas met here yesterday for a luncheon-discussion, with Warner's A. C. Brauninger presiding. Specifically designed as an attempt to solve technical problems in the narrow-gauge field of exhibition, yesterday's meeting also contributed findings of a "general" nature on the dubbing of 16mm. films. Because of excessive dubbing costs, one of the executives reported, the narration technique was considered as a substitute. Dubbing of an average-length 16mm. feature, he said, costs between $15,000 and $20,000.

Ultimately, the executives expect to be in a position to make specific recommendations to their respective companies on 16mm. films abroad, and a uniform procedure is expected to result. Meanwhile, until a definite program evolves, the companies are proceeding with individual programs.

RKO Radio's Robert Maroney, one of the participants in yesterday's gathering, said it it is likely that the Motion Picture Export Association soon would be operating in behalf of the companies in connection with 16mm. overseas. Applications now arriving from MPEA countries for 16mm. pictures are being referred to the MPEA, he said, adding that when a sufficient demand for 16mm. product in MPEA countries is apparent, the MPEA will then take over for the companies.

Oklahoma Group to Convene Dec. 2-3

OKLAHOMA CITY, Oct. 31.—The Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, an affiliate of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, will hold its first convention in four years on Dec. 2-3 at the Shirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City. Morris Loewenstein is president of the unit.

The matter of aligning with the American Theatres Association will be "fully discussed," Loewenstein states in a bulletin to members. An ATA representative will address the meeting.

Loewenstein also advances MPTOA Fred Wehrenberg's sugestion of intra-industry machinery to iron-out trade problems. "Industry matters should be settled from within as politics and business only make a mess of mixing," he declares.

And, in further discussion of the subject, he states: "A partial victory from Federal interference has been won in the recent decision in the Griffith case. This type of litigation is both expensive and consuming in its leaving uncertainty and handicap in its course." Griffith Amusement recently was exonerated of charges of violation of the Sherman anti-trust laws.

The meeting will be highlighted by a banquet at which the Variety Club's national achievement awards will be presented.

Pictorial Opens Branch

Harold Baumstone, vice-president of Pictorial Films, here, has opened Pictorial's first branch office, in Chicago, under Lawrence Goldberg.

May Prolong Strike

(*Continued from page 1*)

containing a clause providing for the reopening on January 1 if the advance in living costs had exceeded five per cent the carpenters explained that the present move is based on the contention the reopening date is only two months distant, that the contracts are still unsigned, and living costs already have advanced more than five per cent.

Picketing

CSU, which today maintained routine picket lines around studios believes many now crossing the lines will not do so after the wage-hour issue has been introduced.

Meanwhile, progress toward completion of arbitration machinery for settling future disputes was reported by an all-union committee, which talked by phone with Joseph Keenan, Chicago Federation Labor secretary who was nominated yesterday for the chairmanship. The committee said Keenan manifested a willingness to accept the post, but will not give a final answer until early next week when he expects to arrive here for a personal study of the proposition. Also due next week is IATSE President Richard F. Walsh.

Bergman Sees Films For Special Groups

CINCINNATI, Oct. 31.—Motion pictures produced for certain classes, similar to the pattern followed by book publishers, is predicted here by Maurice A. Bergman, Eastern advertising-publicity manager for Universal, in an interview in the *Cincinnati Enquirer*.

Bergman, on a visit here from New York, declared, "We may look for the motion picture industry to follow a pattern of production and distribution similar to that of the book publishing industry. Instead of turning out pictures supposedly harmoniously compromising all tastes, interests, and levels of intelligence, there will be pictures for various segments of the public and new audiences—just as there are books for a wide range of special reader interests.

Quality of Films

"Quality of imported pictures, particularly those from England, is such that it will stimulate domestic producers to more adult efforts, Bergman indicated. And the U. S. market for motion pictures will continue to tempt foreign producers to export to the U. S. There is no quicker way to improve trade balances and get much needed dollars in exchange for commodities than through cans of commercial film. In fact, Bergman's company, through its British imports, expects to realize at least $24,000,000 on next year's 12 feature shipments from Great Britain, he estimated.

Dietz Speaks Monday On Films and Public

Fourth in the series of lectures on films for Eastern previewing groups of national organizations will be held Monday at the Museum of Modern Art, with Howard Dietz, vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, slated to discuss motion pictures as mass entertainment. The series is directed by the community relations division of the Motion Picture Association.

RCA 9 Months Net Is $8,226,329

Net income of RCA was $8,226,329 for the first nine months of 1946, compared with $8,204,470 in the same period of 1945, David Sarnoff, RCA president disclosed here yesterday. Total gross income from all sources amounted to $163,604,191 for the first three quarters of 1946, compared with $222,002,801 in the first nine months of 1945, or a decrease of $58,396,610.

The 1946 net reflects a charge for reconversion expenses of $2,760,000. After payment of preferred dividends, net earnings applicable to common stock for the first nine months of 1946 were 42.2 cents per share, approximately the same as the per share earnings in the first nine months of 1945.

Status of 'Vendetta' Remains in Doubt

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—The status of California Pictures' uncompleted "Vendetta," on which production was suspended yesterday after 60 days shooting as a result of the dissolution of California's Howard Hughes-Preston Sturges partnership, remained in doubt today. United Artists had been scheduled to release the film.

Suspension of production of the film followed Hughes' exercising his option to acquire an additional two per cent of stock in the company from Sturges. Hughes' action gave him 51 per cent and control.

The picture is the second under the company's two-picture commitment to UA, the first being the completed but unreleased "Sin of Harold Diddlebock," starring Harold Lloyd.

Allied Affiliation Discussed by ITOA

The Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York at a meeting here yesterday discussed possible affiliation with Allied States, it was announced by the ITOA. Harry Brandt, head of the group, presided. Also taken up was the matter of "continued demands of high rentals" by the distributors. No action was taken at the meeting on either matter.

Mexican Star to Produce

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 31.—Abel Salazar, now heading the cast of a picture which is being produced by the Rodriguez brothers, plans to become a producer himself, making three films next year, the first to start in January. His father-in-law is ex-president of Mexico Lazaro Cardenas.

Postpones World Film Conference

Hollywood, Oct. 31.—The board of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has postponed its World Motion Picture Conference, originaally set for next March, until a year later.

The board has appointed Mervyn LeRoy as committee chairman in charge of the ceremonies at the Annual awards, next March.

SPEAKING OF FACTS....



During the Spyros P. Skouras Drive, 20th Century-Fox has presented a succession of triumphs unprecedented in boxoffice annals!

"MARGIE" *in Technicolor*—Biggest non-holiday week gross in 20 years at the Roxy!

"MY DARLING CLEMENTINE"—New-all-time records in San Francisco and 100 day-and-dates!

"3 LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE" *in Technicolor*—Variety's National Boxoffice Survey says: "Heading the list... grabbing first money!"

"ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM"—Winner of Boxoffice magazine Blue Ribbon Award!

"SMOKY" *in Technicolor*—Motion Picture Herald Boxoffice Champion!

"CENTENNIAL SUMMER" *in Technicolor*—Motion Picture Herald Boxoffice Champion!

Never in the history of the Industry has any company delivered so many great attractions!

Never in history has any company such great attractions coming!

THE FACTS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES!

Tyrone Power · Gene Tierney · John Payne
Anne Baxter · Clifton Webb · Herbert Marshall
Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. Somerset Maugham's

THE RAZOR'S EDGE

James Cagney

13 RUE MADELEINE

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA

in Technicolor
Dick Haymes · Vera-Ellen · Cesar Romero · Celeste Holm

Dana Andrews

BOOMERANG

Gene Tierney · Rex Harrison

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR

BOB, SON OF BATTLE

in Technicolor with
Lon McCallister · Peggy Ann Garner · Edmund Gwenn

John Payne · June Haver

THE ENCHANTED VOYAGE

in Technicolor

Betty Grable

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS

in Technicolor

WALLS OF JERICHO

The February, 1947, Literary Guild Selection!

Tyrone Power

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE

in Technicolor

Betty Grable · Dick Haymes

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM

in Technicolor

Ronald Colman

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY

Introducing Peggy Cummins

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON

George Montgomery · Nancy Guild

Cornel Wilde · Maureen O'Hara

THE HOMESTRETCH

in Technicolor

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW

in Technicolor
June Haver · Mark Stevens

Jeanne Crain · Henry Fonda · Maureen O'Hara

CHICKEN EVERY SUNDAY

FOREVER AMBER

in Technicolor
Linda Darnell · Cornel Wilde

MOSS ROSE

The greatest story by one of today's most popular authors!

THE SNAKE PIT

Read by 20,000,000 in Readers Digest!
Book-of-the-Month!

SCUDDA HOO! SCUDDA HAY!

in Technicolor
At the top of all best-selling lists today!

New Taxes

(*Continued from page* 1)

San Fernando, passed by the city council there last July. Exhibitors may use the same form they employ for the state sales levy, which is 2½ per cent. Payments may be made monthly or quarterly.

The Lynwood council has proposed a sales tax to provide $419,900 for a six-year program of improvements.

Although rate cards have been printed and merchants are receiving instructions on computation of the Huntington Park municipal tax, there are indications that opponents may force a referendum. Petitions are being circulated among residents and merchants, which also may be used as evidence if a court injunction against the measure is sought.

From Stockton, meanwhile, comes another suggestion. The city manager there has urged upon a State Senate taxation committee, a change in the state annexation laws to permit cities to take in "populous fringe" developments at will. He said health and welfare expenses made such a legislative change necessary. Stockton, too, is seeking a municipal sales tax.

County property taxes, meanwhile, are generally up. The rate of $1.88 for Los Angeles County for 1946-47 is 49 cents higher than the 1945-46 rate, and 71 cents higher than the 1944-45 rate of $1.17. Only two counties, Alpine and Santa Cruz, show reductions. The former is down six cents, the latter, 3.54 cents.

Film Leaders

(*Continued from page* 1)

well as film press representatives. He said he preferred not to outline his personal views until he has explored the territory. He emphasized his purpose to confer with men on the highest possible political level.

Johnston left here for London where he will visit the United States Embassy this afternoon. The British industry will give a luncheon in his honor at the Dorchester on Nov. 7, at which Sir Stafford Cripps, chairman of the Board of Trade, will be a speaker. Johnston will confer with Cripps after the luncheon inasmuch as an earlier meeting of the two could not be arranged due to Sir Stafford's Parliamentary commitments.

Arrangements are pending for Johnston to dine privately with Herbert Morrison, Socialist leader of the House of Commons and the most influential member of Britain's Labor Party.

Johnston will leave England on Nov. 10 for France and thereafter to other parts of the Continent.

Phila. Tax-Take Up 60%

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 31. — City treasurer Ralph W. Pitman reports that receipts from the city amusement tax for the first nine months of 1946 were $7,951,447, as compared with $1,312,422 for a similar period in 1945.

TRANS-CONTINENTAL-FILMS, INC.
243 W. 56th St., N. Y. — CI. 5-4151
Exclusive Foreign Distributors
FEATURES, WESTERNS, SPECIALTIES
Write - Call - Visit - Cable - Tranconfilm

Reviews

"Spring Song"

(British National—Anglo-American)

London

MAKING no grandiose claims to production values or to its being a world-shaker, this offering will fill the bill in many a theatre, at least in the British Isles. It has charm and a sort of ingenuous adroitness. Its music is gay and fresh. What is more, its principal performers, notably Carol Raye and Peter Graves, exhibit freshness and gayness.

The film has one of those familiar backstage facades, set moreover in those allegedly carefree days of the early years of this century for which Britons nowadays evince a determined nostalgia. Miss Raye, in this picture, is the youthful star of her father's musical shows. She is wooed by one of those debonair aristocrats whose class (according to film-makers) constituted the entire officer-ranks of the wartime RAF. But pappa won't tolerate the wooing. It seems that Miss Raye's mamma was badly let down—in *her* youth—by the uncle of the same young nobleman.

The pursuit of true love to its conclusion is enlivened by a succession of song-and-dance episodes, which—though they might have been more elaborately or at least more expertly photographed—have unflagging zest. Prime recommendation of the piece indeed is this very welcome zest. The actors, particularly the aforementioned Miss Raye and Graves, really look as though they're happy in their work. One elaborately joyous dance sequence in which Carol Raye displays her talents in company with the American Jack Billings has unexpected merit. There is a competent contribution, too, from Lawrence O'Madden as the girl's pappa. Full marks, moreover, to Hans May, composer and arranger of the music. A happy, comfortable, eager film which, amply justifying its title, will cheer the hearts of the British multitude.

Running time, 90 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Secret of the Whistler"

(Columbia)

FAITHFUL to its predecessors in this series, "Secret of the Whistler," produced by Rudolph C. Flothow and directed by George Sherman, will please both film and radio fans of these tales, for it follows the pattern of the ironic twist wherein Lady Justice gets her man (and woman, coincidentally) just in the nick of time to make the visit by police a purposeful one.

There is murder a-foot in this melodrama of a dilettante who dabbles in paints while his ailing wife buys the oils—and a lavish studio for his artistic indulgences. Richard Dix gives a credible performance of a man searching for the companionship which his wealthy wife, nobly portrayed by Mary Currier, cannot give him. Infatuated with his model, a calculating, cold-blooded beauty played by Leslie Brooks, the artist poisons his wife's medicine. She sees him planting the poison, notes the incident in her diary and hides the bottle. Nevertheless, she is found dead. From this point on, the artist is doomed. He marries the model but is tormented by the fear of detection. His second wife finds the page in the diary which absolves the artist of the crime and, realizing the jig is up, perhaps suspecting by a sixth sense that his new wife plots blackmail, the artist kills her, just as the police dash in (for some utterly uncanny reason).

Performances and characterizations are competent and sufficiently convincing, but not adequate to overcome spots of looseness in the plot. Raymond L. Schrock wrote the screenplay for Richard H. Landau's story. Others in the cast are Ray Walker, as a curious newspaperman; Mona Barrie, whose role as an artist is all too brief, and Clair DuBrey as the omnipresent housekeeper.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 7.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Terror Trail"

(Columbia)

ROARING across the plains to intervene on behalf of the peaceful "little guy" who is always open to exploitation by unscrupulous, malevolent gangsters of the range, The Durango Kid, played by Charles Starrett, has a sufficiently exciting occupation of robin-hooding to keep enthusiasts of the Westerners keyed to his current activities. Although, true to form, the Western is a tale oft-retold, it is a tale which wears well in the re-telling.

This time, the story, written by Raymond L. Schrock, is laid against the background of potential range war between sheep-herders and cattlemen, because the sheep leave the grazing land barren. Lane Chandler, as a saloon owner in Red Butte, is secret owner of a large flock of sheep which has been causing friction, and Zon Murray is at the head of the cattlemen who seek an amicable adjustment to "live and let live." It all comes out on the side of an acceptable settlement in a cloud of dust, blazing shootin' irons and plenty of hard riding. In the cast are Barbara Pepper as a gal who moves West from the city to tie up with the outlaws, innocent though she is of their illegitimate enterprise; Elvie Eric Field, as her swaggering brother who is headed straight down the path of delinquency until The Durango Kid steers him right, and Smiley Burnette who joins Ozzie Waters and his Colorado Rangers in several entertaining songs.

Produced by Colbert Clark and directed by Ray Nazarro, this film has a few good scenic shots, but is otherwise the usual Western, with six-shooters blazing away like machine guns and an unintentionally humorous chase, at the point, of The Durango Kid pursuing five or six outlaws, then being pursued by them almost as quickly as it takes to turn a horse around.

Running time, 55 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 21.

IRVING KAPLAN

Hollywood

By THALA BELL

Hollywood, Oct. 31

SEYMOUR NEBENZAL has purchased screen rights to Puccini's opera, "Madame Butterfly," as well as a screenplay by Carmine Gallain Italian director-writer, which para... the opera. The producer will use the Puccini music as background for a present-day story. . . . As a result of negotiations between Walt Disney and W. R. Frank, who is preparing to produce "Dan Patch," the famed pacer and his achievements will be highlighted in Disney's forthcoming Technicolor feature, "How Dear to My Heart."

•

James S. Burkett, Sam Decker, and Herbert J. Yates, Jr., former treasurer of Republic, have formed a new company to be known as Hillcrest Productions. The firm will make six pictures this season for Screen Guild release. The first, titled "Bells of San Fernando," will go before cameras shortly with Terry Morse directing . . . Ben Goetz, managing director of M-G-M in England, is in Hollywood for conferences with Louis B. Mayer and other studio executives on production plans for the British unit.

•

Producer Mark Hellinger has purchased Forrest Rosaire's novel, "East of Midnight," and will use it as a starring vehicle for John Garfield . . . Bruce Bennett will co-star with Humphrey Bogart and Lauren Bacall in Warner's "Dark Passage" . . . Marion Parsonnet has been engaged by Enterprise to develop the screenplay for "She Walks in Beauty" . . . Director Robert Gordon has had his Columbia contract extended.

•

Paramount has borrowed Anne Baxter from 20th Century-Fox to co-star with Sterling Hayden, Sonny Tufts and William Holden in "Blaze of Noon," which John Farrow is directing and Robert Fellows producing . . . Preston Sturges has been engaged by Columbia for the lead in "King of the Wild Horses," outdoor feature to be produced by Ted Richmond and directed by George Archainbaud. The studio is seeking three teen-age boys for key roles in the picture.

•

Enterprise has concluded negotiations to bring Broadway actress Natalie Schafer to Hollywood for an important part in "The Other Love," which stars Barbara Stanwyck, David Niven and Robert Stack.

•

Director Harry Beaumont is celebrating his 30th year in motion pictures coincidentally with the start of M-G-M's "Undercover Maisie," in which Ann Sothern portrays a policewoman attached to the bunco squad of the Los Angeles police department.

•

"Thou Shalt Not Kill," anti-vivisection story, will be Jeffrey Bernerd's initial 1947 production for Monogram . . . John Rawlins has been engaged to direct "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw," third in RKO Radio's series based on the comic strip. Kay Christopher is set for the lead opposite Ralph Byrd . . . Cesar Romero is set for a top role in "Captain from Castile," which Henry King will direct for 20th Century-Fox.

Defrost Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

mula which the Federal Court may adopt or devise for its final decree, but all are convinced that its main provisions will include open and competitive bidding for runs. Some believe that the defendant distributors' plan, which would enjoin them from refusing to negotiate for a run and providing for arbitration of disputes arising under the injunction, may be accepted.

On the other hand, others believe that the court, taking cognizance of the lukewarm reception given the distributors' plan by exhibitor organizations and the Government's indicated opposition to it, may draft a plan of its own, revising or amplifying its original competitive bidding proposal in such a way that bargaining for any run will be open to all qualified theatres.

Moved by Protests

The latter opinions are based on at least two expressions made from the bench last week by the presiding jurists. The first was their declaration that they had "been moved" by the exhibitor protests to their competitive bidding or "auction" sales plan. The second was the court's assertion that "This court did not intend that pictures should be placed on the auction block."

The two remarks are taken to indicate that, while "auction" selling as the trade has come to understand the term will not materialize, measures which will insure against product being placed on the auction block but "unfreezing" established theatre runs everywhere, will be written into the proposal by the court.

The "unfreezing" of runs is conceded by many distribution executives to be a natural and, even, desirable outcome. However, some express apprehension that, under the new order, difficulty may be experienced in properly safeguarding established exhibitors from the incursions of "promoters and chiselers" who may be attracted by the new order of fluid runs.

ABPC Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

British National Films will retain its separate identity with himself as executive producer if the ABPC-Anglo-American deal is concluded. The only potential benefit which will accrue to British National from the deal will be its assurance of circuit distribution through Associated British Cinemas, Jackson said, adding that no agreement has been reached yet on certain major principles involved in the deal.

Hungarian Composer Dies

Fred Markush, 63, Hungarian composer and general manager of the Hungarian Society of Authors, Composers and Publishers, died, here, yesterday. Among his works were about 30 operettas, scores for an equal number of motion pictures and several hundred songs.

Vincent Funeral Today

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—Funeral services for Frank W. Vincent, who died last Sunday, will he held tomorrow afternoon at the Church of the Recessional at Forest Lawn, conducted by Rev. Alvah Fessenden. Edward G. Robinson will pronounce a eulogy on Vincent.

French Decree

(*Continued from page* 1)

gust 17 decree stipulates the following:

Exhibitors have a free choice in selecting their programs except for four weeks a quarter, when they are obliged to show French product produced on metropolitan French territory.

The stipulations concern all French theatres in France, Corsica, Algeria, and the French colonies except in French Morocco, where the Tangier International Agreement does not allow any discrimination.

There are two quotas, one for features and one for short subjects. The exhibitor is obliged to show short subjects, but the two quotas are independent of each other and need not be fulfilled during the same weeks.

The decree does not discriminate between foreign films dubbed or titled in French.

No distributing company is allowed to rent to any exhibitor more than six films in six months. All contracts must be fulfilled within six months.

Penalties

All the regulations, which include penalties for violating the quota rule, will be in force from July 1, 1946, to June 30, 1948.

This new decree has raised many objections, principally from those exhibitors operating independent first-runs in Paris. There are in the city about 40 first-runs. At least 15 of these are small independents specializing in showing American features in their original versions. These theatres report they are unable to fulfill their quotas as the best French films are booked by the large circuits.

On the practical side of the question, most of the Paris first-runs, both independent and affiliated, have not applied the quota regulations since July 1. Many have continued to show only American films despite the fact that the first quarter, under the new plan, has elapsed.

PRC Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing as booker-salesmen rather than as bookers only.

The meeting has been set up to present the new season's sales picture to the booker-salesmen, and to give them the opportunity of exchanging ideas and plans for selling and promoting current product.

Headed by Lind

Headed by Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager of PRC, the home office contingent will include Grover C. Schaefer, Philip Gettelson, Abe Sutton, Elmer Hollander and George Fleitman. Alfred W. Schwalberg, Eagle-Lion's vice president and general sales manager, will also attend the convention which will be presided over by Lind.

Four New Films for ETO

Army Theatre Special Services are now issuing four new films to the various U. S. Army film exchanges throughout the European Theatre; they are "Rendezvous with Annie," Republic; "Scandal in Paris," United Artists; "Monsieur Beaucaire," Paramount; and "Black Beauty," 20th Century-Fox, the Army's information branch here discloses.

NCA Discussions

(*Continued from page* 1)

men's intepretation of the decree "are most often warped."

Pointing out that "in this type of selling," the salesmen promise exhibitors that if a film fails to do a certain amount of business he will adjust the filme rental, the bulletin adding, "there are a few cases where they have adjusted film rentals, but doing this is poor business because it makes one careless and easy when the deal is consummated.

Adjustments

"After the adjustment is granted, one will find very little profit, if any, on the engagement. Usually these adjustments are made to save the exhibitor from a loss but not to give him a profit. Therefore, we suggest that you make proper deals and don't rely on the salesman offering adjustments to break even. You are entitled to a profit."

C. S. Perkins has been appointed district manager in charge of Altec's New York district, effective Nov. 3, according to an announcement by H. M. Bessey, Altec vice-president.

Perkins was manager of commercial engineering at Altec headquarters, taking that position after three years as manager of Altec's electronic's division at Lexington, Mass., during the war. Prior to that he was branch manager of the Boston district for several years.

RKO 'Tracy' Tradeshow

RKO Radio will hold advance trade showings of "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" in its New York and Boston exchange offices on Thursday, Nov. 7.

Ticket Numbering

(*Continued from page* 1)

Several equipment companies desire to place a special serial machine in box offices, and if the Government adopted it, every theatre in the country would have it as standard equipment. The ticket dispensers would have cost exhibitors considerable.

Another ticket manufacturer has approached the Bureau with a suggested "code serial system" for tickets. The idea, it is said, was designed to protect the Government. Each ticket would be coded from 1 to 10, but the actual serial number would remain intact in the box office after the ticket is purchased. The proposal actually called for a three-stubbed ticket, one for the patron, one for the ticket-taker, and one for the box-office.

The Treasury reiterated that it will continue the use of the straight serial system, from one to 500,000.

Joins Columbia

(*Continued from page* 1)

will have supervision over all pictures not supervised by Cohn henceforth. Today's addition to the executive cabinet indicates that Roth will take over a portion of the duties formerly performed by Kahane.

LeRoy Won't Direct 'Little Women'

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 31.—David O. Selznick and Mervyn LeRoy jointly announced that the latter's contract to direct "Little Women" for the former has been cancelled due to LeRoy's inability to complete the commitment before directing "The Robe" for RKO Radio, under a prior contract.



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 5	THE THRILL OF BRAZIL Evelyn Keyes Keenan Wynn Ann. Miller M—91 mins. (7006) (Rev. 9/9/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE Frank Morgan Keenan Wynn C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) NO LEAVE, NO LOVE Van Johnson Keenan Wynn C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46) (Re-issue) RAGE IN HEAVEN Ingrid Bergman Robt. Montgomery D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA Joe Kirkwood Elyse Knox D—72 mins. (607) (Rev. 9/24/46)		DRIFTIN' RIVER O BRUTE MAN Tom Neal Jane Adams		(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) (Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46) HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46) STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46) (Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)			CLOAK AND DAGGER Gary Cooper Robert Alda Lilli Palmer D—106 mins. (603) (Rev. 9/9/46)
Oct. 12	SO DARK THE NIGHT Steven Geray D—70 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		DANGEROUS MONEY Sydney Toler D—66 mins. (Rev. 10/11/46)		GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)				Comet Prod. LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)		
Oct. 19	BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Rev. 9/13/46) LAND RUSH (Rev. 9/17/46)				LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby					(October Release) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)				TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean				(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders Louis Hayward		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605) (Rev.10/17/46)
Nov. 2			WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D								
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/45) UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)			HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542)	(Block 2) NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46) GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46) CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46) CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46) DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney (Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color)	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46) MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46) WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)		(Nov. Releases) MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven NOTORIOUS GENTLEMEN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton		SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang				(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett		BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)	STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O				(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—(607)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason										
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd	(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERA-ZADE (Color) Brian Donlevy Yvonne de Carlo TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	
Dec. 14									(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce		

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

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PCA for UK Is Up to British, Johnston Says

He Will Meet With Government Leaders

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 3.—The Motion Picture Association of America does not contemplate appointing a PCA representative or PCA machinery in England—it is up to the British to appoint their own if they wish to create such machinery either here or in Hollywood, MPA president Eric Johnston said in a press conference here at the weekend. Johnston said it would be "impolite" for him to make such an assignment in England. A British representative in Hollywood, he added, could serve in guiding the production of pictures destined for the British market.

Johnston explained the American Production Code and said that, al-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Delay 'Outlaw' Decision

Whether New York State's license for the exhibition of "The Outlaw" will be removed will probably remain unsettled for another three weeks, it was apparent Friday after a second hearing conducted by Dr. Ward C.

(*Continued on page 7*)

White House Meet On Film Program

Washington Nov. 3.—Industry leaders, including production, distribution, exhibition and trade press executives, have been invited to a White House meeting on Nov. 20 to discuss plans for the preparation of a public service film program based on industry and Government co-operation.

Invitations were issued at the weekend by John R. Steelman, director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion. It is understood that representatives of other industries and the Government will participate.

Last of Defendants' Decree Proposals To NY Court Today

The last of the proposals and findings of fact of the defendant companies and interested parties in the New York equity suit will be presented to the New York Federal Court today. The statutory court, comprising Judges Augustus N. Hand, John Bright and Henry W. Goddard, will next undertake to draft the final decree.

Loew's, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount and Warners will jointly submit one set of additional findings. United Artists and Universal each will file separately, proposed decrees. UA will also propose the exemption of road shows from the decree, and Universal will present additionally a memorandum asking the right to enter into product franchise deals with

(*Continued on page 7*)

Call Unions to Meet On New Demands

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 3.—Moves to transform the studio jurisdictional dispute into a wage-hour strike highlighted the weekend with the carpenters' local having abandoned its claim to IATSE set erectors' jobs for the present, and inviting all Hollywood unions to send three representatives each to a meeting last Friday night for the purpose of hearing an explanation of its resolution to demand a 20 per cent wage increase in addition to the 25 per cent received July 2. CSU officials were confident several other unions, including some non-CSU locals, would follow the carpenters' ex-

(*Continued on page 11*)

Garbarino To Head Ontario MPTA in '47

TORONTO, Ont., Nov. 3.—Joseph Garbarino, of the Odeon Theatre, an independent neighborhood exhibitor of Toronto, succeeds Morris Stein, a circuit executive, as president of the Motion Picture Theatres Association of Ontario for 1947, the board of directors discloses.

The Odeon Theatre is distinct from Odeon Theatres of Canada, but C. J. Appel, Eastern division manager of Canadian Odeon, is the new MPTA vice-president. The new general sec-

(*Continued on page 7*)

SOPEG Will Stage Demonstration Here

A "demonstration" will be staged on an unspecified day this week to draw public attention to efforts of the Sreen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, to win wage boosts for employes in the New York exchanges of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Columbia, United Artists and 20th Century-Fox, it was decided Friday evening at a meeting of SOPEG chapter chairmen.

Although the committee is authorized to call a strike to enforce the union's demands, it was uncertain at the weekend that one will be called.

More German Color Is Available: US

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—Many of Germany's secrets in motion picture and still color photography, electronics and communications may be lost to American manufacturers and businessmen unless they send investigators to Germany in the near future, John C. Green, director of the office of technical services of the Department of Commerce, declares.

Green warns that the possible signing of a peace treaty and the return to more normal conditions in Germany will probably mean an end to American industrial investigations. "If American manufacturers wish to take advantage of the unprecedented opportunity to study all of Germany's techniques and equipment," he said, "they should play safe and plan to complete their investigations within the next six months."

"In the field of color photography," he pointed out, "a large collection of original Agfa laboratory records and research reports, as well as details on the machinery used in processing Agfa color film, have not yet been evaluated or studied by American experts."

National's Pension Plan Functioning

National Theatres' retirement program, described as the first to be started in the industry, already has begun to function, Charles P. Skouras, president of National, discloses, in a statement released by the New York office. Eleven employees already are

(*Continued on page 7*)

Urges Action On Monopoly In UK Films

Films Council Cites Its Warning of July, 1944

LONDON, Nov. 3. — The Cinematograph Films Council, a governmental group, urged the government at the weekend to speedily announce its intentions towards the British film monopoly report presented by the Council in July, 1944, in which it was declared that there is a definite tendency toward monopoly in the British industry. The demand is contained in the Council's annual report, submitted at the weekend.

The Council further demands that the government "stimulate production of more first-class British films by all possible means," the Council regarding that aim as a matter of prime urgency. It also recommends

(*Continued on page 7*)

Union Hits In Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 3.—Disturbed theatre executives here spent the weekend mapping plans to deal with the "white-collar" workers union which is now being organized under the wing of the "TA" operators union here. The projectionists cut off the sound in film programs for 15 minutes Thursday night in all Essaness and Balaban and

(*Continued on page 7*)

Royal Performance Draws Record Crowd

LONDON, Nov. 3.—The command performance featuring Hollywood and British film stars at Metro's Empire Theatre on Friday night drew the largest and most tumultuous crowd to

(*Continued on page 7*)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Nov. 5, Election Day, a legal holiday.**

Personal Mention

NATE SPINGOLD, Columbia home office executive, left New York for the Coast on Friday.

•

SAM WEISMAN of the Warner advertising art staff, and VIVIAN NELNICK, until recently a member of the Warner publicity department, will be married Nov. 10 in the Roosevelt Synagogue, Bronx.

•

JOHN FARROW, Paramount director, has received a citation for distinguished service during the war from the British Ministry of War Transport. He was a commander in the British Royal Canadian Navy during the war.

•

BART SHERIDAN, Vanguard Films magazine editor, returned to the Coast over the weekend after spending several weeks in New York.

•

WILLIAM B. ZOELLNER, head of M-G-M's reprints and importations, has returned to New York from a Southern trip.

•

RUDY BERGER, Southern M-G-M sales manager, arrived here yesterday from Washington to spend a week at home office conferences.

•

LEO HANDEL, head M-G-M's audience research, left here Saturday for Saturday for Havana; he will return on Thursday.

•

RICHARD O. FLEISCHER, RKO Radio director, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

W. C. DEVRY, president of the DeVry Corp., Chicago, has returned there from Hollywood.

•

MYRNA LOY and her husband, GENE MARKEY, will arrive in New York today from the Coast.

•

BEN MELNIKER and GEORGE SHARF of M-G-M's legal department, are back in New York from Memphis.

•

WALTER BROOKS, assistant to H. M. RICHEY at M-G-M, returned here from a trip to Des Moines.

•

DAVID ROSE, producer, left for the Coast Friday afternoon.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN will arrive here today from the Coast.

Half-Day Tomorrow In Film Home Offices

All but two of film company home offices here will close at one P.M. tomorrow, Election Day. The two are Republic, which will close at four P.M., and PRC, which will remain open all day.

The New York offices of the Motion Picture Association will also close at one.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

PERHAPS it was never *Fortune* magazine's intention to be helpful when it set about writing the story of Hollywood labor which appears in its current issue. But toward the end of the article some serious statements are made, some positive conclusions are set forth and some outright editorializing creeps into what would otherwise be a fairly good picture, for laymen, of the complex ramifications of the divided empire of studio labor.

It is when *Fortune's* writers stop being reporters and begin giving advice that they become contradictory and even a little foolish looking.

For instance, on page 154 we find these statements: "most of these (studio) union members draw down the highest average salaries paid by any industry in the world. Carpenters and painters, for example, are paid $2.25 an hour by the movies. Average wage outside the industry in the Los Angeles area is $1.65."

On Page 225 we read: "It even appears that the studios themselves are well satisfied with a pattern of relatively lower wages for more workers when they should be working to arrive at a formula for paying relatively higher wages to relatively fewer workers."

How Hollywood can appear to be partisan to lower wages for more workers while paying the highest average salaries of any industry in the world is something *Fortune's* writers do not bother to explain.

•

At another point, the *Fortune* writers assert that, "Should another depression hit the industry, management would be partially responsible for sitting on top of an industry loaded with all kinds of excess cost, including labor cost." And again, it is charged that "they (the studios) tend to magnify jurisdictional problems by their present program of playing the IATSE against the CSU."

Match that with this from the same article: "Bill Hutcheson of the carpenters, and L. P. Lindelof of the painters, both feel that their industrial crafts have a historic, rightful place in movies. They feel this way in spite of the resistance they have met from the IATSE. Thus the real strength of the CSU is contributed by the carpenters' and painters' locals."

With that for background, it is difficult to see how the *Fortune* writers could come to the conclusion that there was any need for the studios to play the IA against CSU.

•

Again, the *Fortune* writers proclaim: "A spirit of unholy deadlock will prevail in Hollywood so long as the two prime irresponsibles, the major studios and the A.F. of L. executive council, let things drift. What seems to be lacking on both sides is a realization of their mutually deadlocked strength. . . . It appears that the studios will never possess a happy technique of labor relations until they consider the economic nature of their job."

These charges of having let things drift, of failing to consider the economic aspect of the task, are hardly in accord with what the *Fortune* writers report earlier in their article, to wit: "When he (Eric Johnston) first signed with Hollywood, he was optimistic about the possibilities of labor peace in movies. Now he is reportedly not so optimistic. When Donald Nelson arrived to head the SIMPP, he was sure that his labor calendar would be no more tangled than his days as chief of the WPB. Now he is not so sure. Over at the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, Isaac Chadwick, who started producing movies in 1908, has never been sanguine."

Fortune should know you don't get that way from not trying.

• •

The increased popularity of British pictures in the home land is actual, not just wishful thinking or overenthusiastic reports by the British industry. A confidential five-year report which was compiled recently in England presents the irrefutable evidence in playing time.

In consequence of the developments in British exhibition, some distribution executives here are estimating that a decline in British revenue within the near future will aggregate as much as 20 per cent. That's a real bite when it is remembered that England contributed as much as 60 per cent of the industry's entire foreign revenue in recent years. However, business prospects in Continental Europe and Asia are brighter today than they were immediately before the war.

Newsreel Parade

THE United Nations Assembly continues to appear in all current newsreels. Featured also, are the anniversary of the victory of El Alamein, and a motorcycle race in Austria. Human interest, sports, history-making, and fashion items round out the reels; complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 19—U. S. and Soviet debate disarmament at U. S. Assembly. End of maratime strike starts goods flowing. Churchill joins ace. Army "vets" celebrating El Alamein victory anniversary in London. Fighting corvettes converted to little, luxury liners. Sports flashes: 13-year old boy hasn't had a haircut in 11 years. Fishing paradise on Australia Coast. Spills and thrills in Austrian motorcycle race.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 217—U. N., in assembly, faces crises over arms and the atom bomb. Speed thrills in Austrian motorcycle marathon. Latest fur fashions displayed at New York show.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 217—Motorcycle derby in Austria, U. N., Assembly in clash of words over armaments. Boy hasn't had hair cut in 11 years. Daluege, Nazi massacre henchman, executed for Lidice guilt. Football: New York Giants defeat Chicago Bears, 14-0.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 22—Churchill and Gen. Montgomery observe victory date of El Alamein. Molotov and Austin discuss disarmament at U N Assembly. President Truman names Atomic Commission, Washington. Excitement in Austrian motorcycle race.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 551—Soviet's U. N. disarmament proposals answered at Assembly. Army seals vehicles in storage at Mr. Rainer Ordnance Depot, near Tacoma, Washington. El Alamein victory anniversary marked in London. Sports: Ice hockey at Madison Square Garden, Boston Bruins and New York Rangers tie 3-3. Football: New York Giants vs. Chicago Bears.

Columbia-Gene Autry Deal Seen Imminent

The likelihood that Gene Autry, Western singing star, will soon shift from Republic, where he has been under contract continuously since 1934, to Columbia, appeared at the weekend, when Columbia vice-president Jack Cohn disclosed here that discussions looking toward a signing of Autry by his company are currently in progress.

Republic executives, here, said they were without information on the matter, but stated that the cowboy star is under contract to make two more pictures for Republic. Autry is at present in Boston participating in a rodeo show.

Autry was voted top money-making Western star in the *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* exhibitor polls in 1940, 1941 and 1942. His screen career was interrupted in 1942 when he enlisted in the Army air transport command. When the war ended he returned to Republic.

Cohan Anniversary

Mrs. George M. Cohan and family announce arrangements for a fourth anniversary Mass in memory of George M. Cohan tomorrow, at nine A.M., in the Lady Chapel of St. Patrick's.

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From the Heart of the South
To the Heart of the World!

World Premiere
of

WALT DISNEY'S
"SONG OF THE SOUTH"

In Technicolor

FOX THEATRE, ATLANTA

Tuesday November 12

Walt Disney

presents

AN EPOCHAL EVENT IN SCREEN HISTORY

SONG OF THE SOUTH

His first live-action feature... a great musical drama in Technicolor including animated tales of

UNCLE REMUS



RUTH WARRICK
LUANA PATTEN
BOBBY DRISCOLL

What this new Disney musical drama is like:

For the first time Walt Disney turns his talents to the creation of a full-length live-action picture. Photographed in Technicolor, it's a wonderfully romantic musical drama of the Old South. You'll meet new stars—Bobby Driscoll, Luana Patten, James Baskett and a host of others—you'll hear 10 new song hits, including "Everybody's Got a Laughing Place."



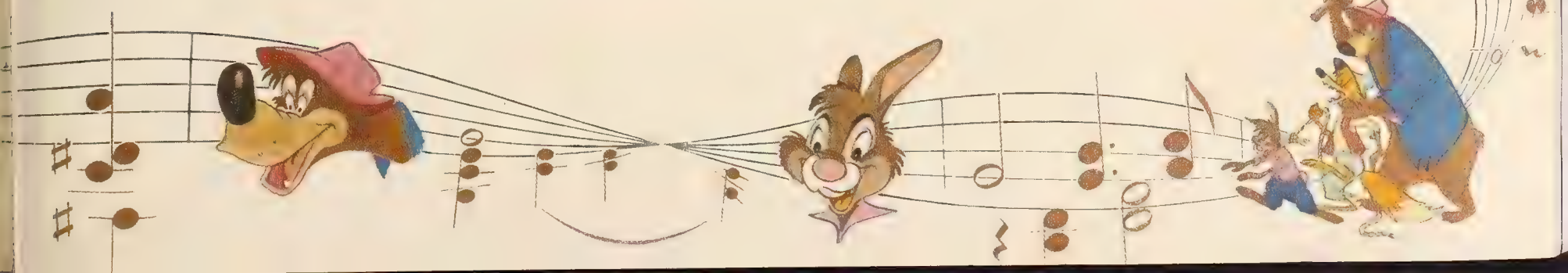


SPECIAL NOTE:

This spread is a reproduction of a two-page, four-color national magazine ad. See page four of this insert for list of publications.

Delightfully woven into the real-life story are the famous tales of Uncle Remus—told in typical Disney fashion. These are among the funniest episodes ever to appear on a screen—thanks to your new friends, Br'er Rabbit, Br'er Fox and Br'er Bear. "Song of the South" is an unforgettably heart-warming picture you'll want to see as soon as it arrives.

Released through RKO Radio Pictures.



BIGGEST ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN IN ALL DISNEY-RKO HISTORY!

Blasting the big-circulation magazines with a two-page spread in four colors*: following up with a single page in four colors**: hitting again with ads in black and white*** —additionally thundering with four-color ads in 75 of the biggest Sunday newspaper magazines and supplements in the country****—A MILLION DOLLARS' WORTH OF PRE-SELL... saturating America with one of the most comprehensive campaigns on record!

TERRIFIC ADVANCE EXPLOITATION, including the most intensive and widespread music promotion ever devised.—Complete score and individual songs recorded by top name bands and singers, and prepared for national plugging via radio, juke box, window display, etc....with at least 30 recordings set by such companies as Decca, Victor, Columbia, Capitol, Majestic, Cosmo and others!



WALT DISNEY'S

SONG OF THE SOUTH

IN TECHNICOLOR

*The two-page spread in four colors appears in Life, Look, Collier's, Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, Redbook and Fan Magazines.—**The one-page in four colors appears in Life, Look, Collier's, Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, Redbook and Fan Magazines.—***The black and white ads appear in Life, Look, Collier's, Saturday Evening Post, Liberty, Redbook and Fan List.—****American Weekly, This Week, Parade, and independent supplements in cities not covered by foregoing.

PCA for UK

(*Continued from page* 1)

though the British and Americans speak the same language, differences exist in idiomatic expression. He said he is convinced, however, that the films of both nations demand common standards of decency.

Johnston disclosed that during his stay here he plans to meet with Eu[illegible]'s governmental leaders and par[illegible]larly with religious leaders with a view toward gaining an understanding of the new slant that has come over the world's philosophy in war's shambles. He has, he said, appointments to meet British industry leader J. Arthur Rank, other film chieftains, the trade union congress heads and T. J. O'Brien of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees.

British Disputes

Impressed with the manner in which the British unions settle studio jurisdictional disputes, Johnston said he is convinced that peace will not come to Hollywood until a similar democratic approach is exhibited. He said he is convinced also, however, that legal action will have to be invoked as an ultimate resort if democratic methods remain unused.

Johnston denied that British films are too sordid for America, and added that Joseph I. Breen, American Production Code Administrator, made a "most useful" report on his recent British trip.

Drama, he said, is perhaps the most popular type of British film in the U. S. But, he added, "Henry V," with its special exploitation, is the best example of an American reception given to British films. Johnston described "Stairway to Heaven," British film, which he saw in New York, as an inevitable American success.

The MPA chief prophesied that Britain will take more than $10,000,000 in film rentals from America within the next year.

Television

He said he foresees an enormous development in television within five years, but is convinced television will not oust motion pictures. Each medium nevertheless will stimulate and augment the other, he believes.

Johnston said a trip to Germany, including the Russian zone, will be included in his trip to the Continent. He said he will not, however, make a trip to the Soviet Union. He will return to America by way of North Africa early in December. He concluded the conference by saying he advocates motion pictures having a place in the international scene and welcomed Britain's pictures in America, saying that Britain is ever in the forefront of the world's commerce.

National's Pension

(*Continued from page* 1)

receiving annunity checks.

These employees include a district manager, three theatre managers, a poster artist and office employees, and are scattered among such subsidiaries of National as Fox West Coast Theatres, Evergreen Amusement, Fox Intermountain and Fox Midwest.

Favorable personnel reaction to the program, instituted by Skouras, is evidenced in letters to him.

Johnston to Revisit Europe in Spring

London, Nov. 3.—Again describing his present trip to Europe as "primarily exploratory," Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston said at the weekend that he plans to return here in April, 1947, equipped with a more definite program.

Johnston explained that his current visit is primarily concerned with MPA problems, but that he expects to be preoccupied additionally with ascertaining the world's trading potentialities.

Chicago Unionists

(*Continued from page* 1)

Katz theatres and two Warner houses, the Avalon and Capitol.

A fourth circuit, the Schoenstadt Circuit, was also involved in the "sound strike" here Thursday night with the huge 2,500-seat Picadilly Theatre also devoid of sound for a 15-minute period.

Both Eugene Atkinson, business agent, and Clarence Jalas, secretary, were "out to lunch" when the MOTION PICTURE DAILY called to get a statement from the union. One report, unconfirmed, was that a plan was being evolved here to ask Richard F. Walsh, IATSE president, to quash any further "demonstrations" likely to damage theatre business.

Some patrons walked out during Thursday night's "sound strike" and the few who did were given their admission prices back.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY previously, Eugene Atkinson, business agent of the projectionists union, and organizer of the new "white-collar" outfit demands increases from 65 cents to $2.75 hourly. He said projectionists would strike if the terms are not net. The sound interruption apparently served as a notice of more drastic action.

Court Upholds Blums Goldman Loses Hous

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3.—William Goldman Theatres, Inc., must surrender title to the 69th Street Theatre and the Killegarry Apartments, Upper Darby, to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Blum, of Philadelphia, according to a ruling by U. S. District Judge William H. Kirkpatrick. Goldman paid $678,500 for the property last January, but Kirkpatrick upheld the Blums' contention that they had a prior right to the purchase from the estate of Patrick J. Caler since they made a deal with the estate last Dec. 14, to make the purchase for $603,500. The estate broke the agreement when Goldman offered $75,000 more.

Kirkpatrick also directed that judgment be entered for the Blums and asked $100,000 damages but he did not specify the amount they are to get. Blum owns the Stonehurst theatre in Stonehurst and the Sedgewick Theatre in North Philadelphia.

Honor Parks, Keyes

Columbia will hold a reception this afternoon at Louis Sherry's in honor of Larry Parks and Evelyn Keyes, leads in "The Jolson Story."

'Outlaw' Decision

(*Continued from page* 1)

Bowen, acting director of the motion picture division of the Education department.

Arguments presented Friday by United Artists and Hughes Productions focused on the question of the exploitation material for the Hughes picture. Benjamin Fielding, city license commissioner, who presented his position on the previous Friday, contended that the film's license should be rescinded because advertising matter for "The Outlaw" is "obscene, indecent and immoral."

Dr. Bowen, with whom the decision rests, announced that no further hearings will be held, but both sides will have a week in which to file exchange affidavits on issues of fact, and then an additional week each to present briefs.

Remarking that a request for revocation of a film's license in the state because of its exploitation was unprecedented as far as he could learn, Dr. Bowen said that the broader issues of censorship and licensing were not raised by either party. He added that how soon his decision would be forthcoming depends upon whether the disputants would exercise the full three weeks in submitting formal arguments and affidavits and also upon the size of the documents and their legal ramifications.

Section 1090 of the state law which established the motion picture division provides for revocation of a film's license if "any poster, banner or other similar advertising matter" is judged to be "obscene, indecent, immoral, inhuman, sacrilegious or of such character that its exhibition would tend to corrupt morals or incite to crime."

Royal Performance

(*Continued from page* 1)

Leicester Square here since V-E Day. An estimated 50,000 people were on hand to welcome members of the royal family and the stars and completely overwhelmed the big force of mounted and foot police on duty in the Square.

The benefit performance for the Cinematograph Trade Benevolent Fund produced $120,000, including admission receipts and sale of programs, and more is anticipated. It was an all-time record for a performance of any description here. The program consisted of the stage show, "Cavalcade of the Movies," featuring Hollywood, British, Swedish and French stars and showing motion picture history from Keystone days to the present, and the Michael Powell-Arnold Pressburger film, "Stairway to Heaven."

All of the stars participating and the industry leaders present were presented to the King and Queen. The latter warmly congratulated Val Guest, producer of the stage show, and Reginald Bromhead, president of the Benevolent Fund and organizer of the performance. The American stars participating included Pat O'Brien, Ray Milland and Joan Bennett.

Plan 'Pioneers' Dinner

Final plans for the annual "Harvest Dinner" of the Picture Pioneers on Nov. 20 will be formulated by the executive committee in charge here late this week. The group also will pass upon 30 new membership applications.

Demand Monopoly

(*Continued from page* 1)

in this connection that the government provide the necessary priorities for a speedy reinstatement of derequisitioned studio space, noting that since the end of World War II, $5-000,000 of other projects have been licensed.

The Council declared it is impressed with the improvement in the quality of British films, but it stresses that the bulk of available studio space here is occupied either by combines or by American productions. "A first-rate British film not made for these distributors has no assurance of a top booking by a major circuit," it was said.

The report further visualizes a danger to British films in the control of any British circuit passing to American hands resulting in the reservation of top-feature playing time to foreign (American) films, the same American producers using their studio space here to produce British pictures of indifferent quality.

The Council notes a "disquieting" increase in the number of British "featurettes"—films barely exceeding 3,000 feet, made to qualify for quota requirements.

Decree Proposals

(*Continued from page* 1)

exhibitors. Columbia will not file any additional documents.

Exemption of road shows also will be asked by Vanguard Films in its role of *amicus curiae*. Constituting the last exhibitor action in the case, for the time being at least, the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America will present to the court a memorandum defining its position in regard to the defendants' proposal of the somerun substitute to competitive selling.

Garbarino Heads

(*Continued from page* 1)

retary is H. C. D. Main of Listowel, Ont.; E. S. Meehan, Lindsay, Ont., is treasurer, and Arch H. Jolley will continue as executive secretary on a full-time basis.

Ernest Fredman to Be Guest of Ampa

Ernest W. Fredman, managing editor of the *Daily Film Renter*, London, now visiting here, will be the guest of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers at its luncheon-meeting Thursday at the Town Hall Club, here. Rutgers Neilson will preside at the meeting and Leon J. Bamberger will be master of ceremonies.

Jackson, Collier Crash

MEMPHIS, Nov. 3.—B. F. Jackson, 34, manager of the Delta Theatre at Releville, Miss., and C. H. Collier, 42, owner of the Globe Theatre at Drew, Miss., were injured when the light airplane they were flying crashed near Drew, Miss., at the weekend. Collier, who holds a private pilot's license, was at the controls of the plane, which was badly damaged. The two were taken to Methodist Hospital, Memphis.



From the author of "LEAVE HER TO HEAVEN".



This is the art for the full page ad that will hold the attention of 90,000,000 readers of the national magazines!

...nd headed for the same record-making grosses!

HUNT STROMBERG

presents

HEDY LAMARR

in

"The Strange Woman"

co-starring

George SANDERS · Louis HAYWARD

with

HILLARY BROOKE · GENE LOCKHART · JUNE STOREY

RHYS WILLIAMS · Produced by JACK CHERTOK

Directed by EDGAR ULMER · Screenplay by HERB MEADOW

Based on the novel "The Strange Woman" by BEN AMES WILLIAMS

A Hunt Stromberg Production

UA

Rose's Mason Deal Is Exclusive, for 10

David Rose, independent producer who was formerly managing director of Paramount in England, discloses that his 50-50 partnership arrangement with James Mason, British star, is a five-year exclusive contract to star him in two pictures a year.

The producer, who left for Hollywood Friday, has been consulting with executives of several of "majors" for a distribution tie-up on the projected Mason productions. Distribution arrangements, however, will not be concluded until Mason arrives here from London within the next two weeks.

Mason is finishing work on "The Upturned Glass" for which he and his wife wrote the script, and he recently completed "The Odd Man Out" under the direction of Carol Reed, a film about the Irish revolution.

Remarking that British product is increasing in quality, Rose pointed out that one of the principal difficulties confronting British pictures in the American market has been the comparative unfamiliarity of the American public with the stars. However, he noted, British producers are beginning to understand American culture, tastes, habits, style of humor. "I expect that the change which has taken place in British product during the past few years will continue to show itself to a greater degree from here on," Rose said.

Furthermore, he declared, British companies are working day and night and now have about 26 films prepared for release or in production. British studios have not been beset by any major labor troubles, he observed, any difficulties that have arisen having been amicably settled. Britain expects to turn out about 75 "A" pictures during the next 12 months, Rose said.

Start Erecting Sign For 'Razor's Edge'

The first 12-foot-high letters spelling out the names of the stars in Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge" have been hoisted up to the 150-by-90-foot sign being erected by 20th Century-Fox atop the Schrafft Building at 43rd Street and Broadway, here. So great were the crowds of "sidewalk superintendents" that the police found themselves with a traffic problem on their hands.

The huge sign, which is electrically animated, has two sides covering a width of 150 feet and a height of 90 feet and will be largest electric sign currently in use on Broadway. An elaborate ceremony is planned for next week when the sign will be finished and illuminated for the first time. It will herald the world premiere of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre, November 19.



Nickel Candy Most Popular in Theatres

Washington, Nov. 3.—Manufacturers of theatre candy report that the most popular types are bar goods, five and ten cent specialties, and penny goods, in that order, according to the Commerce Department.

In a report on candy sales made today, the Department said that patrons of the Northeast region consumed more package candy goods, "Aristocrats" of the candy trade. The study was made by George Dudik, who acquired data from 60 per cent of the candy manufacturers of all types of sales in the United States.

'Woman' Booked to Protect 'Duel' Date

With only a three-day buildup, Hunt Stromberg's "The Strange Woman" will have its world premiere at the Astor Theatre, here, tomorrow. United Artists, distributor of the production, made the decision on Friday. It succeeds "Caesar and Cleopatra," J. Arthur Rank picture, also a UA release.

Two candidates to follow "Strange Woman" at the Astor are the UA-Selznick "Duel in the Sun," and the RKO-Radio-Goldwyn "The Best Years of Our Lives," with UA considered to have the edge for "Duel," which, with "Caesar" and "Strange Woman," would give the company that Broadway showcase for its product over the greater portion of a year.

"Duel" has been announced as a Christmas opener for the Astor, but if Goldwyn's "Best Years" succeeds in getting an Astor booking ahead of it, following "Strange Woman," the Selznick production would probably face a delay. Although "Caesar" had not run its full box-office course, it is understood that that British film could not hold out long enough to protect a Christmas opening for "Duel." Thus UA's sudden decision to pull "Caesar" for a quick dating of "Strange Woman," with the anticipation that the latter film will run to Christmas.

Samuel Goldwyn will arrive in New York today to look into a world premiere booking for his "Best Years."

Strikes Here Delay Films for Soldiers

U. S. truck and shipping strikes held up shipment of motion picture film to the European theatre in recent weeks, according to Army Theatre Special Services, here, but shipments are expected to be normal shortly as the strikes are settled.

No shipments of 16mm. or 35mm. film reached the European theatre last week and the film backlog is now five shipments behind on 16mm. film, and three shipments on 35mm.

Philco's New Plant Starts

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3. — Phico announces that radio-phonograph production has started on a partial basis in the firm's nearly completed $2,250,000 new radio-television plant here.

Rank Story Editor Prefers Originals

The J. Arthur Rank Organization depends on original stories for 40 per cent of its production, Miss Pat Wallace, head of Rank's story department, disclosed here on Friday. She is here from London. Of the approximately 40 features a year produced, contemporary novels make up 30 per cent, with novels in the public domain accounting for 20 per cent, and contemporary plays, 10 per cent.

Costume pictures do much better in England than in the U. S., Miss Wallace admitted, which fact accounted for an increase of Shakespearean plays for the screen as well as other classic works, she said. Declaring that the Britisher is more interested in the story itself, rather than a "name" in the cast, she admitted that the story market was "not too rich" for her purposes.

The daughter of the late Edgar Wallace, mystery writer, Miss Wallace will stay in New York during her two-week trip to "catch up" on plays and other possible sources of story material. She said that a Rank New York story office was not contemplated at present, but that the matter would come before studio officials upon her return to England on the *Queen Elizabeth*, on Nov. 14.

Five Promotions at NBC on the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 3. — Personnel changes in National Broadcasting's Western division have been effected by Sidney N. Stortz, vice-president of the division, as follows:

Lewis S. Frost becomes supervisor of all operations in Hollywood and San Francisco; Robert V. Brown is now Western network program manager; Wendell K. Williams shifts from San Francisco to assistant program manager and manager of package sales in Hollywood; Harry Bubeck is transferred from Chicago to program manager in San Francisco; Robert E. Howard is promoted to the national sales department.

Television Groups to Meet Here on Jan. 7

Annual meeting of the Television Broadcasters Association will be held on Jan. 7 at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here. Election of directors is slated to be followed by a board meeting to name new officers.

233 ABC Affiliates

American Broadcasting has added four more stations to its network, bringing its total to 233. The additions, all mountain supplementary units, are KOAT, Albuquerque; KTRC, Santa Fe; KGAK, Gallup, and KFUN, Las Vegas, all in New Mexico.

Video Minimum Stays

WASHINGTON, Nov. 3.—The Federal Communications Commission will continue its waiver of the 28-hour minimum operating rule for commercial television stations to December 31.

New CBS Coast Station

San Diego's new station, KSDJ, will begin operation on Nov. 8 as a Columbia Broadcasting affiliate.

Mexican Producers Map Economy Drive

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 3.—Reductions in production and production costs are being effected by front-line companies, but secondary figures in the Mexican industry are planning to set up co-operative production units, hoping thereby to assume a greater role in the industry.

With reduction of films scheduled by the big companies for 1947, the smaller companies predict an opportunity for their own product and, therefore, for themselves. Clasa Films Mundiales, for example, is holding next year's output to six pictures.

Retrenchment

As a retrenchment to avoid having pictures frozen for indefinite periods, as is the case with some productions, major companies have decided to concentrate on pictures that are sure to pay their way, rather than take chances on the Mexican or foreign markets with dubious pictures. Heads of the companies express confidence that, due to this program, those who have predicted that 1947 will see the bankruptcy of the Mexican film business, will be disappointed.

The program has, however, incurred the displeasure of the two big film labor unions—the National Cinematographic Industry Workers, which counts among its members directors and other technicians as well as laborers; and the Picture Production Workers whose members include players, scenarists, and others. Retrenchment, these unions fear, will create extensive unemployment, a factor which generates additional support for the cooperative venture.

Connors Trophy Goes To Philadelphia

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 3.—Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution of 20th Century-Fox, will personally present the "Tom Connors Championship Trophy" to the Philadelphia exchange at a dinner-dance to be held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel, here, tomorrow. Branch Manager Sam Gross will accept the trophy on behalf of the branch, which won the trophy for finishing first on a 52-week total delivery in the 1945-46 season. In the past, the trophy has been won by Minneapolis, Los Angeles, Charlotte and Omaha exchanges.

Among home office executives who will attend the dinner are general sales manager William J. Kupper, Eastern sales manager A. W. Smith, Jr., and Roger Ferri. Also present will be district manager C. E. Peppiatt.

Kamins Joins Lasky As Ad Director

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 3.—Bernie Kamins has joined Jesse Lasky Productions as director of publicity and advertising. Kamins was first a newspaper correspondent and his publicity experience was gained first with Russell Birdwell and Associates, and then as a unit man at the Paramount studios. Later he was director of advertising and publicity for Harry Sherman Productions and for Charles R. Rogers. He wrote the screen story for "The Forty Thieves" and was co-author of "The Sky Princess."

Call All Unions

(*Continued from page* 1)

ample.

First reaction to the carpenters' invitation came from SAG's executive committee, which formally signified its objection to injecting new wage demands at this time, and pointing out that all unions had agreed last July 2 to make no new wage demands until January. It rejected the carpenters' invitation.

The carpenters' contention is that, OLD the contracts which passed last December still have not been renegotiated, and the date for their reopening to implement the living-cost increase clause in the interim agreement is only two months away, a 20 per cent increase should be instituted now instead of waiting, due to the recent upsurge in living costs.

Other meetings over the weekend included a carpenter membership meeting to vote on the resolution, with affirmation a foregone conclusion: another meeting by IATSE Laboratory Workers Local, branded "illegal" by international officers who last week suspended the local's executives: and CSU all-union mass meeting Sunday night.

Routine Picketing

Routine picketing continued to the weekend, with laboratories still drastically affected by IATSE international officers' failure to compel the majority of laboratory workers to cross picket lines.

Joseph Keenan, nominated last week for chairmanship of the jurisdictional arbitration board, is due to arrive in Hollywood today to study the proposition before accepting the post.

WQXQ Facsimile Tests

FM station WQXQ, New York, owned by the New York *Times*, has placed orders with the General Electric Co. for transmitting and receiving equipment to enable experimental tests of facsimile broadcasting techniques in the metropolitan area. According to reports, the tests will be made early in 1947.

Flood in New Post

ATLANTA, Nov. 3.—John Flood, office manager for Paramount in Indianapolis, has been transferred to the Atlanta office in the same capacity, replacing C. Johnson, resigned. Sidney Otis, former sales representative in New Orleans for Paramount has been transferred to the Florida zone, replacing Jack Price, resigned.

$4,453,265 Mexico Loan

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 3. — The industry received $4,453,265 in the form of loans, credits and discounts this year up to July 31 from its own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, S. A., of which Jose L. Campos is manager, according to a report here.

New Birmingham 1st Run

ATLANT, Nov. 3.—Abe Borisky, former owner of Independent Theatres, Chattanooga, has purchased the Pantages Theatre in Birmingham, and after improvements he will open about Dec. 1 with first-run pictures and name bands.

Fire Destroys Colusa

SACRAMENTO, Cal., Nov. 3.—Fire burned through the Colusa Theatre building, causing damage estimated by its owners, N. C. Steele and son, at $125,000.

Loew International Gets 7 Theatres

Expansion of the worldwide theatre interests of Loew's International by the construction of four theatres, and the acquisition and remodeling of three, all in Latin America, to provide outlets for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer product was announced here at the weekend by Morton A. Spring, vice-president of Loew's International.

The theatres are or will be located in Valparaiso, Chile; Barranquilla, and two in Bogota, both in Colombia; Rosario and Buenos Aires, in Argentina, and at Recife, in Brazil. Spring emphasized that Loew's International is adhering to its policy of owning and operating theatres only in those cities where no suitable outlet for M-G-M product exists.

Developments in the expansion of Loew theatre holdings in Europe await the return of Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International, who is now in that territory.

MPEA a Partner In Hague Theatre

The Asta Theatre in The Hague has been awarded to the N. V. National Cinema Enterprise of Holland, a company owned jointly by Dutch financial interests and member companies of the Motion Picture Export Association, it was announced here Friday by Francis S. Harmon, MPEA vice president, following receipt of cable advice from Amsterdam.

MPEA Paris Meet Deferred to Nov. 10

PARIS, Nov. 3.—First overseas conference of the Motion Picture Export Association, originally set to begin here today, has been postponed to Nov. 10-14. Irving Maas, MPEA, vice-president, now in London from New York, will be here to preside.

TriangleProductions, Pickford Unit Title

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 3.—Triangle Productions, Inc., has been selected as the name of the Mary Pickford—Buddy Rogers—Ralph Cohn company which will produce two high-budget features next year for release through United Artists.

Video Firm's Officers

Officials of Video Associates, Inc., formerly Video Productions Associates, television packaging agency, have been announced as follows: Philip Brodsky, president; Miriam Tulin, chairman of the board; Barbara E. Jones, vice president and director in charge of scripts, and Elizabeth Mott Lee, secretary and head of the talent department.

Western Pa. Meet Today

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 3.—Directors of Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania will meet today at the William Penn Hotel here. A general meeting of the organization is slated for Nov. 25-26.

Wilschke Promoted By Altec Service

E. O. Wilschke, formerly assistant to the vice-president, has been appointed operations supervisor of Altec Service Corp., by H. M. Bessey, vice-president. Wilschke will head headquarters technical operations and engineering and will also act as liaison between Bessey and Altec district offices. Reporting to Wilschke will be E. S. Seeley as chief engineer and Martin Bender as commercial engineer.

Seeley will carry on research and development in connection with field service problems, which involve design and development of new test equipment and associated apparatus, as well as field modifications for the improvements of various types of theatre equipment. Reporting to Seeley as operating supervisors will be T. H. Carpenter and L. J. Patton.

'Edge's' Trademark

Norman Rockwell's full-length portrait of Tyrone Power, surrounded by heads of Gene Tierney, John Payne, Anne Baxter, Clifton Webb and Herbert Marshall, will highlight the extensive advertising campaign for Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge," 20th Centurl-Fox, which will have its world premiere at the Roxy, here, on Nov. 19.

M. P. Associates Elect

PHILADELPHIA Nov. 3.—At the annual meeting of the Motion Picture Associates, this month, the following officers were elected: Lester Wurtele, Columbia, president; Bill Doyle, Universal, vice-president; Willie Cohen, 20th-Fox, treasurer; Moe Koppelman, National Screen, secretary.

Bronx Circuit Hit By Managers Strike

Picket lines were established Friday night in front of six theatres of combined Bronx Amusements, Inc. by the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, to enforce demands for recognition and for reinstatement of three managers allegedly discharged for union activity.

George Dunn, president of the guild, in announcing that the membership had voted to call a strike, declared that picket lines would be maintained. Theatres hit are the Allerton, Beach, Craft, Melba, and Park, all of the Bronx, and the Alpine, Manhattan.

Charging that the company has been conducting "a campaign of intimidation and coercion" against members of the union, the guild head declared: "We are determined to take every step necessary to compel the company to recognize the rights of the men."

The union has petitioned the New York State Labor Relations board for an election, contending that the company had interfered with employes' efforts to organize and join a labor organization.

Representatives of Combined Bronx Amusements were not available for comment.

Press to Disney Premiere

ATLANTA, Nov. 3.—A group of 35 Southern newspapermen will arrive in Atlanta about Nov. 10 to attend the world premiere at the Fox Theatre of Walt Disney's "Song of the South," adaptation of Joel Chandler Harris' "Uncle Remus" stories.



Labor Trouble Sends Filming To a Low of 39

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 3. — Production, which reached a seven-months low last week, with only 41 features shooting, continued to contract under the restrictive influences, direct and indirect, of the Conference of Studio Unions' strike against studios. With eight pictures taken to cutting rooms, and only six started, the over-all figure came down to 39, as follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Law of the Canyon," "The Hunter is a Fugitive."

Shooting: "Millie's Daughter, "The Lady from Shanghai," "Twin Sombreros," "They Walk Alone," "The Guilt of Janet Ames."

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love," "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Started: "Undercover Maisie," with Ann Sothern, Barry Nelson, Mark Daniels, Bill Phillips, Leon Ames, Dick Simmons.

Shooting: "The Personal Touch," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "Unfinished Dance," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Finished: "It Happened on Fifth Avenue."

Paramount

Shooting: "Variety Girl," "The Big Haircut," "Desert Town" (Wallis); "Unconquered" (DeMille).

PRC

Finished: "The Corpse Came Calling."

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Banjo," "The Bachelor and the Bobby-Soxer."

Started: "Build My Gallows High," with Robert Mitchum, Jane Greer, Richard Webb; "Thunder Mountain," with Tim Holt, Martha Hyer, Dick Martin, Steve Brodie.

Shooting: "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Web of Danger."

Started: "Gallant Man," with Don Ameche, Catherine McLeod, Roscoe Karns.

20th Century-Fox

Started: "My Mother Wore Tights," with Betty Grable, Dan Daily, Jr., Connie Marshall, Mona Freeman.

Shooting: "Boomerang."

United Artists

Started: "Personal Column" (Stromberg), with George Sanders, Lucille Ball, Sir Cedric Hardwicke.

Shooting: "Red River" (Monterey); "New Orleans" (Levey); "Vendetta" (California); "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); "Who Killed Doc Robin?" (Roach).

Universal-International

Finished: "I'll Be Yours."

Shooting: "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night Unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed."

Reviews

"The Strange Woman"

(Hunt Stromberg—United Artists)

HEDY LAMARR, in a stand-out portrayal in "The Strange Woman," provides an insight into the depths of a woman's demoniac soul driven to repeatedly testing, through her beauty and surface goodness, her strength and influence over men. And, in the classic example of a "Messalina" ruthlessly pursuing her self-centered desires, impelled by her inner feelings of inferiority and insecurity, comes to the same violent end she has driven men to. Hunt Stromberg's expensive production of Ben Ames Williams' best-seller of the same title, is loaded with 100 minutes of raw emotion that women especially will like.

Bangor, Maine, in the early 1800's, is the locale of the screenplay by Herb Meadow, and the care and mounting of the piece in this period is much to the credit of Jack Chertok. The cast is excellent in capturing the flavor of the era and the story, under Edgar Ulmer's capable direction.

As a little girl, at the opening of the picture, Hedy, daughter of an acloholic father whose wife has deserted him and her daughter, it is apparent that the little girl will come to no good end as a grownup. In young womanhood, Miss Lamar set her bonnet for a career of hellish wenchery, a female Don Juan if ever there was one, and she gets what she wants—the richest man in town, Gene Lockhart, who has a son, Louis Hayward, her own age. Hedy bowls over the household and the town itself, in her need for power. She conspires with the son to cause his father's death, following which she ousts the son and takes over George Sanders, the fiance of her best friend, Hillary Brooke. And, with the son going to pot, an outcast who hangs himself, Hedy and Sanders marry.

Then, in a moment of both personal weakness, she confesses her sins to her husband. In a rage when she discovers that Sanders is with his former sweetheart, merely seeking advice, she whips her horses in an atempt to run them down. She misses. The carriage overturns, and thus ends Miss Lamarr and the career of "The Strange Woman." It's pretty lusty stuff.

Running time, 100 minutes. General audience classification.

BILL COPE

"Plainsman and the Lady"

(Republic)

ENDOWED with lavish production values, a strong cast, pace and moving conflict, "Plainsman and the Lady" carried a brand of box-office appeal that reaches well beyond the customer category at which standard Western fare is aimed. Associate producer and director Joseph Kane appears to have surpassed all of his previous efforts in outdoor drama, and Richard Wormser's screenplay, fashioned from an original by Michael Uris and Ralph Spence, shows a keen eye for what the customers are looking for in terms of action, romance, and rousing adventure.

For the marquee there is William Elliott, Vera Ralston, Gail Patrick, and Joseph Schildkraut. A substantial supporting cast is comprised of Andy Clyde, Donald Barry, Raymond Walburn and others. The theme: a fictionalized account of the establishment of the pony express.

Elliott's role is that of a devil-may-care gambler who forfeits his profitable enterprises to participate in the setting up of the sorely-needed pony express in 1859. His inspiration is engaging Vera Ralston, who plays the daughter of the banker who finances the new means of communication. The express, however, spells doom for the profitable stage line owned by Joseph Schildkraut, and he conspires with the banker's wife, Miss Patrick, who disdains her elderly husband and is in love with Schildkraut, to thwart the establishment of the express by fair means or foul—mostly foul. In the end, of course, Schildkraut and his faction meet death and defeat at the hands of Elliott and his men, but a wealth of teeming action, including an Indian uprising, transpires before then, with plenty of intrigue and scheming in an atmosphere of period elegance.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

H. M. Warner Cites Scouts on Coast

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 3.—Nations of the world could well adopt the Boy Scout law as a code for peace and progress, Harry M. Warner, president of Warner Brothers, told Eagle Scouts and their civic sponsors at the annual dinner given on Friday by the Los Angeles Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America.

"Your principles, with their emphasis on helpfulness to others, mutual respect and a high sense of the dignity of mankind, provide a pattern by which nations as well as men can live together," declared Warner.

Astor Pictures Gets Six Kilroy Features

Astor Pictures reports completion of a deal with Pat Patterson and Frank Roy Nicholson, San Francisco producers, to handle distribution of a series of six features to be known as the Kilroy series. These will be titled "Kilroy Was Here," "Kilroy Returns," "Kilroy Meets Girl," "Who Is Kilroy?" "Kilroy Gets Married," "Kilroy and the Sergeant."

First of the series scheduled for release is "Kilroy Was Here," around Feb. 15. Present plans call for pictures to follow two months apart.

Addison Joins PRC

ATLANTA, Nov. 3.—N. H. Addison has been appointed Southern publicity director for PRC. He was formerly with several film companies here as well as circuits in Chicago.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 3

PRODUCER Gene Markey has had his 20th Century-Fox contract extended, and is currently preparing "Moss Rose," novel by Joseph Shearing. Peggy Cummins is set for the starring role. . . . Anatole Litvak's production, "Coup de Grace," based on the novel by Georges Cassell, will be filmed entirely in France. The producer will take a troupe of American stars to Paris for the picture, and will use French actors as well.

•

Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen have acquired screen rights to Russell Janney's "The Miracle of the Bells." . . . Veronica Lake will be teamed once more with Alan Ladd in Paramount's projected adventure story, "Saigon." . . . Gilbert Roland has signed a new contract with Monogram, and will make three "Cisco Kid" films for that studio during the coming year. . . . J. Carroll Naish will soon leave for Mexico City to make a picture there.

•

Howard J. Green's first assignment under the writer-producer contract he signed recently at Columbia will be "When a Girl Is Beautiful," for which he is currently preparing the screenplay. . . . Dan Duryea has signed a new contract with U-I, calling for him to make two pictures during the coming year. The first will be "The River Lady," which will be produced in Technicolor by Michael Fessier and Ernest Pagano. . . . Charles Laughton has been engaged for the forthcoming Selznick - Hitchcock production, "The Paradise Case."

•

Producer-director Irving Allen has purchased "New Mexico," original by Max Trell, and will film it in color with Eddie Albert starring. . . . Mona Freeman has been assigned a top supporting role in the 20th Century-Fox Technicolor musical, "Mother Wore Tights," which has Betty Grable in the starring role. Walter Lang is directing, and Lamar Trotti, who wrote the screenplay, is producing. . . . Originally scheduled to produce 12 Trucolor features, Republic plans to increase the total to 18, including the next Roy Rogers starring vehicle, "Bells of San Angelo."

•

Howard Emmett Rogers has been signed to a writing contract by Interwood Productions, which releases through Universal-International. His first assignment is the preparation of the screenplay for "Purgatory Street," which Sam Wood will produce and William Cameron Menzies will direct. . . . Richard Webb, lately returned from service with the Signal Corps, has been handed a key romantic part in RKO Radio's "Build My Gallows High," starring Robert Mitchum, winner in Motion Picture Herald's "Stars of Tomorrow" poll.

•

Monogram has closed a deal with Arthur Benton for purchase of the latter's original, "Pay Dirt," which deals with professional football. Jeffrey Bernerd will produce.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

VOL. 60. NO. 90 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 1946 TEN CENTS

Film Program 'Bottleneck' Cited by U.S.

White House Meeting to Aim for Organization

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Despite the fact that representatives of the industry have pledged cooperation in the Government's film program, the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion finds that production and distribution are the bottleneck in its plan.

The present apparent lack of organization and inability to formulate an industrywide program thus far, motivated John Steelman, OMWR director, to call a meeting of representatives of the industry on Nov. 20, at the White House, as reported in *Motion Picture Daily* on Monday.

Steelman said he hopes that an over-all Government film program can be formulated by the industry representatives. He is seeking a program which will embrace production, distribution and exhibition of patriotic films, he said.

The Government, Steelman indicat-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Chicago Settles With 'Collarites'

CHICAGO, Nov. 5.—In a quick climax to what loomed as a showdown fight between theatre circuit heads and the "IA" operators' unions, here, a peaceful settlement has been made for recognition and minimum wage demands for the new local theatrical "white-collar" workers union following the arrival here of Richard Walsh, IATSE president, from New York, over the week-end.

As reported previously in MOTION PICTURE DAILY theatre managers are not included in the new union. In

(*Continued on page* 4)

MMPTA Elects 13 To Directorships

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association has elected the following to serve as directors: Leo Brecher, Oscar A. Doob, Julius Joelson, Malcolm Kingsberg, Arthur L. Mayer, Samuel Rinzler, Samuel

(*Continued on page* 4)

Mixed Week On Broadway

While some first-run situations in New York are running into box-office difficulties this week, others, particularly the larger theatres, are still drawing top money. Yesterday's holiday business is expected to bolster the week's take appreciably.

"Nobody Lives Forever" tops the new attractions. The film, with Lionel Hampton's orchestra on the stage, figures to bring the Strand a big $80,000 for its first week. Other newcomers are "The Plainsman and the Lady," which is good for initial week's of $17,500, at the Gotham; "Decoy," which probably will gross $8,000, fair enough, in a first week at the Rialto, and "Lady Luck" which is going over modestly at the Palace with $26,800 indicated for the first week.

Still in the hit parade here are "Margie," "Blue Skies," "Deception," "The Jolson Story" and "The Dark Mirror."

The fourth week of "The Jolson

(*Continued on page* 4)

Danziger Becomes Rank Ad Head Here

William E. Danziger has been named advertising and publicity director for the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal Pictures.

Danziger is an industry veteran in both distribution and exhibition. Starting as a columnist on the old *Commercial Tribune* in Cincinnati, he

(*Continued on page* 4)

LATE NEWS

Indicating possible legal action, Edward C. Raftery, president, states that United Artists booked "Strange Woman" into the Astor "in good faith," but the film did not open yesterday due to a disagreement among owners of the theatre. See story on page 9.

Phil Williams has resigned as advertising-publicity director of March of Time to join *Fortune* Magazine.

Loew's, Paramount, 20th-Fox and Universal filed suits charging false percentage returns against William and Betsy Rosenthal, operating the Irving, Indianapolis; Royal, Danville, Ind., and Vogue, St. Mathews, Ky., in Federal court, Indianapolis, yesterday.

Johnston to Meet Attlee in England

LONDON, Nov. 5.—Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, will meet Prime Minister Clement Attlee and other government, industry and labor principals here next week.

His schedule includes visits with Anthony Eden, J. Arthur Rank, Lord Vansittart, formerly Foreign Office chief; Sir Henry French, of the British Film Producers Association; Sir Stafford Cripps, head of the Board of Trade; Rupert Somerville, Board of Trade films division chief, and Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employes. Also on Johnston's program are a London American Chamber of Commerce dinner, Nov. 12; an all-industry luncheon, Nov. 15, and luncheon with managing directors here of American film companies, Nov. 16.

Industry Charity Meet In New Orleans Dec. 3-4

Plans will be formulated at a meeting to be held in New Orleans on Dec. 3 and 4 for creating a foundation to help the needy, sick and destitute from all branches of the industry, according to an announcement made here yesterday by a committee of industry leaders. Invitations to attend the organizational two-day meeting have been extended to heads of companies and other executives in the industry. Walter Vincent, circuit operator, is in charge of reservations.

Many in the industry favor the plan to establish an all-industry welfare foundation. There are now several individual industry charity groups. A spokesman for the new organizational group said: "The need for such a joint fund has long been evident."

The organizing committee is composed of: Karl Hoblitzelle, Interstate Circuit; Harold Field, Pioneer Theatres; Jack Kirsch, Allied States Theatres; Eddie Silverman, Essaness Theaters; Mitchell Wolfson, Wometco Theatres; Ted Gamble, American Theatres Association; Leo Wolcott, Allied I.T.O. of Iowa-Nebraska; Sam Gillette, Intermountain Theatres; Herman Robbins, National Screen Service; Barney Balaban, Paramount; Fred Wehrenberg, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; William F. Rodgers, Loew's, and Walter Vincent, Wilmer-Vincent Corp.

All Documents Filed in the New York Case

Proposal for Roadshows To Be Presented Today

By GENE ARNEEL

The position of the defendent companies and interested parties in the equity suit instituted here by the Department of Justice took final shape here on Monday with proposed decrees submitted to the New York Federal Court by United Artists and Universal; with a proposal of road show exemption offered by Vanguard Films (David O. Selznick), and with a memorandum presented by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, supplementing the original brief, and reporting its endorsement of the some-run proposal of the defendant companies.

Additionally, the five theatre-owning companies presented to the judges in the case new findings of fact and conclusions of law which were said to constitute not too great a departure from the companies' original "blue

(*Continued on page* 9)

Outlook is Gloomier In Studio Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5.—The strike situation worsened as the Conference of Studio Unions interjected new proposals affecting the design and adoption of arbitration machinery for settling jurisdictional disputes, and continued its agitation for a 20 per cent wage increase effective now. It additionally demanded that the producers

(*Continued on page* 9)

Schoenstadt Suit Is Off to Jan. 28

CHICAGO, Nov. 5.—Date of the $6,750,000 triple-damage suit filed here last May by the Schoenstadt circuit's Piccadilly Theatre against eight distributors and the Balaban and Katz and Warner theatre circuits which

(*Continued on page* 9)

In This Issue

Reports on theatre grosses appear on Page 4.

Coming Events

Nov. 7—Associated Motion Picture Advertisers meeting, Town Hall Club, New York.
Nov. 8-11—Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and Theatre Dealers Protective Association joint convention, Commodore Perry and Secor Hotels, Toledo.
Nov. 11-30—Allied Theatres of Michigan convention, Hotel Book-Cadillac, Detroit.
Nov. 12—"Night of Stars" benefit show for United Jewish Appeal, Madison Square Garden, New York.
Nov. 12-13—MPTO of Arkansas, Missippi and Tennessee annual meeting, Hotel Chisca, Memphis.
Nov. 18—North Central Allied mid-year convention, Nicollet Hotel, Minneapolis.
Nov. 19-20—Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana convention, Severin Hotel, Indianapolis.
Nov. 20—Motion Picture Pioneers dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.
Nov. 21—Barney Balaban—Joint Defense Appeal dinner, Hotel Astor.
Nov. 22-23—Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan convention, Schroeder Hotel, Milwaukee.
Nov. 25-26—Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania convention, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.
Dec. 2-3—Theatre Owners of Oklahoma convention, Skirvin Hotel, Oklahoma City.

Schwalberg Names Raymon to Midwest

Mark A. Raymon has been named Eagle-Lion special sales representative with headquarters in Kansas City by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager. In addition to Kansas City, Raymon will have supervision over exchanges in St. Louis, Des Moines and Omaha.

Raymon was with RKO Radio as sales manager of its Puerto Rico territory and before that was sales representative for its St. Louis, Des Moines and Omaha exchanges. Prior to that, he was with Warners, as manager in Des Moines and Omaha branches.

Joseph to Steiner

Joseph Steiner, president of Broadcast Pictures, has signed Elias Joseph to a five-year contract as writer, director and producer. Joseph is the author of the original unpublished stories, "Investigations, Ltd.," "No Time for Living," and "Sudden Death," all to be produced in the East.

Editorship to Fedier

Carlo Fedier, MOTION PICTURE DAILY's correspondent in Switzerland, has become editor of *Schweizer Film Zeitung*, Swiss motion picture paper published in Zurich.

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, left New York yesterday for Boston, accompanied by GEORGE GENERALIS of the company's trade relations department.

•

LLOYD L. LIND, vice-president and assistant general sales manager of PRC, and ARNOLD STOLTZ, advertising and publicity director, have returned to New York Monday from Chicago.

•

JEFFREY LYNN and his bride, the former ROBIN CHANDLER, have returned to New York from a Bermuda honeymoon and after a few days here will depart for Beverly Hills.

•

EARLE HENDREN, manager of the Capitol, Erwin, Tenn., is confined to the hospital there as the result of falling down the stairway of the theatre and breaking a leg.

•

MRS. IRVIN SHAPIRO, wife of the film distributor, has left New York to meet her husband in London. They will then visit Rome, Paris, Brussels and Holland.

•

TONY HOUSHMAN of Paramount's Indianapolis office, has been transferred to the Atlanta branch as assistant office manager.

•

JOE MIKLOS, manager of the Warner Embassy, New Britain, Conn., and MRS. MIKLOS are the parents of a baby boy.

•

JOHN MCMAHON, booker at the Paramount exchange, New Haven, and MRS. MCMAHON are the parents of a baby girl.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, assistant general sales manager of M-G-M, is back in New York from a tour of the company's Western exchanges.

•

WALTER LANTZ, cartoon producer releasing through Universal, has arrived here from the Coast for a week's stay.

•

W. C. MICHEL of 20th Century-Fox, has returned here from Hollywood, accompanied by E. I. SPONABLE.

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production executive, will leave the Coast for New York on Nov. 16.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Warner Eastern division manager, went from Cleveland to Indianapolis yesterday to meet with CHARLES RICH, district manager, and will then go to Cincinnati, while Rich will go to Chicago.

•

SAM SHIRLEY, Chicago district manager for M-G-M, has returned to that city after a short home office visit.

•

RUDY BERGER, Southern sales manager for M-G-M, will leave New York tomorrow for New Orleans, following a four-day home office visit.

•

DONALD M. NELSON arrived in Chicago yesterday from Hollywood on non-industry matters, and will return to the Coast tomorrow.

•

ROBERT MOCHRIE, RKO Radio vice-president, left New York for Seattle yesterday and will return here on Friday.

•

BOB VOGEL, who handles publicity for M-G-M International at the Coast studio, is here from Hollywood for a visit.

•

A. W. SCHWALBERG, vice-president and general sales manager of Eagle-Lion Films, has left New York to spend a few days in Chicago.

•

JACK SIMON, from Providence, is in Baltimore to take over the publicity department of the Hippodrome Theatre.

•

SIDNEY L. LIPSITCH, of RKO Radio's Coast legal staff, and MRS. LIPSITCH, are New York visitors.

•

DEL GOODMAN, Paramount's West Coast district manager, has returned to Los Angeles from San Francisco.

•

WALTER GETTINGER, owner-manager of the Vogue Theatre, Baltimore, is a New York visitor.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, 20th-Fox Western sales manager, is in Cincinnati from Chicago for a few days.

Warner Club Aided 3,045 in Past Year

Approximately $125,000 in cash benefits was paid during the past year to 3,045 members of the Warner Brothers employes' welfare organization, Warner Club, Inc., according to the annual report, made here yesterday by Stuart H. Aarons, president of the club.

The report disclosed that sick payments amounted to $86,000; $23,000 was paid in marriage gratuities; $15,000 for bith gratuities; $7,500 to indigent members; $4,200 toward Christmas gifts for members in Service, and $14,000 for medical and other emergencies.

Garson, 'Mike' Kanin In Kanin Productions

Kanin Productions, Inc., a Delaware corporation, has been formed to make pictures with Garson Kanin as president and Michael Kanin vice-president in charge of production.

Goldburg Due Here

Jesse J. Goldburg, producer and independent distributor, is due here from Hollywood, to close out open domestic territories on the re-issue of "Gorilla Woman" and "Lion Man," and to provide for production facilities for a series of features based upon case histories from the files of the New York police department, Scotland Yard and other police capitals.

Gable Returns to MGM

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5.—Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer has announced that Clark Gable, who has been absent from the screen since his appearance in "Adventure" in 1945, has signed a new contract with the studio and agreed to accept "The Hucksters" as his next assignment. The studio revealed that Deborah Kerr, English actress, will come to the United States to appear with Gable in the film.

NEW YORK THEATRES

THE THUNDERING SAGA OF THE PONY EXPRESS!
"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY"
starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT - VERA RALSTON
GAIL PATRICK - JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
Associate Producer and Director
JOSEPH KANE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Now Playing • GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG
BARBARA HALE · FRANK MORGAN
Lady Luck
RKO RADIO PICTURES

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
BOB HOPE
JOAN CAULFIELD
MARJORIE REYNOLDS
'MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE'
IN PERSON
CHARLIE VENTURA AND HIS ORCH.
BOB WILLIAMS
LILYANN CAROL

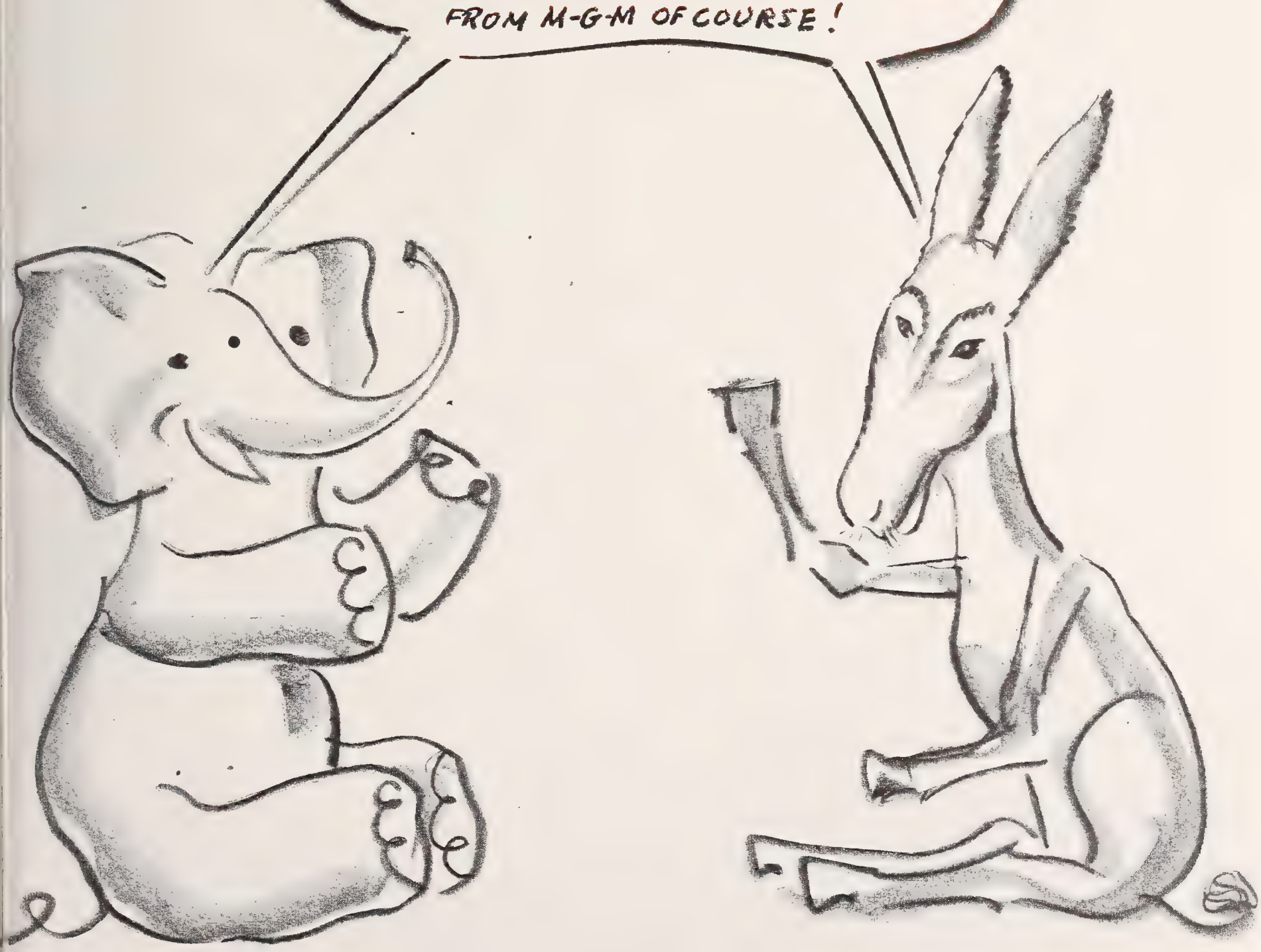
IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra!—THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

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UNANIMOUS!

'THIS IS THE YEAR OF "THE YEARLING"

FROM M-G-M OF COURSE!



U.S. Film Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

ed, absolutely does not intend to go into the production of pictures. He asserted that all the Government wants is the cooperation of all parts of the industry in order to make its film plan a success.

It is believed at OWMR that an industry "public service" program can be formulated at the White House conference. The agenda of the meeting will consist mostly of discussion periods on various problems arising as obstacles to the Government's efforts. All suggestions, Steelman said, will be welcomed and by using the ideas of all branches of the industry, Steelman hopes to end the conference with a concrete program for Government film messages from production to theatre. While a list of those who will attend will not be made public at this time, those invited to the White House parley include all major and independent company presidents, the president and general counsel of each exhibitor organization, distributors, and executives of the trade press. Eric Johnston and Donald Nelson are also on the list.

President Truman is expected to talk with the industry delegation when it assembles.

It is possible that the meeting presently scheduled for Nov. 20, will be moved up a few days because of the Picture Pioneers annual dinner, and also a testimonial to be given Barney Balaban, Paramount president, on Nov. 21.

Despite statements by industry groups outlining a desire to cooperate with the Government, no picture has been exhibited thus far, with the nearest attempt being a food short, produced and approved by exhibitor reviewing boards, but never distributed, it was said.

MMPTA Elects 13

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rosen, Fred J. Schwartz, George Skouras, Solomon M. Strausberg, Gus Eyssell, Robert Weitman and Harry Brandt.

In addition, among the membership are: Max A. Cohen, Wilbur England, Zeb Epstein, S. H. Fabian, David Katz, Mitchell Klupt, Harold Rinzler, Edward N. Rugoff, Herbert Schrank, Robert Shapiro, Myron Siegel, Gen. Rodney H. Smith, Murray Strausberg, Morton Sunshine, William A. White, and others.

The organization represents a united front of a large number of exhibitors in and around New York City, and concerns itself mainly with legislation affecting the industry, taxation, and charity work.

Chicago Settles

(*Continued from page* 1)

addition, assistant managers are also excluded. Ushers, cashiers, doormen, candy sales girls and office workers will comprise the membership of the new union, known as the AFL Theatre Employes Union, No. B-46. It will reportedly represent 1,500 employes of 360 theatres in the Chicago area. Minimum wage demands were not revealed but reportedly include such scales as 65 cents to $1.00 per hour for candy girls and $1.75 to $2.75 an hour for cashiers.

After arriving here Walsh charged that some theater employes were receiving only 45 cents an hour, that 15 of them had been fired for joining the union, and that box-office cashiers were fired when theatre owners deemed them "too old" to attract customers to ticket windows.

On the other hand, Edwin Silverman, a spokesman for the exhibitors, reaffirmed his earlier charges of strong-arm tactics employed by the union and added, "The exhibitors deny that any employes have been fired for joining the union."

It was expected that, under usual procedure, the employes would be given an opportunity to vote on their choice of unionism, if any, before signing a contract.

Silverman, Essaness circuit head, and Gene Atkinson, business agent of both the operators' union and new "white-collar" workers' union, jointly made the announcement of the settlement. They said that details of the arrangements will be worked out later. Included among the exhibitors who met with the union heads to work out the settlement were: Silverman, Jack Kirsch, Allied Theatres' head; Morris G. Leonard of Balaban and Katz, and Arthur Schoenstadt.

Mrs. Roy Rogers Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5.—Arlene Rogers, 32, wife of cowboy actor Roy Rogers, died here as a result of the birth of a son last week. Mrs. Rogers, the former Arlene Wilkins of Roswell, N. M., and Rogers had been married 10 years and have three children. Funeral services will be held tomorrow at 10:30 A.M. at Forest Lawn Cemetery, Glendale.

Lou Brager's Mother

Mrs. Tillie Brager, 79, mother of Lou Brager, Warner Theatres real estate department executive, died Friday at the Pinewood Sanitarium, Katonah, N. Y., and was buried Sunday.

Warshauer at WB

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5. — Allan G. Warshauer started today as Warner studio advertising manager.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

WASHINGTON
TRADE SHOWING
of
"VACATION IN RENO"

THURSDAY, NOV. 14, at 10:30 A. M.

Fox Proj. Room, 932 New Jersey Ave., Washington, D. C

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Record hot weather, although interspersed with occasional showers, conceivably is responsible for current grosses being several notches under the preceding seven days. Holdovers, however, are racking up better returns, comparatively, than new arrivals. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 5-8:

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, with a stage show. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $22,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show; 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio) and THE INVISIBLE INFORMER (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

WANTED FOR MURDER (British-20th Fox) and THE GENTLEMAN FROM TEXAS (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

SWAMP FIRE (Para.) and BEDLAM (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Holdovers are in the majority here this week and, possibly on their account, most box-offices are only about average in receipts. New attractions, however, opened strong and cashed-in a substantial weekend. Weather conditions are ideal, and there is no competition in the amusement field. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 7:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,500)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,750. (Average: $10,750)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $17,500)

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio) — HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, with a stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $5,750. (Average: $4,500)

PORTRAIT OF A WOMAN (Mayer-Burstyn)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3d week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

ATLANTA

Mostly pleasant weather here and business was good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 6:

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,000)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,200)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c), on a 2nd week holdover from the Fox. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,600)

MURDER IS MY BUSINESS (PRC) and CONDEMNED TO DEVILS ISLAND (F-C Reissue) — CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,200)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c), holding for a 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)

Broadway Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

Story," with a stage show, at the Music Hall, is proving another prosperous one, with $133,000 anticipated, an increase of $2,000 over the previous week.

"Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra, at the Paramount, will reap another golden harvest in its third week, estimated to reach $114,000.

"Margie" continues its standout run in at the Roxy, with a $107,000 third week in view, equalling the second week. Frances Langford and Jon Hall are on the stage. And "Deception," another winner, is on its way to a $38,000 third week.

"The Dark Mirror" is standing up at the Criterion where $33,000 is expected for the third week.

"The Killers" is down to $22,000 for a tenth week at the Winter Garden. "Notorious Gentleman" will follow on Nov. 13. "No Leave, No Love," with Les Brown on the stage, at the Capitol, is moderate with $64,000 expected for a third week; the second week brought in $69,000. "Two Years Before the Mast" should do around $38,000 in a sixth week, which is good business.

"Caesar and Cleopatra" is experiencing a slow 10th week, figured at $15,000, while "Henry V," at the John Golden Theatre, is still profitable with a $12,800 for a ninth week.

The fourth week of "The Westerner," at the Victoria, is not too strong with $12,000 expected, while "Fantasia," another reissue, is still above the profit-loss margin with $7,000 for a sixth week, at the Republic. "Angel on My Shoulder" is fair at the Globe where a $20,000 third week is looked for.

Danziger with Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

subsequently joined the advertising cabinet of Paramount-Publix Theatres under Arthur Mayer, and was with Paramount in various capacities for 10 years, both in the East and in the West. This was followed by a post as specialist with the old Harold Lloyd Corp. Danziger was also with RKO Theatres and held special advertising positions with M-G-M.

More recently, Danziger was director of promotion at Universal studios, under John Joseph, national director of advertising-publicity.

Wobbers Take Geary

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 5.—A 99-year lease of the Geary Theatre has been completed by the Wobber brothers, Herman Wobber, executive of 20th Century-Fox, and his brother William, owner of one of San Francisco's largest stationery stores. William Wobber said a $1,000,000 improvement program is planned for the theatre during the next five years. The Wobbers are part owners of the Curran.

"Never a Man like SINBAD--



-Box-Office Hero of Heroes!!!

RKO RADIO PICTURES

LOVER!



ROVER! ROGUE!

He told the world's tallest stories ...and made them all come true!—He stormed a veiled beauty's boudoir...and made her love it!—Fabulous romance, daring exploits...told against the splendor of Arabian nights, Persian palaces, perfumed harems, uncharted seas and exotic lands!



DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.
MAUREEN O'HARA ★ WALTER SLEZAK
in "SINBAD THE SAILOR"

WITH

ANTHONY QUINN • GEORGE TOBIAS

JANE GREER • MIKE MAZURKI

Produced by STEPHEN AMES • Directed by RICHARD WALLACE

Screen Play by JOHN TWIST

RKO RADIO PICTURES

FILMED IN TECHNICOLOR

FABULOUS, WONDROUS, ROMANTIC TALE OF SINBAD

KING OF ADVENTURERS! MASTER OF MAGIC!

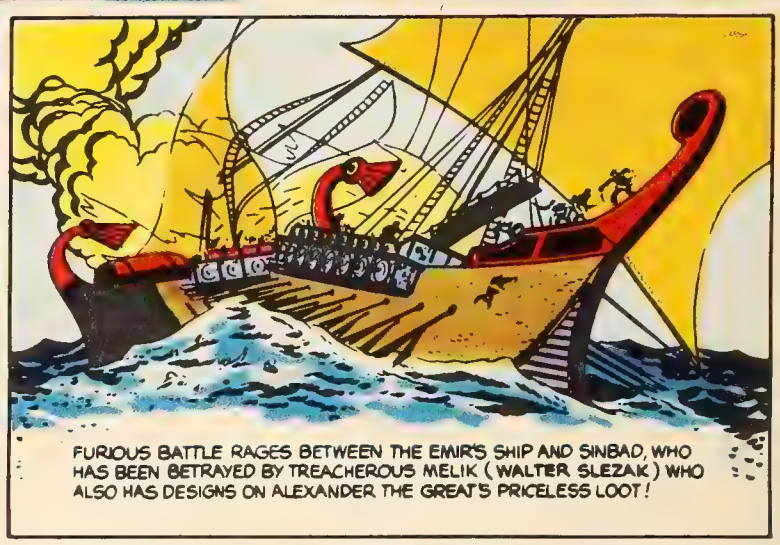




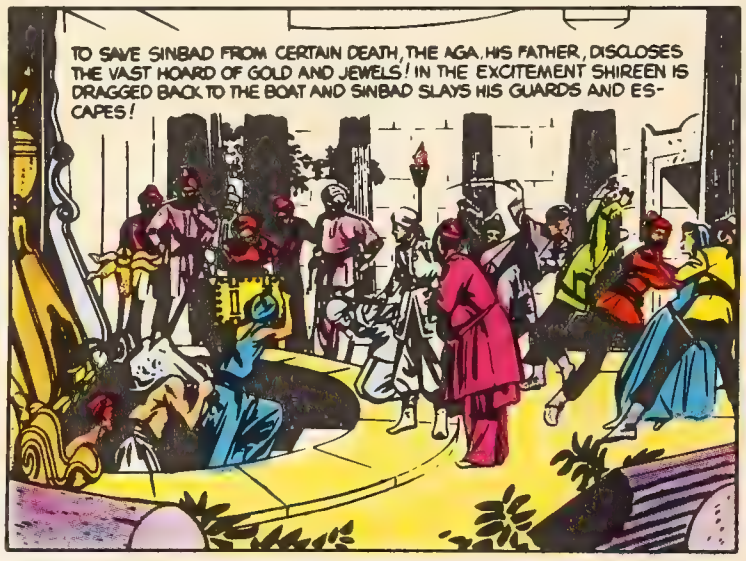
















Watch for the screen's most lavish spectacle... the world's most fabulous Prince of Romancers . . . and the exotic Queen of his Heart . . . soon at your favorite theatre!

DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS, Jr.

MAUREEN O'HARA · WALTER SLEZAK

in

SINBAD THE SAILOR

with ANTHONY QUINN · GEORGE TOBIAS

JANE GREER · MIKE MAZURKI

Produced by STEPHEN AMES · Directed by RICHARD WALLACE

Screen Play by JOHN TWIST

IN TECHNICOLOR

RKO RADIO



Bang, twice as dashing as ever before! Maureen, more beautiful and exotic than you've seen her!

120 LEADING NEWSPAPER COMIC SECTIONS WILL RUN THIS AD (full page in tabloid - size papers; half page in standard-size papers). IN ADDITION, four-color, full-page ads appear in LIFE—WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION — LOOK — SATURDAY EVENING POST — COLLIER'S — AMERICAN — TRUE STORY — COSMOPOLITAN — TIME — REDBOOK — LIBERTY — ESQUIRE and the FAN LIST . . . plus SIX ADDITIONAL inclusions in RKO's PIC-TOUR OF THE MONTH full-page ads in Life, Woman's Home Companion and Look . . . A GRAND TOTAL CIRCULATION OF 133,236,873!

LITHO USA

New York Case

(*Continued from page* 1)

book" findings. All that remains to be presented by the five is a joint proposal for the exemption of road shows from the final decree. This will be submitted today. Although the court had set Monday as its deadline for the filing of additional documents, submission of the proposal will be allowed as a matter of courtesy, it is understood.

Universal's proposed decree asks the right to produce franchise deals with unaffiliated exhibitors and argues that the theatre-owning defendants are given the equivalent of franchise in that they are permitted to retain theatres and license their own pictures, and this, even if the court should ban cross-licensing. "U" states it now has 727 franchise deals with independents and 43 with affiliates, which were not made by entering into a combination or conspiracy. The proposal makes no particular point about franchises with affiliates in the future.

Ask for Road Show

Both Universal and United Artists, as well as Vanguard, ask that one road show per year be permitted by each of the companies, provided the negative costs of the films to be so exhibited total at least $3,000,000 each.

Universal proposes that its trade practices are inherently legal, but will argue the point no further, aside from the proposal that the court should merely enjoin those practices which were found illegal in dealing with "major" companies.

Citing a U. S. Supreme Court decision of 1938 in the case of General Talking Pictures vs. General Electric, "U" suggests that the decree read: "from granting any clearance in excess of what is reasonably necessary to enable a licensor to reap the reward of which he is entitled to under his legal copyright monopolies."

United Artists would enjoin itself from price fixing, from agreeing with other distributors or with any group of exhibitors to fix or maintain uniform clearance systems, from granting clearance in excess of "what is reasonably necessary," from dealing with any licensing agent who is also acting in the same capacity for any other exhibitor, and from conspiring with any exhibitor or distributor in an effort to eliminate competition.

Injunctives

These injunctives would be submitted against the company provided:

That UA be allowed to enter into distribution agreements with independent producers, with the latter to retain control over sales policy and marketing; that each producer have the right to approve all exhibition contracts; that the exhibitor will set out his minimum prices at the time of signing of a contract, providing there is no penalty for his failure to charge stipulated prices.

The decree, as UA further proposes, would not prevent the company from licensing product "separately and individually in a free and open market"; would allow that the company would have the right, independently, to grant licenses for separate runs and with separate clearance between runs, provided both are negotiated with each separate exhibitor; would have the privilege of road show exhibition as mentioned before; and, additionally, provides that UA shall have the right to license Westerns in groups of not more than six, where the costs of the Westerns do not exceed $200,000, and with a 20 per cent cancellation privilege for theatres.

MPTOA Statement

The MPTOA statement sets forth the hope that the court will order arbitration as part of the final decree, "even if the court should not take favorable action on the "alternative proposal" submitted by the defendants. It declares further: "The failure to decree arbitration will keep the industry hopelessly entangled in litigation by which it has been so sorely tried for many years."

The organization advises the court that its poll of unaffiliated officers, directors and representative members to determine their reaction to the defendants' proposal brought only three unfavorable replies, two from individuals and one from a state unit. Of the favorable ones some were affirmative and others amounted only to a choice of the alternative as preferable to the system outlined by the court.

Vanguard would apply its proposed exemption of roadshows for all principal distributors.

PRESS BOOKS PHOTO-OFFSET
COLORCHROME CORP.
ART SERVICE
2 BROADWAY NEW YORK 4
WHITEHALL 4-5131-2-3-4-5

Elect Golden Head Of Capital Variety

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5.—Nathan D. Golden, U. S. Commerce Department film consultant, has been elected chief barker of Variety Club, Tent No. 11 of Washington. The newly-chosen board of directors also named Frank Boucher of CBK Theatres as first assistant barker; Frank Lafalce of Warner's as second assistant; Jake Flax, Republic, as property master, and Alvin Newmyer as counsel.

In addition to Golden, Boucher and Flax, the new board includes Jerry Price, United Artists; Harry Bachman, Circle Theatre; Carter T. Barron, Loew's; George Crouch, Warners; A. E. Lichtman, retired showman, and Art Jacobson of National Screen Service.

Golden and J. Edward Fontaine, former chief barker, were elected delegates to the national convention, with Lichtman, who was appointed canvasman, and Boucher, named as alternates.

Schoenstadt Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

was to have gotten under way here yesterday, in Judge Philip L. Sullivan's U. S. District Court, has been postponed until Jan. 27. Edward R. Johnson, one of the defense lawyers, will be in Cleveland on business, and all parties agreed to the January date as a result.

The Schoenstadts are asking $6,750,000 on damages allegedly sustained for a five-year period terminating Sept., 1943. Aaron Stein, of the Rosenberg, Stein and Rosenberg law firm, which is handling the case for the Schoendstadts, said that the grounds for the damages was provided in the ruling giving the Jackson Park Theatre $360,000 damages.

PRC, Union Agree On Terms of Pact

Providing for arbitration on all issues, the first contract between PRC and the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109, covering about 40 home office employes, is expected to be signed this week. Discussions on a contract for PRC exchange employes will be started shortly, it was also learned.

PRC will grant the new minimums recently negotiated between SOPEG and other companies, with increases ranging from $3.50 to $5 on present salaries. The agreement also provides for a 37½-hour work-week, time-and-a-half for Saturdays and double time for Sundays and holidays.

Drawing attention to what it terms "a highly important clause," SOPEG pointed out yesterday that for the first time in any contract with members of the industry the PRC agreement contains the provision that in the event of a dispute between PRC and any other labor organization, "the employes shall not be required to perform new or additional duties by reason of such dispute." The clause declares, furthermore, that "no employe, in the event of such a dispute, shall be required to perform any work which may subject him to bodily harm." The company has also granted the modified preferential shop embodied in other new contracts with the industry.

Negotiations were begun Aug 12; Jerry Edwards represented the company as attorney in the meetings with Sidney Young, national representative of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, and a committee of PRC employes.

N.Y. Astor 'Woman' Booking Delayed

After a week-end display advertising build-up announcing the premiere yesterday of Hunt Stromberg's "The Strange Woman" at the Astor Theatre, here, the display campaign was halted pending withdrawal of "Caesar and Cleopatra," currently playing at the house. Officials of United Artists office here, distributors of "Strange Woman," said that the Stromberg production "might" open today if discussions between David Selznick and Samuel Goldwyn, who was scheduled to arrive yesterday from the Coast, concerning a Christmas booking of the Astor are concluded.

Selznick wants to hold the Astor for the Christmas opening of "Duel in the Sun"; Samuel Goldwyn, however, claims arrangements had been entered into for the premiere of his "The Best Years of Our Lives" in the Astor at the Yuletide. "Caesar and Cleopatra," J. Arthur Rank production, is distributed by UA, which anticipates a run till Christmas for "The Strange Woman" in that Broadway showcase.

Sullivan in 20th Post

Edward E. Sullivan, of 20th Century-Fox publicity department, has been appointed newspaper column liaison, by Charles Schlaifer, head of the advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio departments.

Gloomier Outlook

(*Continued from page* 1)

start contract negotiations immediately.

CSU president Herbert K. Sorrell introduced arbitration proposals Sunday night, notifying the IATSE, SAG and the teamsters' union that CSU attorneys had recommended revising the plan to eliminate the necessity of its approval by international presidents, and providing for its adoption on approval by a two-thirds majority of Hollywood locals.

IATSE'S Roy M. Brewer on Monday issued a statement declaring that Sorrell's recommendation, if persisted in, would render all arbitration preparations, including the selection of Joseph Keenan as arbitrator, a "waste of time." SAG's board on Monday night took a similar stand.

Carpenters' Okay

The carpenter's local, meeting Sunday to vote on the executive committee's resolution to demand a 20 per cent increase over the wage level reached by the 25 per cent increase last July, oakayed the resolution in principle, but withheld the demand for the present in order that other CSU locals could vote on similar measures. The painters, key CSU local, was expected to be first to follow the carpenters' example, Sorrell stating publicly that he favored pressing the wage demand as an integral part of the new contracts. The carpenters on Monday wrote the producers requesting immediate negotiations.

IATSE's Richard F. Walsh, arriving Monday, sought to bring pressure on the members of the Laboratory Workers Local 683 to return to their jobs. But the recalcitrants, who claim they constitute an "overwhelming majority" of the membership, continued to observe picket lines.

Testimonial for Morin

HARTFORD, Nov. 5. — A testimonial dinner will be held on Nov. 13 at the Fairfield Inn, Fairfield, in honor of Earl Morin, state police theatre inspector of the district from New Haven to the New York State line, who resigned recently because of ill health.

Dow Film Preview Nov. 7

Walt Disney's "Treasure from the Sea," a Technicolor short produced for Dow Chemical Co., will have its premiere at the Monte Carlo, here, on Nov. 7. Princeton Film Center, Princeton, N. J., is nationally distributing the film.

McCarthy to Rockefeller

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 5. — Frank McCarthy, assistant to Byron Price, Hollywood vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, has left here for New York on a one-month loan to the Nelson Rockefeller interests.

Now In Preparation
Filmack's
New PREVUE TRAILER SERVICE
Filmack special trailers are tops in quality and effectiveness. Let us make them for you!
You can soon call on FILMACK for your prevue trailer needs. Contact us for full information now.
FILMACK
1327 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago 5, Ill

REPUBLIC'S

I'VE ALW

continues to

Day and Night.... ....

10:00 A.M.

LINES!

LINES!



.....it's the same sensational story everywhere!

HOLDOVER!
HOLDOVER!
HOLDOVER!

SAN FRANCISCO	2nd WEEK
MILWAUKEE	2nd WEEK
CLEVELAND	2nd WEEK

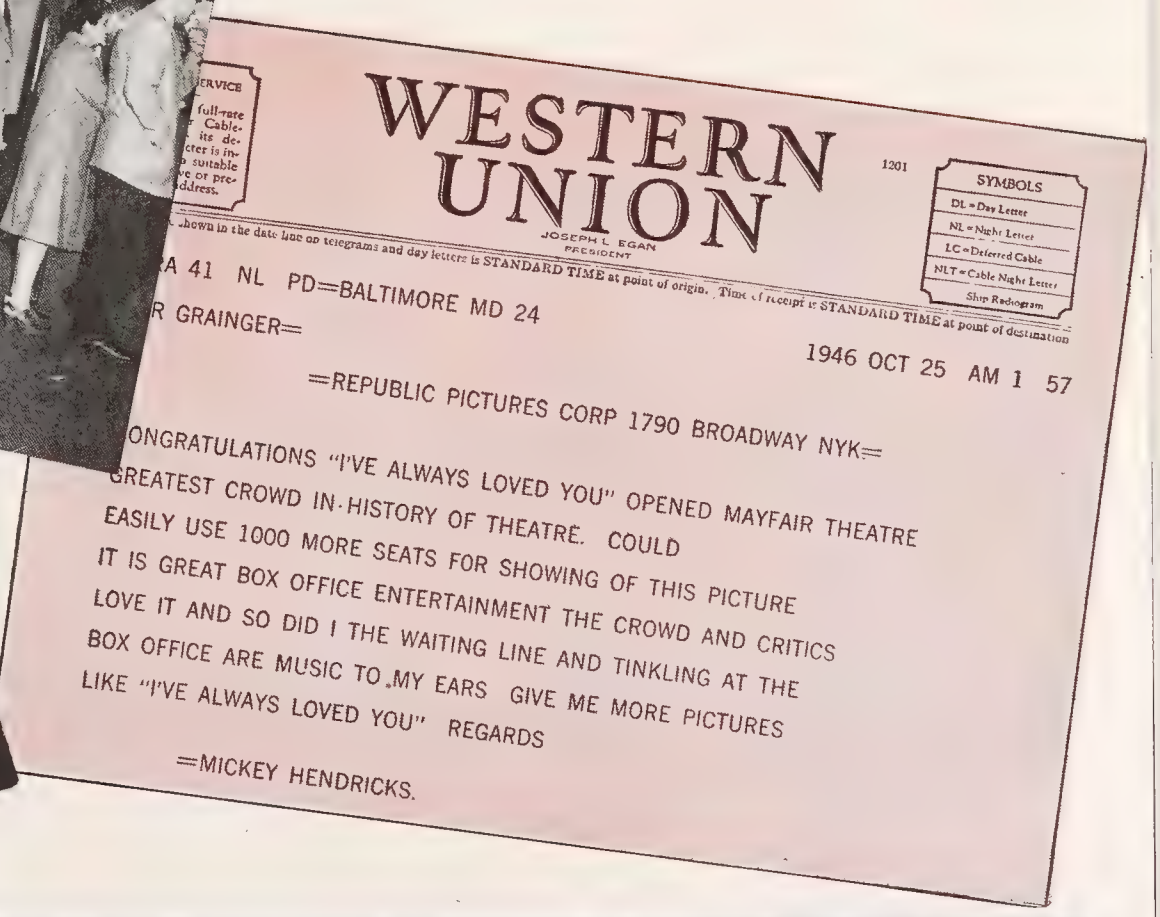
AYS LOVED YOU

roll up big grosses.....



10:00 P.M.

At
Mayfair Theatre
Baltimore
Now in
Third Big Week



WESTERN UNION

JOSEPH L. EGAN
PRESIDENT

1201

SYMBOLS
DL = Day Letter
NL = Night Letter
LC = Deferred Cable
NLT = Cable Night Letter
Ship Radiogram

shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination

A 41 NL PD=BALTIMORE MD 24
R GRAINGER=

1946 OCT 25 AM 1 57

=REPUBLIC PICTURES CORP 1790 BROADWAY NYK=

ONGRATULATIONS "I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU" OPENED MAYFAIR THEATRE
GREATEST CROWD IN HISTORY OF THEATRE. COULD
EASILY USE 1000 MORE SEATS FOR SHOWING OF THIS PICTURE
IT IS GREAT BOX OFFICE ENTERTAINMENT THE CROWD AND CRITICS
LOVE IT AND SO DID I THE WAITING LINE AND TINKLING AT THE
BOX OFFICE ARE MUSIC TO MY EARS GIVE ME MORE PICTURES
LIKE "I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU" REGARDS

=MICKEY HENDRICKS.

MICKEY HENDRICKS SAYS THIS AFTER 8 DAYS OF SOCK BUSINESS!

ALT LAKE CITY — 3rd WEEK (return engagement)

OS ANGELES — 2nd WEEK (both Paramounts)

MINNEAPOLIS — 2nd WEEK

UPTOWN Theatre TORONTO 3RD WEEK

GO AFTER the BIG FRY!



When you're casting for PROFITS . . . take a tip from The PRIZE BABY . . . and bait your hook with those patron-inviting, eye-and-ear-arresting TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES . . . that reach out for entertainment-hungry patrons . . . and whet their appetites for your attractions! ★ ★ ★ That's the way to cast for BIG FRY . . . because The PRIZE BABY's bait has been tried and tested . . . in Twenty-Six years of casting around for Bigger Box Office Receipts . . . and when he tosses out a line . . . about your attractions . . . he gets the kind of "bite" . . . that spells BIG BOX OFFICE PROFIT . . . for YOU!

NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 50. NO. 91 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1946 TEN CENTS

Industry Set For Films of Government

Criticism of a Lack of Machinery Answered

Washington, Nov. 6.—Due to White House and industry events conflicting, John Steelman, director of the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion today changed the date of the planned White House meeting of Government and industry leaders from Nov. 20 to Nov. 19. (Picture Pioneers, headed by Jack Cohn, has its annual dinner set for Nov. 20 in New York.

Industry executives here are baffled by reports from Washington of U. S. Government criticism of the lack of machinery to facilitate the handling of government films since industry cooperation already has been pledged and this is substantiated by the establishment of facilities.

The distributors, the Motion Picture Association, American Theatres Association, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and National Al-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Myers Heads Allied Group at Milwaukee

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 6. — Abram F. Myers, Allied States general counsel, will head a contingent of exhibitor leaders scheduled to attend the convention of independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, to be held at the Schroeder Hotel, Nov. 22-23, it was announced by Harry Perlewitz, business manager.

Others in the contingent will include Jack Kirsch, president of Allied States and Allied of Illinois; True-

(*Continued on page* 11)

NewPortugueseFilm Quota Is Enacted

By JOAO DE MORAES PALMEIRO

LISBON, Nov. 1 (By Airmail)—New governmental film legislation has been decreed, to become effective in January, 1947. Having may ramifications pertaining to imports, includ-

(*Continued on page* 12)

Election May Cut US Tax

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6.—Strong possibilities for a reduction of the existing 20 per cent war-time tax on theatre and other amusement admissions are seen here as a result of a Republican-dominated House of Representatives in next Congress, rising from yesterday's elections.

Rep. Harold Knutson (R.—Minn.) will become chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, and he is a long-time advocate of reducing the present excise tax to 10 per cent. Also a member of the Banking and Currency Committee, which passes on tax legislation, Knutson would be able to impose his wishes in the tax reduction matter because of his power in the Ways and Means Committee, combined with his membership and seniority in the Banking Committee.

Knutson, who is slated to become chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, predicted today that there would be a 20 per cent re-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Talley Resigns as Republic Manager

ATLANTA, Nov. 6.—William Talley, manager of the Atlanta branch of Republic Pictures, has announced his resignation, effective Dec. 1. Following a vacation, he will become associated with John Stillman, owner of five Colored motion picture theatres, on Jan. 1.

It's Judge Powers! 20th (Lawyer) Wins

William T. Powers, general attorney of 20th Century-Fox Film Corp., was elected to the Supreme Court of the second district, covering Kings, Queens, Richmond, Nassau and Suffolk counties in Tuesday's balloting, final results counted here yesterday disclosed. He was elected as a candidate of the Republican party by 828,104 votes.

Powers, who has served as legal advisor of 20th Century-Fox and National Theatres for the past 14 years, is the first member of the industry here to be elected to that judicial position, so far as is known.

Wait Finality On U-I Stock

The 125,000 shares of Universal common stock issued to William Goetz and Leo Spitz of International under the established merger of the two companies has been approved by the Securities and Exchange Commission for listing on the New York Stock Exchange, but has not yet been approved by the SEC for dealings on the Exchange, a Stock Exchange spokesman reported yesterday.

On Nov. 1 the Stock Exchange spokesman said, authorization for the

(*Continued on page* 11)

Tesma-Tedpa Meet Draws Record Supply Exhibit

Special Equipment Section Today

Complete coverage of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association and the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association conventions and exhibit, which open tomorrow at the Commodore Perry and Secor Hotels, Toledo, will be found on pages 13 to 20 of this issue. A map of convention exhibit booths and suggestions on where-to-go in Toledo will be found on pages 13 and 14.

TOLEDO, Nov. 6.—The largest exhibit of theatre equipment and the largest attendance of equipment dealers and manufacturers will feature the first joint conventions of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association and the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association since the war.

The dual meetings will open on Friday at the Hotels Secor and Commodore Perry here and will continue through Monday.

The first postwar conventions of the two organizations were held at this time last year in Chicago, but this is their first meeting jointly planned. In the intervening 12 months, during which many factories completed re-

(*Continued on page* 14)

5 Companies File Here on Road-showings

Joint Appeal Made for Clause in N. Y. Decree

Loew's, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Paramount and RKO Radio have agreed upon a joint proposal for a clause in the Federal Court's decree which would allow the companies to lease independently-owned theatres for roadshow purposes, as well as to allow the regular licensing of a picture for exhibition as a roadshow. The joint document was filed yesterday with the Federal Court, here, in the New York anti-trust action.

It was submitted to the court as a substitute for the companies' original coverage of roadshows in their proposed decree. It differs additionally with the roadshow suggestions of

(*Continued on page* 11)

Walsh Will Study UK Union System

LONDON, Nov. 6.—Richard F. Walsh, president of the IATSE, U.S.A., will visit Britain next spring to study the British trade union system which is effective in preventing jurisdictional strikes, according to Tom O'Brien, general secretary of the National Association of Theatrical and Kine Employees.

O'Brien, recently returned to Eng-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Replevin Writ to Astor for 'Caesar'

A writ of replevin was served yesterday on the Astor Theatre, here, in behalf of United Artists for the recovery of a print of "Caesar and Cleopatra," currently running at the house. George Raftery, of the law firm of O'Brien, Driscoll, Raftery and Lawler, handling the case for UA, said that the Astor had three days to re-

(*Continued on page* 11)

In This Issue

Reports of theatre grosses appear on page 20.

Personal Mention

SIR ALEXANDER KORDA, MICHAEL POWELL, WALTER WANGER, JOAN BENNETT and composer EUGENE GOOSENS will arrive in New York on the *Queen Elizabeth* from London on Sunday.

•

JEAN HERSHOLT, president of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, has accepted an invitation to attend the inauguration of PRESIDENT MIGUEL ALEMAN in Mexico CITY, Dec. 1.

•

MANNY REINER, Latin-American manager for Vanguard, who is now on a six-month tour of South America, is due to return to New York late in December.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount studio representative in New York, who recently arrived here from England, is due to arrive in Hollywood from New York on Monday.

•

BERT SANFORD, Altec theatrical sales manager; WALTER SIMONS, advertising-publicity manager, and H. S. MORRIS, Eastern representative, have left New York for Toledo.

•

JOSEPH STEINER, president of Broadcast Pictures, and ELIAS JOSEPH, Broadcast writer, will leave New York for New Hampshire tomorrow.

•

NEIL AGNEW, vice-president and general sales manager of Vanguard, is due to arrive in Hollywood from New York today.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount vice-president, is due to arrive in Hollywood from New York on Monday.

•

JACK WARNER, production vice-president of Warners, will leave Hollywood for New York and Europe shortly.

•

ROBERT GOLDSTEIN of Universal-International will leave the Coast for New York on Friday.

'Children's Shows' No Cleveland Click

CLEVELAND, Nov. 6. — Failure of public support for the special Saturday morning children's matinees here has caused theatre owners to switch to Saturday afternoon at the regular 10-cent admission price. When suitable, the regularly booked program will be shown. Whenever there is doubt about suitability, the feature for the early Saturday matinee show will be chosen from the 28 MPA selected children's features. The regular show will then follow for general admission.

Coming for 'Edge' Debut

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—Darryl F. Zanuck, Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney and Harry Brand, plane out on the fourteenth for the premiere of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre, New York.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 6

OCCASIONAL reflections of a transcontinental traveler, outbound from New York for the Gold Coast:

Exactly what will be the position of the non-defendant companies in the anti-trust suit and how—if they do—can they escape new methods of selling decreed for the eight litigants?

There is nothing of the legal about this, but the hard core of practicality suggests that these eight companies, compelled to do it one way, whatever it will be, may be confronted with restrictions not faced by distributors such as Eagle-Lion, Monogram, PRC and Republic, while all of them, nevertheless, mill around in the same market with the same customers in the race for contracts and playing time. There could be a reverse on this, too.

The question is not escaping unnoticed. You may take it for whatever it is worth, but one or more of the non-involved companies has its feelers out by way of advance safeguard in the event the order changes. Stitch-in-time stuff.

■

Meanwhile, there is precious little selling thus far. The relative standing this year compared with identical periods under the 1940 decree is devastating from the distributors' point of view. One man, highly placed, observed immediately prior to our departure from decree-ridden New York that not a single large circuit deal had been closed. The answer is not far off: The eight defendants feel they are bound by the dictates of the New York court decision of June 11 and that they must pay strict heed regardless of that final Supreme Court adjudication which is to come whether the companies or the Department of Justice institute it.

The recent hearings in New York when the defendants and the Department failed to agree on substantial points at issue made it clear the court itself will write a final decree and thereby established with complete justification the distributor attitude on compliance adopted after June 11. They thought they recognized a sign then. Now they know it.

■

Those hearings, incidentally, were interesting on several counts. Shortly after the Department declared itself for a cross-licensing ban which would have made it impossible for a Paramount theatre, let us say, to play anything but a Paramount picture, this column observed a maneuver was under way.

It was not long thereafter that Wendell Berge acknowledged this to be so. Bob Wright, in court, admitted the idea was cooked up as a method of compelling partial theatre divorcement, something defense counsel had charged from the moment they had opportunity to open their mouths. The probability is no one was taken in on this from the very outset, although some were worried.

Certainly, Judge Bright was not. "I am just wondering whether you aren't trying to divest them of their theatres indirectly," he remarked to Wright.

■

Judge Hand, at another point, picked it up but uttered as a prelude several remarks which could have a vital bearing on the wash-up of the case. Therefore, it is worth repeating from the news columns in order to give emphasis anew to this, after Wright sought to have the court establish that a single, group-monopoly existed in the industry. Judge Hand: "You're going back to the old proposition that taking several violations and adding them up makes a monopoly. That disregards their [the companies'] conduct. We have tried to interfere with monopolistic conduct where we have found it. We shouldn't go back to revive dead issues."

Significant, also, was the judge's later observation: "You can't just rely on the hypothesis that, because these people are doing wrong, you must destroy them. What would be the effect of your cross-licensing ban if, say, Paramount had one theatre in a town where one was sufficient? Wouldn't the town be deprived of the better pictures of the other companies, apart from any consideration of ministering to the theatre's value?"

Perhaps more than anything else this gives rise to the widespread impression that Wright hangs on to a lost cause if he persists in pursuing his cross-licensing ban proposition.

■

As signal a victory as any other from the exhibitors' approach looms via the probability which is virtually an expectancy that distributors will be permitted to sell a full season's line-up at a clip, but picture by picture and theatre by theatre provided they agree to a 20 per cent cancellation which is not a remote concession.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

WALTER (EAGLE-EYE) BROOKS, of Henderson Richey's exhibitor relations staff at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's home office, yesterday observed a permanently-pai[illegible] sign, "Out to Lunch," on the floor Paramount Building office door of George Schaefer!

▽

Author Irving Stone, researcher on history for Hollywood studio stories, admonishes those who criticize factual deviations from historical plots in films, citing one experience he encountered recently while doing research for Universal's "Magnificent Doll," wherein Ginger Rogers, as Dolly Madison, gives a dinner party for Washington bigwigs in the hope of furthering the political ambitions of James Madison (Burgess Meredith). To have followed eating practices of those days would have had George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, and the others, eating their fried chicken and throwing the bones on the floor.

▽

Marineland, Florida, pint-sized community of 25, is now officially open again for news-reel attention.

Marineland is the place whose shoreline contains underwater tanks with thousands of specimens of marine-life which can be observed by the public within glass-enclosed tanks. Underwater, also, is a glass-enclosed post-office, from which the mails yesterday brought a "first-day cover" from the world's only ocean-arium.

World War II caused the community to terminate its "city" government—one of the nation's smallest incorporated municipalities—in 1942, and to close its sea post-office, drain both of its huge oceanariums and to put more than 30,000 specimens of marine life back into the ocean. Now they have rounded up another 30,000 big and little fishes.

▽

Americo Aboaf, Universal International's special sales representative in South America, is back from a swing through his territory. In Caracas, Venezuela, Aboaf ran into a situation where the local government had cancelled the franchise to supply water, held by an American firm, shutting off all water. Drinking-water substitutes were available in the form of soda-pop. Aboaf, like many others, used Coca-Cola for shaving.

▽

The great United States Department of Commerce has taken time out from reporting on economic prospects for the motion picture and other industries, to write a 294-page report on how to protect awnings from mildew.

▽

Current at the New York Strand are "The Last Bomb" and "Nobody Lives Forever."

▽

Mayor Cornelius O'Brien told theatremen of North Adams, Mass., that the town's curfew shall blow no longer at 10 P.M., because it awakens sleeping babies.

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Society of Motion Picture

Scroll of Achievement

Presented to

Warner Brothers

In Recognition of

for
Distinguished
Service

BEYOND THE LINE OF
Entertainment...


IN GRATEFUL APPRECIATION OF THE MOTION PICTURE
ADVENTURES OF MARK TWAIN
brought this film the world of
letters
To
the occasion of the
Anniversary of
SOUND
PICTURES
the Los An
extends
Chamber of Commerce
congratulations to
industry for its
great achievement
social contri
The New York Film Critics
Inscribe this Award to
Watch on the Rhin
United States Coast Guard
Warner Bros. Pictures Inc.
Certificate of Appreciation
HAPP
BIRTHD
TO
WARN
BRO
FROM
THE 48 GOVER
THE UNITED



To all those who have made Warner Bros.

THE WORLD'S MOST HONORED STUDIOS:

CITATIONS have come to your studios in many forms and many languages. Governments and peoples, religious and educational leaders, civic groups and press associations, military organizations and patriotic societies have saluted you. The honors they have bestowed represent the appreciation of a world-wide cross section of democracy. Time and again your contributions to a decent civilization and the cause of human dignity have been recognized.

These citations have been gratefully accepted by us. We are proud of them and of what they represent in terms of your courageous vision, professional integrity and creative skill. They are striking evidence that motion pictures are built of more than celluloid and scenery. Our industry, above any other, is founded on human values and is fostered by the idealism of the men and women in it. Each award that comes to our company is gratifying proof of your continuing devotion to the principles of the free screen.

Pride in your accomplishments is matched by our confidence in your future achievements. We know that you will continue to serve the great motion picture public above and beyond the call of superior entertainment.

Our personal thanks to each of you.

Sincerely,

Harry M. Warner

Jack L. Warner

Albert Warner


IN THE HOUR OF PERIL
WARNER BROTHERS
PICTURES LIMITED
EARNED THE GRATITUDE
OF THE BRITISH NATIONS
SUSTAINING THE VALOUR OF
THE ROYAL AIR FORCE
AND FORTIFYING THE CAUSE
OF FREEDOM
BY THE GIFT OF
SPITFIRE AIRCRAFT
"COMBINING GOOD Citizenship WITH GOOD Picture Making"
THE NEW YORK TIMES

Donald M. Nelson Sees 'Deflation'

CHICAGO, Nov. 6.—Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, here from Hollywood, told the Chicago Rotary Club here yesterday that he thinks there will be a deflationary period some time in the future but it would not be too severe. He predicted that it will be followed by a readjustment period and that American business will then come through with a period of solid, substantial production, He added, "We have never reached the limit of our productive capacity. American businessmen can solve any problem that is put in front of them. To achieve healthy production, they must solve the problem of getting along with labor."

Nelson also attacked the Government by criticizing what he termed its dual role as both prosecuting attorney and judge in its relations with management. He also demanded relaxation of Government controls over industry.

He also asserted that management respects labor's right to collective bargaining, but resents "collective bullying." He said "labor should be permitted to strike, but the right to strike must be balanced by certain responsibilities under the law which Government has not yet imposed on unions. There should be no strikes unless there has been an honest effort at collective bargaining." He said the Government's only labor role should be as umpire and that the only desirable control over business should be competition between businesses themselves. Nelson also spoke in similar vein addressing college students at the University of Chicago. He planned to return to Hollywood later tonight.

Gov't Gets Brazil To Ease Tax Levy

WASHINGTON, Nov. 6.—Inequities imposed against American pictures in Brazil as a result of the national consumption tax have been eliminated through efforts of the State Department, George Canty, film consultant, discloses here.

The tax against each American film print has been changed to include only a censorship tax assessment, saving American distributors $100,000 per year. The U. S. exports 250 pictures a year to Brazil, with an average of six prints of each feature, absorbing about 90 per cent of the film market in that country.

Canty expressed belief that the new agreement, formulated by the State Department, will set the pace for other countries where tax discriminations are evident.

Grey In Charge of Paramount Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—Harry Grey, former production executive at Republic, has been placed in charge of production for Paramount's short subjects, succeeding Lou Harris, who resigned recently. Grey, who started in the music publishing and recording business, directed and produced several musical pictures at Republic.

20th-Fox Exploiteer Parley in Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 6.—A regional meeting of 20th Century-Fox midwestern and southeastern exploitation representatives will be held at the Blackstone Hotel, here, tomorrow and Friday. Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising-publicity-exploitation will head the conference, the purpose of which is to discuss Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge," plus general exploitation on other forthcoming pictures.

Present from the home office will be: Rodney Bush, exploitation manager; Sid Blumenstock, assistant exploitation manager; Eddie Solomon; Morris Kinzler of Kayton-Spiero. Field representatives who will attend are: Al Winston, Virginia Seguin and Bob Kaufmann, Chicago; Spence Pierce, Atlanta; Jim Keefe, Cincinnati; Sy Freedman, Kansas City; Dick Owen, Dallas; Walter Hoffman, Minneapolis.

Bamberger to Attend Six Conventions

Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will leave here at the weekend to attend the annual convention of Allied Theatres of Michigan on Nov. 11-13, in Detroit. He will also be one of the principal speakers at a meeting of the North Central Allied Independent in Minneapolis on Nov. 18. Bamberger will next speak at the annual meeting of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana in Indianapolis, on November 19-20.

He will also address the annual convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin on Nov. 22-23 in Milwaukee. Next on his schedule is the Nov. 25-26 annual meeting of Allied of Western Pennsylvania in Pittsburgh. Bamberger will also address the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Oklahoma's annual convention in Oklahoma City, Dec. 2-3.

Wanger in Tribute to Bernstein in London

LONDON, Nov. 6.—Sidney L. Bernstein, head of Ministry of Information films for liberated Europe, was honored Tuesday by Walter Wanger, president of Walter Wanger Productions, at a luncheon at Claridges, here. Speakers included John Gordon, editor of the *Sunday Express,* and Hannen Swaffer and James Agate, British literary and drama critics. Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, New York, and now here, attended, as did many editors of national publications and newspapers.

Three Indian Films To Mayer-Burstyn

First films made in India to be exhibited here will be released in the U. S. and Canada by Arthur Mayer and Joseph Burstyn, Inc., it was announced here by Burstyn and V. Shantaram, India producer-director, now visiting New York.

Three features are included in the deal. They are: "Shakuntala," based on a mythological romance; "The Story of Dr. Kotnis," said to be the only Indian film ever made in the English language, and "My Home Is in the Hills."

MGM Field Men to Discuss 'Bess' Drive

Third in the series of M-G-M field representative meetings in connection with district exploitation campaigns on "Gallant Bess" will be held at the Biltmore Hotel, Atlanta, Nov. 12-13, according to an announcement by William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, here.

Seven field representatives will attend in addition to Ferguson, Howard Herty, Los Angeles exploiteer, and advance man for the personal tour of Bess, and Bill Ornstein of the home office. From the field will be E. B. Coleman, Dallas; Emery Austin, Atlanta; Bernie Evens, Kansas City; Ed Gardner, Oklahoma City; Ken Prickett, New Orleans; James Thames, Memphis; Al Burks, Charlotte.

Atlanta Preparing For Disney Premiere

ATLANTA, Nov. 6.—The premiere spirit has begun to rustle about Atlanta as Hollywood sent its vanguard to prepare the way for Walt Disney's "Song of the South." Already the voice of Donald Duck, Clarence Nash is in town at the miniature Disney Studio in the Belle Isle Arcade. Disney's top animator, Fred Moore, and sketch artist Dick Mitchell, both are at the studio giving free shows. Two more voices will be heard here tomorrow when Pinto Colvig (Goofy) and Adrianna Caslotti (Snow White), arrive.

Newsmen from all over the South will attend the premiere, Tuesday, Nov. 12, at the Fox Theatre, Cocktail parties and luncheons are on the program.

Stern, Handel Close Screen Guild Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—Bert M. Stearn, head of Cooperative Theatre Service of Pittsburgh, and Harry Handel, exhibitor in that city, have concluded arrangements with Maurice Conn for the production of two pictures annually through Screen Guild Productions.

Conn has been associated with Hollywood production for many years, having produced such films as the Frank Darrow, "Pinky" Tomlin and Return of Rin Tin Tin series. Offices of the new company have been opened here, and production on the first picture is scheduled to start in January.

Cleveland's MPEA Raises Pay Scales

CLEVELAND, Nov. 6.—Motion Picture Exhibitors Association has unanimously approved action of its labor board granting projectionists a voluntary temporary two and one-half per cent wage increase, effective immediately.

This move is irrespective of the Association's IATSE four-year contract, negotiated on Sept. 1, 1945, which provides for an annual two and one-half per cent increase.

Greenthal Branching Out

Monroe Greenthal has acquired a suite of rooms at the Hotel Warwick, here, for additional office space for the new advertising company bearing his name. He also has offices in the RCA Building here.

RKO Sets 20-Week 'Depinet' Campaign

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, announces The 1947 "Ned Depinet Drive," to run 20 weeks, opening on Dec. 20 and closing on May 8, has been set by Robert Mochrie, general sales manager. This will be the 10th annual drive honoring RKO executive vice-president Ned E. Depinet.

Lon Gruenberg, Rocky Mountain district manager, has been appointed 1947 drive captain and he has already reported to the home office to arrange for details in conjunction with the drive committee. Harry Gittleson, assistant to Walter Branson, Western division sales manager, will assist and travel with the drive captain in the Western division, and Frank Drumm, assistant to Nat Levy, Eastern division sales manager, will cover the East.

The rallies will start on Nov. 25 in Western exchanges. The squad will rest over the Christmas holidays and wind up the first trip in January.

S. Barret McCormick's advertising department is preparing streamers and accessories, and a trailer is in work at the Coast under the supervision of Perry Lieber.

Tourtellod Adds New MOT Duties

Arthur Tourtellod, executive assistant to Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, will henceforth supervise MOT's advertising-publicity department at its home office here, following the resignation of Phil A. Williams, as director of that department.

W. H. Carey, advertising director of *Fortune Magazine,* another Henry Luce property, yesterday verified MOTION PICTURE DAILY's story of the same day disclosing that Williams will join the New York sales staff of *Fortune* on Monday.

Williams started with March of Time as an office boy nine years ago, becoming advertising-publicity director five years later. During his tenure in this capacity he handled over 50 releases for the company. He is also vice-president of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, here.

A. Balaban, 20th-Fox Negotiate Roxy Pact

A. J. Balaban, managing director of the Roxy Theatre, here, is negotiating a new contract with 20th Century-Fox to continue its present post.

Balaban, who had contemplated moving to California, has indicated his intention of remaining here. His contract with 20th-Fox, which expired about six months ago, was signed in 1942. He has retained his post during the past half-year without a contract.

'Cabrini' Filming Here

Filming of "St. Frances Cabrini," screen version of the life and miracles of the first citizen of the United States to be invested with sainthood, will start Dec. 9 at the new RKO Pathe studio in Manhattan; producer is Clyde Elliott.



A REPUBLIC PICTURE

OL.

...late... but BIG!

November 7th

World Premiere

...t both Paramounts, Los Angeles

BRENNAN GIRL

...epublic's Dramatic Bombshell!

with

...AMES DUNN · MONA FREEMAN

(Academy Award Winner) (As Ziggy Brennan)

co-starring **WILLIAM MARSHALL · JUNE DUPREZ**

FRANK JENKS · ROSALIND IVAN · FAY HELM · JEAN STEVENS

Story by ADELA ROGERS ST. JOHNS

Screen Play by Doris Anderson • Musical Score by George Antheil

Producer Director **ALFRED SANTELL**

Stock Transactions Reported by U.S.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 6.—Sale of 11,018 shares of Columbia Pictures common stock by Abraham A. Schneider highlighted industry stock activity during the Sept. 11-Oct. 10 period, it was made public yesterday in a report of the Securities and Exchange Commission. Schneider acquired the securities through exercise of warrants, on Oct. 4.

At Paramount, the biggest transaction of common reported involved Anson Goodyear, New York, who disposed of 3,000 shares to a trust for his children. The trust now holds 4,000 shares. Stanton Griffis bought 800 shares, bringing his holdings to 10,000 shares. Stephen Callaghan purchased an additional 200 shares, bringing his total to 800. Henry Ginsberg acquired 300 shares, now holding 1,300 shares. Maurice Newton sold 100 shares.

The following trusts reported their holdings in Paramount: T. G. Latouche, 8,000; N. Griffis, 8,000; F. K. Griffis, 6,000, and W. E. Griffis, 2,800.

At Warners, Morris Wolf, Philadelphia counsel for the company, acquired 1,450 shares of common through a stock split-up last August. Wolf's trust added 167 shares through the split-up and Robert W. Perkins acquired 500 shares in the split-up. Samuel Carlisle acquired 100 shares; Herbert Freston, Los Angeles, acquired 150 shares; Harry M. Kalmine acquired 100 shares.

At 20th Century-Fox, Thomas J. Connors, vice-president, disposed of 1,000 shares of common, bringing his holdings to 5,100. Murray Silverstone added 1,800 shares. The only transaction at Universal was the purchase of 100 shares by Budd Rogers.

At Loew's the only transaction was the sale of 45 shares by Howard Dietz. At Monogram, Edward Morey disposed of 900 shares of common, and George D. Burrows, Hollywood, acquired 100 shares of common.

Arletty to Visit US

Arletty, star of Sir Alexander Korda's French-made "Children of Paradise," will arrive in New York within the next two weeks to attend the premier performances of the film in New York, Los Angeles and San Francisco. Proceeds of the premiere in each city will be donated by Sir Alexander to the rehabilitation of different French cities.

G. E. Radio-Video Adds to Staffs

SCHENECTADY, Nov. 6.—Co-ordinating the various units which comprise General Electric's broadcasting and television facilities in Schenectady, G. Emerson Markham, stations manager, has made several changes and additions to the operating personnel of WGY, the high frequency station WGFM, and television station, WRGB.

A. O. Coggeshall has been appointed supervisor of music for all three stations. A. G. Zink has been named acting program supervisor of WGY. W. T. Meenam is now supervisor of news for all three stations. Helen Rhodes has been named supervisor of television production, and Caleb Paine has been named acting supervisor of WGFM programs and acting supervisor of WGY science programs.

Alex G. MacDonald becomes supervisor of stations sales and promotion, and James Connolly supervisor of traffic. Arnold Wilkes has been named acting supervisor of radio continuity and T. B. Beebe supervisor of television scripts.

$3,946,527 from Bank For Mexican Films

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 6.—Though private banks have practically stopped financing the industry because of slow repayments of large loans, the trade got considerable money during the first nine months of this year from banks that primarily serve it—the Banco Cinematografico loaning $3,946,527 and the Banco de la Industria Filmica, $65,000.

Rodgers Cancels Date

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 6.—Other engagements which could not "be dropped on so short notice" will prevent William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, from accepting the bid of North Central Allied to speak at the association's mid-year convention in Minneapolis on Nov. 18, it was revealed by NCA President Ben Berger.

Variety Banquet Nov. 11

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 6.—Peter Donald comedian on the "Can You Top This?" and Fred Allen radio shows, will be one of the top guests at the sixth anniversary banquet of the Charlotte Variety Club, Tent No. 24, Nov. 11, at the Hotel Charlotte. Col. William McCraw, national executive director of Variety, will also attend the banquet.

BROADCAST PICTURES, INC.

Announces

"Rhythm Rhapsodies"

WILL GO INTO PRODUCTION IN JANUARY

To Be Followed By

"INVESTIGATIONS, LTD."

Now in Preparation

BROADCAST PICTURES, INC.

JOSEPH STEINER, PRES.

850 Tenth Avenue - CO 5-3189 - New York City

Wehrenberg Hits Local Checkers

St. Louis, Nov. 6—Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, warns exhibitors in the St. Louis territory to be on the alert regarding returns on percentage pictures, adding that using local checkers is a bad policy. The chief complaint against local checkers, said Wehrenberg, is that the information on grosses which they obtain is soon the subject of town gossip.

Wehrenberg pointed out it is the national policy of the MPTOA to advocate proper returns on percentage runs by all exhibitors and said that he and the MPTOA have no objection to competent checkers from other cities.

Five More Firms Are Incorporated Here

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 6.—Herd Theatrical Corp. has been incorporated to conduct business in New York; incorporators are: James M. Herd and George Trowbridge, New York, and Benjamin M. Schankman, Kew Gardens. Paul, Weiss, Wharton and Garrison, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Cedarhurst Playhouse, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures; incorporators are: Jerome Edwards, New York, and Peter A. Lewis, and Herbert I. Silberman, Brooklyn. Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

United Nations Films, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures; incorporators are: Morris L. Wolf, Gerry Ginson and Jesse Henley, New York. House, Grossman, Voorhaus and Hemley, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Tomlin Film Productions, Inc., has been incorporated to manufacture and deal in motion pictures; incorporators are: Leslie D. Taggert, John P. Chandler and Ursula Hohwart, New York. Taggart was incorporating attorney.

Union Square Theatres has been incorporated to own and manage theatres; incorporators are: Michael Hyams, Henry G. Kosch and Joseph Green, New York. Kosch was incorporating attorney.

$50,000 'U' Studio Fire

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—Fire of undetermined origin last night caused damage estimated at $50,000 at the Universal property storage department studio building. Executives said that the loss is covered by insurance and that the fire caused only slight interference with production.

Mexico Hits Building

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 6.—All theatres to be built here henceforth must have sufficient parking space, surface or underground, for patrons' cars, a new civic law demands. A permit to build a theatre in Mexico's capital will not be granted unless provision is made for parking space.

AAA Award Upheld In Clearance Case

Refusing to eliminate or reduce the seven-day clearance to which the Cameo Theatre of Astoria, N. Y., is subject, an appeals board of the motion picture arbitration tribunal has upheld an earlier decision of the local arbitration board which found that the existing clearance was reasonable and that the competition between the Cameo, operated by Stilson Realty Corp., and the Crescent, operated by Skouras Theatres Corp., was "sufficient to justify" the period of clearance.

The complainant, Stilson Realty Corp., named 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, RKO Radio and Warner Brothers as defendants. A declaration of intervention was filed by Skouras Theatres, operator of the Broadway, Grand, Steinway and Crescent Theatres. In the appeal, Stilson Realty sought to have clearance reduced to one day with an availability to its theatre of not later than 10 days after the conclusion of a picture's run at either the Broadway or Grand, whichever plays a picture first.

The appeals board eliminated 20th Century-Fox and Paramount from the proceedings, the former because of a franchise agreement existing between Fox and Skouras which does not expire until 1948, and Paramount because it does not license any features to Skouras. Only change in the tribunal's award was in the matter of assessing costs, with the appeals board dividing costs equally among the complainant, intervenor and M-G-M, Warners and RKO Radio.

Nebraska Owners to Have Fourth Meeting

OMAHA, Nov. 6.—Fourth regional meeting of Nebraska independent exhibitors will be held soon at Lincoln under the chairmanship of A. D. St. Clair, owner of the Grand, Wymore, it was disclosed by Bick Downey, assistant executive secretary of the AITO of Iowa and Nebraska, sponsors of the meetings.

Following the pattern of AITO and previous regional gatherings, opposition will be voiced against use of local checkers, high checking costs, demands for increased rentals and theatre costs, accounting, advertising problems and costs will also come up.

Berger Heads Committee

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 6.—Ben Berger has been named chairman of the nominating committee of Northwest Variety Club by chief barker Art Anderson, appointed to elect a board of directors for the ensuing year. Meeting of full membership to vote on the board's selections will be held at the club rooms on Nov. 18.

Other members of the nominating committee are Roy Miller, Bill Elson, Jack Heywood, Max Torodor and Al Lee.

Newark Run to R. and B.

Rugoff and Becker, chain-theatre operators, have leased the Newark Opera House, Washington Street, Newark, for a long term through Berk and Krumbold, and will use the 1,700-seat theatre for the showing of plays and pictures in the Newark area before and after Broadway runs.

Government Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

lied already have cooperatively developed a program for the distribution and exhibition of Government films, it is understood.

As reported from Washington in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, John Steelman, director of the Office of War Manpower Reconversion, has called a meeting of industry representatives for Nov. 19 at the White House, the purpose of this having been set down as an effort to work out a program embracing production, distribution and exhibition of "patriotic" films, as previously stated.

Although a "bottleneck" somewhere is purported to be the basis of Government complaints, theatremen and distribution officials here say they are aware of only one film offered, this by the State Department, and this, they say, was rejected because of its length—two reels—and the repetitious nature of the subject matter. The film, titled "Seeds of Destiny," concerned the famine in Europe. Subsequently a one-reel short on the same subject was made, but as far as is known this has yet to be submitted to the industry.

Government Films

As the industry's Government film machinery now stands, each of the three national exhibitor organizations, the MPA, and distributors are represented on a committee whose duty it is to reject or approve Government films for handling. Francis Harmon, represents the MPA; Herman Levy, the MPTOA; Charles Reagan, the distributors; Si Fabian or Robert Wilby, the ATA, and Sidney Samuelson or Lee Newbury, Allied. Each representative has an equal voice in determining the acceptability of government product.

Additionally, a distributors' committee, of which Reagan is chairman, and which consists of general sales managers of all distribution companies, has pledged that acceptable films will be handled by the companies on a rotating basis.

The entire group is not, of course, a "letterhead organization," and only when the occasion rises will it function, it was said.

May Cut US Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

duction in individual income taxes next year.

As Congress adjourned, Knutson made it plain that he intends to reintroduce his tax reduction measure, which died with the last Congress. The Minnesota lawmaker asserted that he considers the removal of wartime taxes as "top priority legislation."

With his increased power resulting from a Republican victory, the chances that such legislation will be passed are seen as greatly increased.

Dog Races in Calif. Out

LOS ANGELES, Nov. 6.—A proposition which would have legalized dog racing in California was dealt a decisive defeat in yesterday's election.

Goldstein Quits Columbia

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—E. H. Goldstein has resigned as manager of the Columbia studio, effective Jan. 1. He has been with the studio three years.

Walsh Will Study

(*Continued from page* 1)

land after a tour of American film centers, blamed communists for the Hollywood studio strike, adding that he believes there are "too many" unions operating in the American film industry.

According to O'Brien, NATKE chief engineer, John Kelly, is leaving the union to join Alexander Korda as a personal advisor.

See Wage Demands Protracting Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6.—With the Screen Publicists Guild and the Painters Local 644 following the carpenters' demand that a 20 per cent wage increase be made the feature of new contracts, likelihood of an early settlement of the studio strike is regarded as diminishing steadily. The Screen Writers Guild, a CSU unit whose members have been permitted to cross picket lines by agreement, took the wage step Tuesday night, subject to a vote of the membership. The painters had followed the carpenters' example formally Monday night. CSU leaders, and other crafts, including some IATSE locals, are expected to make duplicate demands.

Prolong Strike

Since the introduction of the wage issue is in apparent conflict with the all-union interim agreement made last July, when a 25 per cent increase retroactive to Jan. 1 was granted in settlement of the two-day strike, neutral observers figure its inclusion at this juncture indicates a decision on the part of the unionists to protract the strike until January if necessary to gain their ends. The interim agreement provided for reopening of the wage discussions then if living costs had risen five per cent or more.

IATSE Local 776, film editors, which had been regarded as sympathetic to the CSU cause, today accepted a new contract, negotiated by the international officers, providing for 13 per cent increase over the 25 per cent July raise.

Would Be Sorrell Victory

It has been remarked by observers that the granting of the 20 per cent raises demanded would enable CSU's president Herbert K. Sorrell, to claim victory in his drive, announced early in the spring, to bring scales 50 per cent above the 1945 level.

Although CSU and IATSE waged a wordy dispute over differing proposals for arbitration machinery, action on this was not expected before tomorrow, when Joseph Keenan, nominated as permanent arbitrator, arrives for a meeting with the inter-union committee.

MPA's Film Library To RKO Houses

Glenn Allvine, New York public relations chief for the Motion Picture Association, will address a meeting of district managers of RKO Theatres here today on the MPA-fostered program of 28 children's films for exhibition on Saturday mornings. The circuit is mapping out plans to play the films over a 10-week period.

F. W. Faris to PRC

Francis W. Faris, formerly with RKO Radio, has been named by PRC Pictures as exchange manager in Oklahoma City, by Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager.

Astor Theatre

(*Continued from page* 1)

linquish the film. Raftery addded that a deputy sheriff is at the theatre and that he will stay there until UA recovers the print. Astor manager Maurice Maurer admitted receiving the writ and added that "Caesar and Cleopatra" is still holding forth and "will continue to do so."

David O. Selznick and Samuel Goldwyn, independent producers, jointly agreed two years ago with the City Investment Co., owners of the Astor, to use the house alternately. Selznick claims it is his turn and that UA's "Strange Woman" should run until a print of his "Duel in the Sun" is available, thus assuring him of the Broadway showcase for Christmas. "The Strange Woman" had been advertised to open at the Astor on Tuesday. Goldwyn, who will have a print of "The Best Years of Our Lives" available shortly, insists that "Caesar and Cleopatra" continue until the premiere of his picture at the theatre.

Myers Heads Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

man Rembusch, president, Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana; Col. H. A. Cole, president, Allied Theatre Owners of Texas, and Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania.

'Highwayman' to Mono.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 6. — Monogram president Steve Broidy has purchased Alfred Noyes' narrative poem, "The Highwayman," from James S. Burkett, who will produce the picture for Monogram, on a budget set at $1,000,000.

File on Roadshows

(*Continued from page* 1)

other companies in that it also sets forth a minimum of $1 for evening adult admission, for at least a majority of seats, rather than that same minimum for all admissions. And, as others have proposed, the exhibitor-distributor defendants would agree that only one film be roadshown annually by each company and that the negative cost of the film be not less than $3,000,000.

Part of the proposal reads: "Nothing contained in this decree shall apply to the exhibition-defendant as a roadshow, or to the licensing or other arrangements made by the distributor-defendant to roadshow prior to its general release a feature upon such terms and conditions as may be fixed by the distributor." The "or other arrangements" phrase covers the rental of a theatre.

U-I Stock

(*Continued from page* 1)

listing was given, with the stipulation that the stock is not to be admitted to dealings until further notice. SEC approval of admission to dealings, it was said, can take from a week to a month. When receipt of such approval takes place, the final step in the stock aspect of the merger will have been effected.

New 'Carmen' Version

Herman G. Weinberg has completed the titling of the new French screen version of "Carmen," starring Viviane Romance, and it will have its American premiere at the Ambassador Theatre, here, this season.



9 Countries Group Codes on Pictures

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Nov. 1 (By Airmail).—Industry representatives from nine nations meeting here, have grouped together as the International Catholic Motion Picture Bureau, for the purpose of coordinating and unifying the various moral codes of production of their respective countries, the United States, Belgium, Canada, France, England, Italy, Mexico, Holland and Switzerland.

A newly-formed Catholic production company, Universalia, is planning a large production program designed to foster Catholicism. The program includes a feature in color on the life of Ignatius de Loyola, which will be made in cooperation with a Spanish company. Spanish, French and Italian actors will appear. The company will also produce "Christopher Columbus" in color, and "Fabiola," from the novel by Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman.

Further, Universalia will produce a number of documentaries at the particular desire of the Holy Father, based on the catechism, and another group of documentaries about Vatican City. Universalia also organizes programs for clergymen.

Giuseppe Della Torre, editor of *Osservatore Romano,* official newspaper of the Holy See. is president of Universalia.

Mexico Cleans House In Reorganization

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 6.—Reorganization that most producing companies are now undergoing to attain higher quality pictures includes efforts to eliminate all "foreign adventurers and pseudo capitalists" from the business, it is learned in producer circles here. Two cooperative producing companies are being organized, composed of players, writers, directors, cameramen, etc., headed by Rafael Saavedra, and the other by Virginia Fabregas, who has been a professional actress for 55 years and has a stage theatre here.

Clasa Films Mundiales, producing company now being reorganized, announces the appointment of Guillermo Carter as its general manager. He succeeds Salvador Elizondo and began his film trade career as assessor for the Mexican Producers Association.

Tax for Atlantic City

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 6.—Amusement and pier interests are awaiting announcement tomorrow of plans for new tax legislation to replace the city's invalidated sales tax.

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Theatres Backing Saturday Shows

The industry's newest bid for further public goodwill, by way of its public service program of children's films, fostered by the Motion Picture Association, participated in by distributors and is already being supported by a substantial number of exhibitors and is receiving many newspaper and radio editorials, and public endorsements by parents and teachers associations, according to a spokesman for the Motion Picture Association, which engineered the project.

All of the five national circuits, as well as scores of independents have subscribed to the Children's Film Library, as it is called, offering the selected pictures at Saturday mornings for youngsters at non-profit admission prices. Loew's-Poli, New Haven, for example, presented M-G-M's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," along with cartoons and other shorts, for 20 cents for children. Other houses, depending on size and cost of operation, play the product with admissions ranging from 10 cents upward.

Typical of the press reaction cited is the *Cleveland Press* hailing the program as "a break for youngsters. At last there is hope for parents who long have opposed . . . the diet of gangster and sex movies."

Twenty features are available so far for the program, and prints are available at the respective exchanges of the participating distributors.

3 More Chartered In New York

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 6.—Universal Concessions & Programs, Inc., has been incorporated to operate concessions in theatres, hotels and other establishments, in New York. Incorporators are: Harry A. Londow, Alexander E. Levine and Samuel Havedon, New York. Samuel Katz was incorporating attorney.

Viking Films, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct business in New York. Incorporators are: Sidney M. Wittner, Louis J. Merrell and Joseph Smith. Merrell was incorporating attorney.

Telecity, Inc., has been incorporated to operate a television and motion picture production center. Incorporators are: David H. Jackman, Harry B. Davis and Norman Merion, all of New York. White and Case were incorporating attorneys.

Five More Pictures Get Legion Ratings

"Crime Doctor's Man Hunt," Columbia; "Home in Oklahoma," Republic, and "Tumbleweed Trails," PRC, have been classified A-I by the National Legion of Decency.

Class A-II designation was given Warners' "Deception" and "Nobody Lives Forever."

To Produce Govt. Films

Short subject educational films on each of the Cabinet offices will be produced by Pictorial Films, Inc., it has been announced by Milton J. Salzburg, president. Production on the first film will show the history and functions of the U. S. Postal Department.

30-Day Extension in Malco Southern Suit

MEMPHIS, Nov. 6.—M. A. Lightman and his associates in Malco, Inc., and eight film distributors who are co-defendants in a $2,910,600 damage suit, will have until Jan. 2 to file their answers, Federal Judge Marion S. Boyd has ruled. Judge Boyd thereby extended the time 30 days, at the request of the defendants in the suit, which was filed in August by a group of neighborhood theatre owners, charging the defendants with violation of the Sherman anti-trust act, and asking for treble damages.

The bill charges the defendants have set up a system of distributing films which prevents some independent theatres from showing feature pictures for as much as 104 days after their showing downtown.

R K O Affiliate in Mexico Finishes 2

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 6. — Ramex, Mexican producing company that RKO Radio is financing, has just produced its first two pictures, both features, both in Spanish and exclusively for the Latin American market. Ramex will produce three more similar pictures by the end of this year and will make five or six in 1947.

RKO's "Spanish Main" grossed $34,538 in its first week at the Cine Alameda, first-run theatre here, says Max Gomez, local RKO general manager. RKO is reported investing $400,000 in the studios that are nearing completion at Churubusco, a local suburb, and which are scheduled to be in operation next March.

N. H. Theatre Submits Clearance Complaint

Seeking elimination or reduction of clearance to about seven days, Ritz Amusements, Inc., operator of the Ritz Theatre in Gorham, N. H., has filed a complaint with the Boston tribunal of the American Arbitration Association against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount, Warner Brothers, RKO Radio and 20th Century-Fox. The complainant, who is subject to 30 days' clearance after first-run houses in Berlin, N. H., named the Strand and Albert Theatres of Berlin as interested parties.

Television Course Starts Here Today

An American Television Society training course for television program production will begin today, according to Frederick Kugel, the Society's program chairman. The course will be conducted by R. B. (Bud) Gamble, television consultant for the Farnsworth Radio and Television Co., at the Yorkville Branch of the New York Public Library. The course, which is free to all Society members, will be held every Thursday evening.

Renews RCA Service

Contract service to more than 300 theatres of National Theatres will be provided by RCA under a renewal contract recently concluded, according to W. L. Jones, vice-president of RCA Service. Frank S. Irby represented the theatre corporation in the contract negotiations.

New Portuguese Law

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing those from Hollywood, highlights of the new law follow:

All pictures must secure a license from the government and have approval of the censor. Certificates for features will cost about $400 when they are to be the principal attraction; when part of a double bill, each will cost about $200. The revenue will finance a special fund to protect and stimulate the Portuguese film industry and its talent, by providing annual awards for the best Portuguese product, by promoting studies and specialization abroad of this country's artists and technicians, by creating a National Cinema Library, and by granting subsidies for Portuguese production.

The new law defines a Portuguese film as one spoken in the native tongue, entirely produced in Portugal. Foreign technicians will be permitted to work in Portuguese laboratories only under special governmental dispensation.

All production, distribution and exhibition of 16mm. will be in the hands of the Portuguese government, under the decree.

Forbidden

Forbidding the screening in Portugal of any foreign picture with the Portuguese language dubbed in or spoken in Portuguese but originating in a foreign laboratory, the law requires that foreign short documentaries and newsreels must also carry Portuguese commentaries. Only films produced by Brazilian companies are excepted in this section which provides, furthermore, that an additional fee of about $40 for each 300-meter reel will be charged for features bearing Portuguese subtitles and for shorts with Portuguese dubbing made in foreign laboratories.

The legislation compels Portugal's theatres, which must be owned only by Portuguese, to exhibit at least one week of native product for every five weeks of foreign productions, except when local output cannot compete quantitatively. Theatres which do not adhere to this provision are subject to fines and may also be closed.

Precedence is given in exhibition of national products, despite previous commitments with distributors of foreign films, the law declares, adding that Portuguese producers must indicate at least six weeks in advance, to the exhibitor with whom he enters into a contract, the exact play-date of each picture.

Contracts for the exhibition of Portuguese features must be made on a 50 per cent basis during the first week of showing, with reductions proportionate to revenue permissible thereafter.

The decree also invests the Portuguese government with authority to undertake negotiations and make special deals with any foreign country in order to promote technical and artistic exchanges between each side. The Portuguese Office of Information will also produce a special newsreel.

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Better Buying Service Is TEDPA's Aim

By RAY G. COLVIN
President Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association

WHEN the territorial theatre supply dealers were first organized in 1932, we all felt that such an association would certainly go a long way towards cementing better relations between the manufacturers and dealers. Now after 14 years of cordial relationship, we firmly believe that TEDPA has succeeded in winning not only the equipment manufacturers co-operation, but also that of the theatre owner who, after all, is a customer of both.

Looking back into the first F. D. R. days, I cannot help feeling that our organization also brought about a New Deal for all those engaged in the business of making and selling theatre equipment. Indeed, the exhibitor has been greatly benefited by such an association. In fact, now that theatre equipment manufacturers have banded together into their own association, it really should make the job of buying much easier.

Co-ordination of sales, policies and prices as well as improved products is a result of such closely related interest which has given this industry a clearing house for better service and better equipment. Instead of working alone in his immediate territory as the dealer had to do in the past, he now has the support of his own organization as well as that of the manufacturers. He now knows what the market requires and benefits by this collaborative unity.

Holding an annual convention of supply dealers at the same time and place as TESMA, enables the territorial dealer to meet with his source of supply and get better acquainted with the problems of the manufacturer. As a matter of fact, it also gives the manufacturer a better opportunity to understand the problems of the local dealer. All of us in the supply business recognize our first duty as that of satisfying our customer.

WHERE TO GO

For Food—

Dyers Chop House, Smith's Cafeteria and Coffee Shop, The Tick-Tock, Miller's Buffet, Kin Hong Low's.

For Fun—

PARAMOUNT: "G. I. War Brides"; stage show featuring Frankie Carle and Orchestra. LOEW'S VALENTINE: "Angel on My Shoulder." RIVOLI: "Notorious."

Ka-See's Night Club, 4014 Lagrange Street; Latin Club, 438 St. Clair Street; Casa Nova Supper Club, 1401 Miami Street.

For Both—

Commodore Perry Hotel, Willard Hotel, Hillcrest Hotel, Kin-Wa-Low's.

TESMA-TEDPA CONVENTION PROGRAM

FRIDAY, NOVEMER 8

9:00 a. m.—Registration, main lobby, Secor Hotel. (Tickets good during the convention available to ladies for all performances at Toledo's leading theatres at invitation of Toledo's theatre managers.)

11:00 a. m.—General assembly of TEDPA and TESMA members and guests in Casino Room, Secor Hotel. Addresses by Mayor Lloyd Roulet of Toledo, J. D. Lippman, president, Toledo Chamber of Commerce, and president of Textileather Corporation.
Equipment Exhibit open from 11 a. m. to midnight, Exhibit Hall, Secor Hotel.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

10:00 a. m.—TESMA business meeting, Casino Room, and TEDPA business meeting, Transportation Room, both Secor Hotel.

11:00 a. m.—Equipment Exhibit open until 6:00 p. m.

12:00 noon—Luncheon for dealers, manufacturers and guests, Main Ballroom, Commodore Perry Hotel.

2:00 p. m.—TESMA and TEDPA business meetings resume.

5:00 p. m.—Buses leave Commodore Perry Hotel for Stag Party at The Villa for all TESMA and TEDPA members and guests. Strong Electric Corporation, host.

5:45 p. m.—Buses leave Commodore Perry Hotel for Ladies' Bridge Party at Toledo Women's Building, Wendt Advertising Agency, host.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

10:00 a. m.—General assembly of TESMA and TEDPA, Casino Room, Secor Hotel.

11:00 a. m.—Equipment Exhibit open until 6:30 p. m.

1:00 p.m.—Buses leave Commodore Perry Hotel on sightseeing tour for ladies. Wendt Advertising Agency, host.

2:00 p. m.—General assembly of TEDPA and TESMA resumes in Casino Room.

6:30 p. m.—Cocktail Hour, Main Ballroom, Secor Hotel. National Carbon Company, host.

7:30 p. m.—Annual banquet, entertainment and dance, Main Ballroom, Commodore Perry Hotel. Music by Paul Spor's Royal Commandos.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11

10:00 a. m.—Meeting of executive committees of TESMA and TEDPA, Transportation Room, Secor Hotel.

11:00 a. m.—Equipment Exhibit open until 3:00 p. m.

The Growth And Purposes Of TESMA

By OSCAR F. NEU
President of Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association

IN 1933 at a dealers' convention in Chicago, several equipment manufacturers and myself discussed the advantages of an organization of our own as a clearing house for the equipment phase of this business. TESMA was virtually born right then and there. E. Allan Williford, now a vice-president of General Aniline and Film Corporation, but then sales manager of the National Carbon Company, was named president, and I became secretary-treasurer.

The depression was still on and TESMA was not very active during that period. Then war come. However, since V-J Day, TESMA has become very active in matters pertaining to the better interest and understanding of the problems between the theatre owners, the supply dealers, and the manufacturers. Primarily that is the function of our organization.

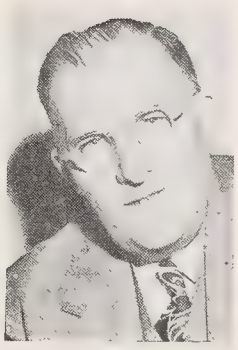
Membership

Our membership today consists of nearly a hundred active firms who are specialists in this field. Roy Boomer, who has for many years represented manufacturers in this field, is now secretary-treasurer—and I might say at this point that as convention chairman of this convention he has done a swell job. W. A. Gedris, head of the Ideal Seating Company, is vice-president. The present administration is responsible for the policy of maintaining annual trade shows and holding conventions at the same time that the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association holds its annual convention.

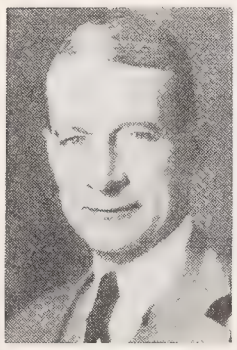
An industry as great as the motion picture business, whose total capital investment is more than two billion dollars, should support an association such as TESMA. After all, the nation's 16,000 theatres must be properly maintained so that the 95 million who weekly attend their shows will want to continue to make the motion picture their favorite entertainment.

We also felt that an industry which could employ nearly a quarter of a million people, and whose total efforts of production, distribution and exhibition could be easily dissipated at the equipment end of this business, was not properly organized for service.

Those who Planned and Directed the TESMA-TEDPA Convention



Ray Colvin
TEDPA President



Oscar Neu
TESMA President

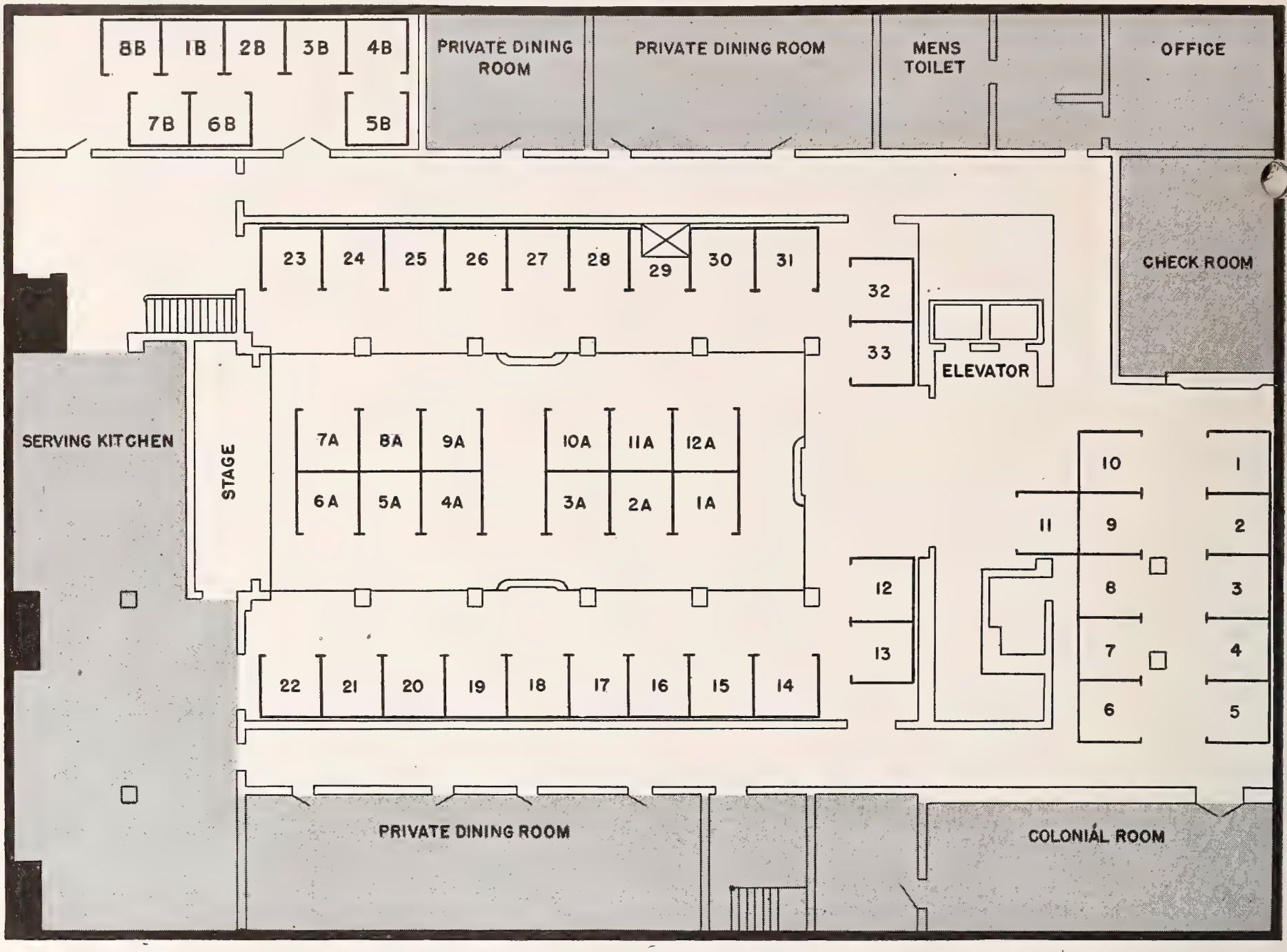


W. A. Gedris
TESMA Vice-Pres.



Roy Boomer
TESMA Secretary

TESMA-TEDPA CONVENTION EQUIPMENT EXHIBIT BOOTHS



MAIN HALL

1-X—Gull Industries
1—National Super Service Co.
2—Kneisley Electric Co.
3-4—Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corp.
5—Retiscope Screen Co., Inc.
6—Fort-A-Cide Corp.
7—Blue Seal Cine Devices, Inc.
8—Fontaine Mfg. Corp.
9—Textileather Corp.
10—C. S. Ashcraft Mfg. Co.
11-X—J. E. Robin, Inc.
11—Wendt Advertising Agency
12–13—Wagner Sign Service, Inc.
14–15—Strong Electric Corp.
16—LaVezzi Machine Works
17—Da-Lite Screen Company, Inc.
18–19—Neumade Products Corp.
20–21—DeVry Corporation
22—Radiant Mfg. Corp.
23—Forest Mfg. Corp.
24—Reeves Instrument Corp.
25—Kollmorgen Optical Corp.
26–27—RCA Victor
28—Aero Metal Products Corp.
29—Essanay Electric Mfg. Co.
30—Tele-Radio Corp.
31—Automatic Devices Co.
32—Vallen, Inc.
33—Wenzel Projector Co.
1-A—Ballantyne Co.
2-A & 3-A—Adler Silhouette Letter Co.
4-A—Ideal Seating Co.
5-A—Altec-Lansing Corp.
6-A—Century Projector Corp.
7-A—Weber Machine Corp.
8-A—General Register Corp.
9-A—Ideal Seating Co.
10-A—Compco Corp.
11-A—American Mat Corp.
12-A—Motiograph

BOOTHS 1-B to 8-B (upper left)

1-B—Krispy Kist Korn Machine Co.
2-B & 3-B—U. S. Air Conditioning Corp.
4-B—"Korn King" by Kingery
5-B—Electroaire Corp.
6-B—Atlas Products Co.
7-B—Black Light Products
8-B—Society for Visual Education

TESMA-TEDPA

(*Continued from page* 1)

conversion from wartime operation and materials and machinery became available in increasing volume, large amounts of new equipment went into production and the output of standard supplies was appreciably improved.

In consequence, the 60 exhibition booths which will present the products of 47 companies, will represent the largest exhibit of theatre equipment, supplies and materials ever presented. The original exhibit space, occupying the entire ballroom of the Hotel Secor, was entirely booked weeks ago and additional space in an adjoining private dining room was provided for exhibits which could not be accommodated in the space originally planned.

A map of the convention exhibits is published in this issue for the guidance and convenience of convention delegates and visitors.

Practically every class of theatre equipment is on display, with models or parts of some equipment being shown for the first time. Projection and sound equipment and projection accessories, predominate. Other types of equipment and supplies are numerous and contribute to making the exhibit the largest of its kind ever to be held. On display are such diversified items as attraction signs, matting, ticket issuing machines, auditorium seating, cleaning equipment and accessories, fiberglas, black light lamps and paints, seating fabrics, curtain tracks and controls and many other articles.

In addition to firms exhibiting at the convention, representatives of 33 other manufacturers will attend the convention, bringing the total number of manufacturing companies participating in the meetings to 80. The convention has generated widespread interest in the manufacturers association with the result that more than a score of new memberships added to TESMA in recent weeks are credited to the convention activities and have boosted TESMA's roster to a total of 63 member companies.

Advance hotel reservations have been made here for more than 350 and, with guests and late-comers, the attendance is expected to exceed 500.

Both TESMA and TEDPA have scheduled individual meetings for conferences on organization business, but both will meet in joint sessions in the Casino Room of the Secor at 11:00 a.m., Friday, and at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p. m., Sunday.

WELCOME

TO THE

THEATRE EQUIPMENT DEALERS

PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION

AND

THEATRE EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLY

MANUFACTURERS' ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL JOINT CONVENTION.

The manufacturers of equipment and supplies listed in this convention section extend greetings and a hearty welcome to all delegates attending the annual meeting of TEDPA being held at the Secor and Commodore Perry Hotels in Toledo, Ohio, on November 8 through 11.

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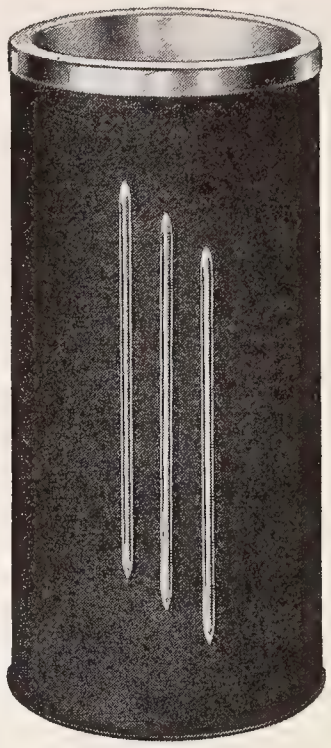
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Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Of three new offerings at first-run theatres here, "Nobody Lives Forever" got the cream of grosses, while others did average business. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 8:

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,900)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $19,000)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,700. (Average: $14,000)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,700)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,800. (Average: $12,700)

THE KILLERS (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $8,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and CRACK-UP (RKO Radio)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $23,700)

THE KILLERS (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,600. (Average: $11,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $26,200)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,600)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly HILLS (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,100)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $6,000)

MR. ACE (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $5,800)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO) and CRACK-UP (RKO)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $23,100)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.) and EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $24,100)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.) and EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE KILLERS (Univ.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $9,300)

THE KILLERS (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 6 days, 4th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $8,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,500)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,400. (Average: $8,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c) $1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,700. (Average: $21,600)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $16,100)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

"Two Years Before the Mast" opened big at the Chicago and it appears it will gross $80,000 in its first week. Business generally was good, but matinee business, because of a bus strike, is still off. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 7:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $12,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c). On stage: Phil Regan. Gross: $80,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) 13th week, twice daily. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $18,000)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Joan Leslie. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $45,000)

THIEVES' HOLIDAY (original title, SCANDAL IN PARIS) (UA) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM (20th-Fox)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $29,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $39,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Booking of "Two Years Before the Mast" at the Mastbaum, and Mickey Rooney's personal appearance at the Earle gave business a real boom at most houses this week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 5-7:

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $14,000)

THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,250)

DECEPTION (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,200. (Average: $22,800)

GENIUS AT WORK (RKO Radio)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) and 6 days of vaudeville, starring Mickey Rooney. (Gross, 6 days, $40,000) and A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA (UA). (Gross, 1 day: $3,000). (Average: $28,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—FOZ (2,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $28,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $26,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,800)

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week, 2nd run. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $53,000. (Average: $28,300)

A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA (UA)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $17,200. (Average: $24,900)

BLACK ANGEL (U)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $11,200)

SAN FRANCISCO

Business here appears to have emerged from the slump of the past three weeks, with a flock of first-weekers to stimulate box-office returns. The Fox looms ahead with a big $45,000. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 6-8:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $18,500.

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—FOX (4,651) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $45,000. (Average: $32,000)

CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville. 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and BLONDIE'S LUCKY DAY (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $14,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and BELOW THE DEADLINE (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $23,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (55c-85c) 8 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and STRANGE JOURNEY (20th-Fox)—STATE (1,459) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week, on a moveover from the Fox. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,610) (55c-85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $8,000.

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 1st week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $14,000)

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—WARFIELD (2,672) (55c-85c) 4 days, 1st week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $27,000)

ST. LOUIS

Grosses climbed back to above average marks in several local houses in a week marked by conducive theatre-going weather and good product. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 6:

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and ROLLING HOME (Screen Guild)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $18,000)

TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and BLACK ANGEL (U)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $20,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) and SHADOWED (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $20,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $9,000)

DECEPTION (WB) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-70c) 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)

THE VIRGINIAN (Para. Reissue) and THE LAST OUTPOST (Para.)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,700. (Average: $7,500)

PITTSBURGH

Despite numerous counter-attractions, one being a professional football game which attracted 40,000, most local first-run houses did almost average business over the weekend. Walt Disney's "Make Mine Music" was jam-packed, to lead grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 7:

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $25,000

MR. ACE (UA)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-[illegible]c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover f[illegible]ne Penn. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,500)

STELLA DALLAS (Film Classics Reissue) and STRIKE ME PINK (Film Classics Reissue)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Stanley. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

BUFFALO

Grosses were swelled to near-record heights with new product and the first stage show in many months. Weather has been warm. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 9:

COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—BUFFALO (3,489) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Frankie Carle and his orchestra on stage, with Marjorie Hughes, Gregg Lawrence, Johnny Morgan and Helene and Howard. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $19,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $26,600. (Average: $18,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and THE UNKNOWN (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $12,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $6,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and SCOTLAND YARD, INVESTIGATOR (Rep.)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $16,000)

DENVER

A two-foot snowstorm, the heaviest since 1913, cost first-runs an estimated $25,000. The storm started Saturday morning and ran into Monday. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 6:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire and Webber. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,500)

MR. ACE (UA) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (SG)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Esquire and Webber. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $15,000)

MR. ACE (UA) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (SG)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Webber. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,500)

SUSPENSE (Mono.) and HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE KILLERS (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after a week at the Denver, Esquire, Webber and Aladdin. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $4,000)

MR. ACE (UA) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (SG)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with the Denver and Esquire. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

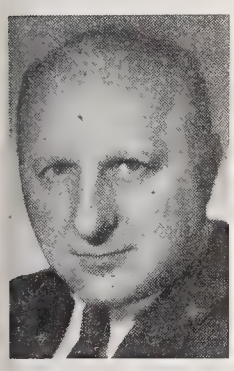
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VOL. 60. NO. 92 NEW YORK, U. S. A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 1946 TEN CENTS

Paramount Is Headed for Its Biggest Year

$12,085,000 for Quarter; All-Time Record Looms

Paramount Pictures estimates a third quarter net profit of $12,085,000, after all charges and taxes, and a nine-month net of $33,877,000, likewise after after all charges, Barney Balaban, Paramount president, announced here yesterday. At the third-quarter earning rate the company is headed for an all-time company record of close to $46,000,000.



Barney Balaban

The third quarter net includes $1,891,000 representing Para-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Para. Again Raises Regular Dividend

Paramount's board of directors yesterday established a regular dividend rate of $2.00 per share per year, payable quarterly, and declared a dividend of 50 cents per share for the fourth quarter. The board also declared an additional dividend of 25 cents per share. Both the regular and extra dividend are payable on Dec. 27, to stockholders of record on Dec. 6. The regular dividend rate, established by the board yesterday,

(*Continued on page 3*)

Five From Nebenzal At $7,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7.—United Artists producer Seymour Nebenzal is planning a general expansion of his organization here preparatory to handling a 1947 production program which is predicated on a budget of $7,000,000, for a series of five pictures.

First production is "Heaven Only Knows," on which director Albert S.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Anti-trust Damages Are Subject to U. S. Taxes

WASHINGTON, Nov. 5. — Damages received resulting from an anti-trust action are subject to corporation taxes, the Bureau of Internal Revenue says. If the combine or monopoly which is alleged had not been in operation, the company suing would have received the money anyway. Therefore, a court action restoring profits alleged to have been deprived because of a monopoly is "nothing more than the company concerned receiving proper compensation for its efforts," the bureau states.

As for the company or "alleged combine" which is required to pay damages under the anti-trust act, the Bureau rules that "Damages paid by a firm for violation of the law or for offenses against public policy (monopoly) are not deductible as they are not considered ordinary and necessary expenses in conducting the business."

Therefore, the Jackson Park Theatre of Chicago and Goldman Theatres in Philadelphia will be required to pay profits or corporation taxes on the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Equipment Display In Toledo Today

TOLEDO, Nov. 7.—A preview of what the theatre of tomorrow will be like will be afforded at the opening of the exhibit of new theatre equipment tomorrow in the Casino Room at the Secor Hotel, the display being one of the features of the national joint convention of the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association and the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, which will hold sessions tomorrow through Monday, at both the Commodore Perry and Secor hotels.

Between 40 and 50 manufacturers from Coast to Coast have for several

(*Continued on page 3*)

39 Are Named for JDA Drive Here

Appointment of 39 executives to head 18 divisions of the motion picture and entertainment industries' drive in behalf of the $5,000,000 Joint Defense Appeal campaign, has been completed by Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia Pictures, Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler of Randforce Theatres.

The motion picture campaign will be highlighted by a testimonial dinner to

(*Continued on page 3*)

RKO Radio Elects Nolan, Goldberg

J. J. Nolan and Leon Goldberg have been elected vice-presidents of RKO Radio by the company's board of directors, it was announced yesterday.

Nolan began in the industry with the old Robertson-Cole, a predecessor of RKO Radio. After serving a number of years in the New York accounting department as assistant secretary, he was transferred to the studio in 1934. In 1940 Nolan was placed in charge of production, and has since

(*Continued on page 3*)

Forming New Allied Western State Unit

DENVER, Nov. 7.—John Wolfberg of the Broadway and Vogue, theatres here, is working on plans to organize a unit of Allied States in this territory, and expects to be able to announce a date for an organizational meeting soon.

Wolfberg, who attended the last Allied national convention, in Boston, is sending personal letters to independent exhibitors in the area and most of the responses are said to favor an Allied setup.

Wolfberg has been promised that some of the top leaders of National Allied will make the trip here to make talks at any meeting called for the purpose of organization.

U.S. Film Agencies Face 'Overhauling'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—Sweeping changes in the film information programs in two Government agencies will be made by the 80th Congress, which is Republican, with a majority of Southern Democrats reported against the use of "propaganda" films for exhibition at home and abroad, it is learned here.

The Federal Communications Commission is also due for an "overhauling," according to reports.

Departments to be affected will be the office of mobilization and reconversion and the State Department cul-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Johnston Calls For a World Film Council

Would Safeguard Screen And Interchange Films

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 7.—A proposal that the world's motion picture leaders establish an international film council and the suggestion that America and Britain initiate forthwith steps in that direction, were made here yesterday by Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston in a speech delivered at a luncheon in the Dorchester in honor of Reginald Baker, president of the Kinematograph Renters Society. Johnston, suffering a severe chill, left a sickbed against doctors' orders to speak.

Safeguarding the freedom of the screen and the establishment of a free interchange of films would be the international film council's basic task, Johnston said.

"Only a free screen truly reflects free institutions and the lives of free

(*Continued on page 3*)

No 'U' Name Change Following Merger

Formal closing of the Universal-International Pictures consolidation is scheduled for next week, probably at a meeting of the Universal board of directors on Tuesday or Wednesday.

There will be no change in the name of the parent company, Universal Pictures Co., Inc., but it is expected that a West Coast subsidiary will be formed which will employ the

(*Continued on page 3*)

Steelman Will Seek A Permanent Group

WASHINGTON, Nov. 7.—To bolster the Government's film information program John Steelman, director of the Office of Mobilization and Recon-

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

Review of "The Verdict" appears on page 6; the Release Chart on page 7.

UA To File Affidavits On 'Outlaw' Today

Attorneys for United Artists and Howard Hughes Productions today will submit affidavits containing their arguments against revocation of the New York state exhibition license granted to "The Outlaw," by the motion picture division of the State Education Department. City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding, who has called upon the state board to prohibit further showing of the Hughes picture in the state by rescinding the permit, has until next Friday to enter his written arguments, under the schedule fixed last week by Dr. Ward C. Bowen of the motion picture division. Both sides must submit final briefs by Nov. 22.

Although there have been indications that UA and Hughes may appeal Dr. Bowen's ruling if it is unfavorable to the picture, the license commissioner said yesterday that he has made no plans as yet for further action if the state board's license is not removed.

Grainger Explains Status of Autry

James R. Grainger, executive vice-president of Republic Pictures, stated here yesterday that Gene Autry is under contract to Republic for his exclusive services in motion pictures, and while at least several additional pictures are required to be made under the contract, the total number of pictures for Republic in which Autry is required to appear, and the duration of his exclusive services for Republic, depend on the final outcome of litigation between Autry and Republic now pending.

Previously, Jack Cohn, Columbia Pictures vice-president, had admitted that his company was talking to Autry with a starring contract in mind.

Cheever Cowdin, Jr., Dies in Nassau

J. Cheever Cowdin, Jr., son of Universal's board chairman, died suddenly in Nassau, Bahamas, on Wednesday, while traveling. The deceased was 33 years old.

Funeral arrangements were undecided pending the arrival in Nassau of J. Cheever Cowdin, Sr., who left New York early yesterday for the Bahamas.

RKO, Monogram, UA Close Down Monday

RKO Radio, Monogram and United Artists home offices here will be closed all day Monday, Armistice Day. Paramount, M-G-M, Warners, PRC, Universal, Columbia and the Motion Picture Association will close at one P.M.

Republic will remain open all day Monday, while 20th Century-Fox had not arrived at a decision yesterday.

Sunshine in New Post

Morton Sunshine, business manager of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, succeeds Lionel J. Toll as editor of *The Independent Film Journal*. Toll will enter production.

Personal Mention

Y. FRANK FREEMAN, Paramount studio executive, flew to Chicago yesterday from the Coast. He will return to Hollywood tomorrow.

•

A. C. BRAUNINGER, Warner sales executive in charge of 16mm. distribution, will leave Miami today for New York, after attending the funeral of his mother.

•

JAMES COSTON, Warner Theatre's zone manager in Chicago, and I. J. HOFFMAN, New Haven zone manager, are in New York for the weekend.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN, in New York from the Coast, will remain here until Dec. 14 when he will sail for England on the *Queen Elizabeth*.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warners' Eastern district manager, is in Buffalo for a few days; will return to New York on Monday.

•

WILLIAM WYLER, vice-president and producer-director of Liberty Films, arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

•

ELMER HOLLANDER, head of PRC's playdate department, will return to New York from Chicago over the weekend.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, UA Eastern sales manager, is in Boston and will take in New Haven returning to New York.

•

RUSSELL HOLMAN, Paramount's Eastern production head, planed to the Coast yesterday from New York.

•

MR. and MRS. WILLIAM ESHBAUGH are the parents of a second daughter, born at Fifth Avenue Hospital, here.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, head of RKO Radio's Eastern talent department, will arrive in Hollywood today.

•

GEORGE JESSEL, 20th Century-Fox producer, arrived in New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

JOHN HUGHES, UA Eastern division sales manager, is confined to home with a cold.

•

JACK ELLIS, UA district manager, will return here today from Poughkeepsie.

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, president and general counsel of United Artists, who is now on the Coast, is due back in New York about Nov. 20.

•

IAN CREMIEU-JAVAL, head of the J. Arthur Rank Organization's 16mm. division, is in New York from London. He will also visit Chicago and Canada.

•

MOREY GOLDSTEIN, Monogram sales manager, and ARTHUR GERRNBLATT, Eastern sales manager, are in Gloversville, N. Y., and will return here today.

•

IRVING PAUL LAZAR, executive assistant to BRYAN FOY, Eagle-Lion vice-president in charge of production, is in New York from the Coast.

•

ROBERT L. ESTILL, in charge of Loew's International 16mm. affairs in China, is en route to the Orient, following a fortnight visit.

•

AL O'CAMP, RKO Radio Latin-American field exploitation representative, has arrived here from Rio de Janeiro.

•

VIVIAN LEIGH and LAURENCE OLIVIER plan to leave England on the *Queen Elizabeth* for New York on Jan. 11.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service Corp. executive, has left New York for Salt Lake City.

•

KAY KAMEN, Walt Disney merchandising executive, has returned to New York from the Coast.

•

E. O. WILSCHKE, Altec operations supervisor, has returned to New York from a Southern trip.

•

IRVING LUDWIG, Walt Disney Productions representative here, has left New York for Dallas.

•

GEORGE PAL, of Puppettoons, will leave Hollywood for New York on tomorrow.

•

FRED MOON, *Atlanta Journal* motion picture editor, is vacationing.

•

DON HARTMAN, Columbia producer, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

Toll West on New Unit

Lionel Toll, who last week formed his own production company, will leave New York for Hollywood on Saturday to arrange for talent and a technical crew for his first production, to be titled "Night Without Dawn." Yesterday he engaged Joseph Ruscoll, radio writer, to do an original screenplay for "Dawn."

Filmex Has 14 to Date

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 7. — Filmex, S. A., here, claims to be the leader of Mexican producers this year with 14 pictures already exhibited and four more to be released by Dec. 31.

'Arch' Filming Here

David Lewis, producer of Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph," is due here from Hollywood Nov. 15, along with Lewis Milestone, director, and Charles Laughton, for filming of final sequences of the picture. Shooting of the scenes between Laughton and Ingrid Bergman were shifted here in order to accommodate commitments by the actress for the stage play, "Joan of Lorraine."

'Reno' Screening Set

RKO Radio will hold a special trade screening of "Vacation in Reno," in Washington, on Thursday, Nov. 14.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

THE THUNDERING SAGA OF THE PONY EXPRESS!
"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY"
starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT - VERA RALSTON
GAIL PATRICK - JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
Associate Producer and Director
JOSEPH KANE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
Now Playing • GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
ROBERT YOUNG
BARBARA HALE · FRANK MORGAN
Lady Luck

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'WHITE TIE & TAILS'
DAN DURYEA
ELLA RAINES
WILLIAM BENDIX
IN PERSON
HENNY YOUNGMAN
SARA ANN McCABE
MAZZONE & ABBOTT

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

JEANNE CRAIN as
"MARGIE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus on Stage — Frances Langford - Jon Hall
Carl Ravazza - Harmonica Rascals
Extra! AL BERNIE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Johnston

(*Continued from page* 1)

people," the MPA chief said. "The screen must be as free as the free press, free radio, freedom of thought, action, expression and religion. Vest the screen with freedom's armorr so it can truly battle for free people and institutions," Johnston urged, asking that the industry internationally "fight the good fight in the cause of a free prosperous world."

Johnston said the screen's great vital by-product is its conveyance of ideas. Ideas, he said, are more powerful than any material force and their spread is the only effective guarantee of security. The amity existing between Britain and America, he said, is not based on force or threats, but rests rather on the mutual acceptance of man's individual dignity and freedom.

There is ample room for the expansion of motion pictures to a world audience of 200,000,000 people weekly, Johnston said. That figure, he opined, is only a fraction of the actual potential market. The industry's task is to make people all over the world motion picture conscious, he added.

Johnston said he hopes the American and British industries will always remain competitive. He asserted that in their competition, it is their duty to jointly insure that the millions of people who never hitherto have seen a film become picture-goers.

America's educational motion picture research and facilities, Johnston said, are available to the whole world. By the same token, he said, he would like to see more and better British pictures screened in America. "The whole world is your market and ours," he pointed out.

Johnston's speech created a profound impression, particularly because of the circumstance of his indisposition. A completely representative British industry audience loudly applauded his speech and warmly congratulated the MPA president.

J. W. Belcher, MP, was among the other speakers. He dropped a hint as to British governmental intentions in connection with the forthcoming quota act when he said that the government is profoundly conscious of films' importance as a cultural medium. He termed the American-British present exchange of films as too one-sided and said the two nations must work towards a more equal exchange. "We must so manage film production and distribution as to take care of the medium's potentialities," Belcher said.

Anti-Trust Damages

(*Continued from page* 1)

money which they receive for damages. The Jackson Park Theatre will receive $600,000, granted in a triple-damage anti-trust action, and Goldman Theatres will receive $375,000, and it is pointed out that those companies which pay the damages are not exempt from corporation taxes on the amount paid.

Nolan, Goldberg

(*Continued from page* 1)

held a number of executive studio posts.

Goldberg became treasurer of Keith-Albee-Orpheum Corp. in 1934. In 1941 he was elected treasurer of RKO and RKO Radio, resigning in 1943 to become RKO Radio studio manager.

Equipment Display

(*Continued from page* 1)

weeks been shipping to Toledo their latest productions for exhibition. Most of these are of the new warborn era and have been kept "under wraps" until production permitted offering them on the market.

Chief among the new developments which will be shown are equipments for increasing the brilliancy of pictures on the screen, a new type seating, new type screen which is concave in shape and is said to eliminate image-distortion from seats at the side of the theatre auditorium, ultra-violet light-activated fluorescent murals for interior decoration, plastic upholstering fabrics simulating leather, translucent plastic letters in colors for use on large electrical displays in front of theatre which will replace aluminum silhouette letters, television products, new types of rubber floor coverings, a central plant ozone generator for use in places of public assemblage.

Theatre owners, projectionists and sound and service engineers also will swell the convention total.

Mayor Lloyd Roulet and J. D. Lippman, president of the Toledo Chamber of Commerce and president of Textileather Corp., will address the joint meeting tomorrow morning. A luncheon will be given Saturday in the Commodore Perry ballroom, Strong Electric Corp. will be host at a stag party Saturday evening at the Villa, and Wendt Advertising Agency will be host at a bridge-dinner for the ladies at the Toledo Woman's Building, on Saturday evening.

Buses will take the conventioneers on a sight-seeing trip of the city on Sunday afternoon, the trip including a conducted tour of the Art Museum. The annual banquet, entertainment and dance will be held Sunday evening at the Commodore Perry ballroom.

Officers of the TESMA include Oscar Neu of Neumade Products, New York, president; William A. Gedris, Ideal Seating Co., Grand Rapids, vice-president; Roy Boomer, Chicago, secretary-treasurer. President of TEDPA is Roy G. Colvin, Exhibitors Supply Co., St. Louis. The latter's executive committee includes Joe Hornstein, supply dealer, New York; William Carroll, Falls City Theatre Equipment Co., Louisville; F. A. Van Husen, Western Theatre Supply Co., Omaha; A. E. Thiele, Des Moines Theatre Supply Co., Des Moines.

No 'U' Name Change

(*Continued from page* 1)

name Universal-International Pictures Co. In addition, the name of the new U-I subsidiary probably will appear on future product.

There is no intention of permitting claim to the name "International" go by default and Universal's distribution executives favor its appearance on company prints as the presentation company name.

William Goetz and Leo Spitz, International's chief executives, have been asked to become members of the Universal Pictures Co. board of directors but have taken no action, presumably because their permanent headquarters will remain on the West Coast, whereas board meetings are held in New York. Goetz and Spitz presumably will become officers of the new Universal-International subsidiary when it is formed.

39 Named for JDA

(*Continued from page* 1)

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, on Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Hotel Astor.

The appeal will be for the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith and the American Jewish Committee. Joint Defense is the financial arm of the two agencies and is seeking a 43 per cent increase over the amount raised in 1945.

The campaign leaders follow: Spyros Skouras and Sam Shain, 20th Century-Fox; Abe Schneider, Columbia; Leopold Friedman, Loew's and M-G-M; Arthur Israel, Jr., Paramount: Harold J. Mirisch, RKO; Ed Schnitzer, United Artists; Adolph Schimel and Mattie Fox, Universal; Harry Goldberg, Ben Kalmenson and Sam Schneider, Warners; George Dembow and Herman Robbins, National Screen; Ben Blake, Sam Dembow, Arthur Krim, Edward K. O'Shea, Budd Rogers, Harry Thomas and A. W. Schwalberg, independent producers; Jack Goetz, film laboratories; Jack Alicoate, Red Kann and Chick Lewis, trade publications; Carl Erbe, Night Clubs; Joe Seider, film deliveries.

Chairmen for independent theatre owners and circuits are: Harry Brandt, William Brandt, Max Cohen, Si Fabian, Sam Rosen, Morton Sunshine and Dave Weinstock. Marvin Kirsch and Paul Raibourn are radio chairmen. Cinema Lodge efforts will be headed by Jack Levin and Al Senft. Leslie Winik heads the 16-mm. effort. Manie Sacks is in charge of the music publishers division. Also, Charles Boasberg, Clarence Eisman, Jack Ellis, Nat Furst, Moe Kerman, Dave Levy, Ray Moon, W. P. Murphy, Ralph Pielow and Henry Randel are chairmen for film exchanges.

U.S. Film Agencies

(*Continued from page* 1)

tural film section, it is said.

The method of cutting down on film operations of the Government will be to refuse requested appropriations from the agencies mentioned, it is indicated. Millions are being spent by the State Department to contract for cultural films. During the last Congress, there was considerable disagreement over the proposed cultural relations film activities of the State Department, with the House of Representatives cutting the appropriation and the Senate restoring the slice by final approval of a $9,000,000 budget for the present fiscal year.

Commercial activities for pictures being handled at the Commerce Department by Nathan D. Golden and at the State Department by George Canty will remain untouched, it is believed. Both Golden and Canty maintain small staffs and cooperate with American missions abroad to eliminate trade barriers.

Senator Charles W. Tobey of New Hampshire is expected to lead an investigation into the activities of the Federal Communications Commission as soon as the new Congress meets, it was said. Changes in broadcast and television policies are expected to result from the study, Tobey said.

Mexico Owners to Meet

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 7. — The National Exhibitors Association, the president of which is Antonio Osio, will hold its convention Nov. 14-16.

Para. Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

mount's net interest as a stockholder in the combined undistributed earnings for the quarter of partially-owned subsidiaries.

Earnings for the quarter ended Sept. 29, 1945 were estimated at $5,354,000, including a $1,270,000 share of earnings of subsidiaries.

Earnings for the nine months ended Sept. 28 include a $6,031,000 share of earnings of subsidiaries. Earnings for the first nine months of 1945 were estimated at $13,841,000, including a $2,868,000 share of non-consolidated subsidiaries, the company reports.

Prior to the two-for-one stock split on July 8, 1946, there were outstanding 3,752,136 shares of common stock, which were increased to 7,504,272 shares outstanding at Sept. 28. Computed for all periods on the basis of such 7,504,272 shares the $12,085,000 of estimated earnings for the third quarter represent $1.61 per share, which compares with 71 cents per share for the corresponding quarter of 1945, while the $33,877,000 of estimated earnings for the nine months represent $4.51 per share, which compares with $1.84 per share for the first nine months of 1945.

Paramount Dividend

(*Continued from page* 1)

represents the second increase since June of this year in the regular dividend rate and results in a disbursement of double the total amount of dividends which were payable at the same rate per share on stock on the old basis. In round figures the total dividends at this rate per share on the old basis were $7,500,000 annually, while total dividends payable at this rate on the shares now outstanding are $15,000,000 annually.

Five from Nebenzal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rogell plans to start work later this month; then will come "Atlantis," to star Maria Montez; third on the list will be "Mayerling"; following that will come "The Tempest," a picture which will star Jorja Curtright, and completing the projected Nebenzal schedule for 1947 will be his production of "Madame Butterfly," based on a modern-day story paralleling the opera version and with the addition of the Puccini music.

AMPA Postpones Benefit Screening

Twentieth Century-Fox's world premiere of "The Razor's Edge," on Nov. 19, the picture Pioneers' annual banquet, Nov. 20, and the testimonial dinner for Paramount president Barney Balaban, Nov. 21, all three to be held in New York, will make too heavy an industry calendar for one week, so the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers has postponed indefinitely its special benefit screening of "Abie's Irish Rose," slated for the Ambassador Theatre, here, on Nov. 21, AMPA president Rutgers Neilson reported yesterday.

Neilson presided yesterday at an organization luncheon-meeting, at the Town Hall Club, here, during which author Henry Hoke spoke.

The entertainment world's salute to the lea



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in honor

Never in the industry's history has any company delivered so many great attractions for your boxoffice!

MARGIE in Technicolor

Smashing 20 year records at the Roxy!

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

New all-time highs in hundreds of dates!

ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM

King-size grosses everywhere!

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...Variety Reports: "At the top of the list...Grabbing first money!"

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20th's BIGGEST big-money Technicolor musical!

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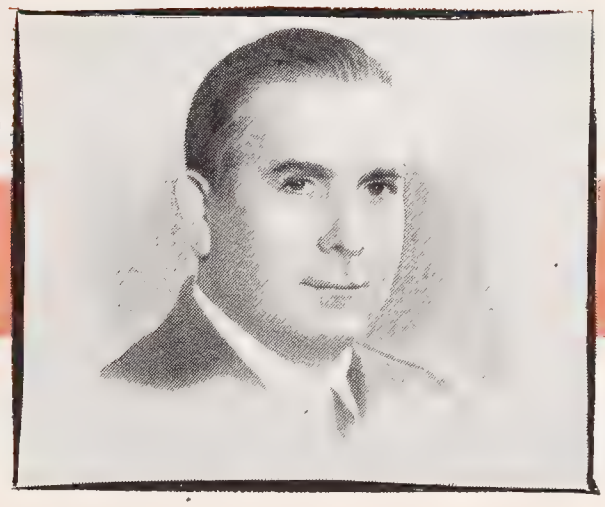
...The boxoffice champion everywhere!

...y company in the world of entertainment!

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...OL.)

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Never in the industry's history has any company such great boxoffice attractions coming!

Tyrone Power • Gene Tierney • John Payne
Anne Baxter • Clifton Webb • Herbert Marshall
Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. Somerset Maugham's

THE RAZOR'S EDGE

Betty Grable • Dick Haymes

THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM

in Technicolor

James Cagney

13 RUE MADELEINE

Ronald Colman

THE LATE GEORGE APLEY

Introducing Peggy Cummins

CARNIVAL IN COSTA RICA

in Technicolor • Dick Haymes • Vera-Ellen • Cesar Romero • Celeste Holm

THE BRASHER DOUBLOON

George Montgomery • Nancy Guild

Cornel Wilde • Maureen O'Hara

THE HOMESTRETCH

in Technicolor

Dana Andrews

BOOMERANG

I WONDER WHO'S KISSING HER NOW

in Technicolor • June Haver • Mark Stevens

Gene Tierney • Rex Harrison

THE GHOST AND MRS. MUIR

BOB, SON OF BATTLE

in Technicolor with Lon McCallister • Peggy Ann Garner • Edmund Gwenn

Jeanne Crain • Henry Fonda • Maureen O'Hara

CHICKEN EVERY SUNDAY

John Payne • June Haver

THE ENCHANTED VOYAGE

in Technicolor

FOREVER AMBER

in Technicolor • Linda Darnell • Cornel Wilde

Betty Grable

MOTHER WORE TIGHTS

in Technicolor

MOSS ROSE

The greatest story by one of today's most popular authors!

THE SNAKE PIT

Read by 20,000,000 in Readers Digest! Book-of-the-Month!

WALLS OF JERICHO

The February, 1947, Literary Guild Selection!

Tyrone Power

CAPTAIN FROM CASTILE

in Technicolor

SCUDDA HOO! SCUDDA HAY!

in Technicolor • At the top of all best-selling lists today!

Steelman

(*Continued from page* 1)

version, today called for organization of a permanent committee of leaders in the film industry. He disclosed that he will recommend the creation of such a committee, with an elected chairman and other officers, at the meeting scheduled for Nov. 19 at the White House between industry representatives and the government. (The industry already has a committee to handle Government films.)

The Nov. 19 meeting was arranged at the behest of Steelman in order to work out a program for the production, distribution and exhibition of Federal films.

Asserting that the proposed industry-wide committee could function in much the same manner as the War Activities Committee, the OMR director said that it is the mission of OMR to develop industry-wide cooperation through the creation of a central group which would be invested with control of all Government-industry activities.

A temporary chairman will be appointed at the beginning of the Nov. 19 parley, and a permanent head will be elected at the close of the session.

Show-Cause 'Caesar' Order to Sheriff

A show-cause order, issued by Judge Lloyd Church of New York Supreme Court, was served yesterday on New York county sheriff John J. McCloskey at the request of United Artists to determine why the print of "Caesar and Cleopatra," currently running at the Astor Theatre, here, had not been recovered. A writ of replevin was served on the Astor Wednesday when Maurice Maurer, manager of the house, refused to relinquish the film to permit opening of the UA-Hunt Stromberg "The Strange Woman," a booking planned to hold the house until a Technicolor print of David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" is available for a booking.

George Raftery, attorney for UA, contended in his show-cause petition that stationing a deputy sheriff in the booth of the Astor, as done, did not execute the writ of replevin, and he asked the court for immediate action on the print.

According to the booking contract, "Caesar and Cleopatra" was to have ended with Monday's last showing. Display advertising announcing the opening of "Woman" appeared in weekend papers here. Samuel Goldwyn seeks the Astor for a premiere of his "The Best Years of Our Lives."

Gaumont British Show $1,878,036 Profits

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Gaumont British reports a net profit of $1,878,036 for the year ending March 31. This was a gain of $846,252. The company also declared an ordinary dividend of 12½ per cent this year, compared with 7½ per cent last year.

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Review

"The Verdict"

(Warners)

SIMILARLY as elaborate production mounting does not necessarily guarantee the commensurate commercial success of a film, neither does modest studio expenditure narrow down a picture's potential market. "The Verdict," a deftly done murder film, seems quite capable of taking on the box-office reponsibilities of more expensive product. Given a good build-up, it can hardly go wrong.

William Jacobs produced, Don Siegel directed and topping the cast are Sydney Greenstreet, Peter Lorre and Joan Lorring. With them are George Coulouris, Rosalind Ivan, Paul Cavanaugh, Arthur Shields, Morton Lowry, Holmes Herbert and others.

Peter Milne's screenplay, from a novel by Israel Zangwill, is good mystery all the way and actually provides a plausible, wholly satisfactory explanation of plot developments which are ingeniously contrived and certain to baffle the spectator.

Fog-shrouded England is the setting. Shortly after a man convicted of murder goes to the gallows, evidence proving his innocence comes to the fore. Consequently Greenstreet is discharged as supervisor of Scotland Yard and his gloating subordinate, Coulouris, gets the job. What follows has all the earmarks of the "perfect crime" as Lowry is found murdered in his room to which there is only one entrance, a locked and bolted door. The identity of the murderer and how he committed the crime provide the mystery, and the solution, nicely timed for purposes of suspense, comes as a genuine surprise. Although its sombre subject makes it best suited for adult audiences, the latter will undoubtedly appreciate the intelligent handling of an intelligent script.

Running time, 86 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Nov. 23.

GENE ARNEEI

Arbitration Pact Looms at Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7.—As all factions and neutrals in the CSU-IATSE studio labor conflict turned their attention to machinery for preventing future work stoppages, the weekend neared with the present strike threatening to continue indefinitely.

With nominated arbitrator Joseph Keenan due to arrive Friday morning, SAG, which promulgated the plan for arbitration machinery to settle all future jurisdictional disputes, summoned a committee composed of representatives of CSU, IATSE and neutral unions to a meeting expected to be the first of a series running into next week. Among matters confronting the meeting was the "revised" plan offered by CSU attorneys after a conference had approved the SAG version and shared in selecting Keenan as arbitrator, although IATSE had denounced the CSU revision as indicative of bad faith. Unionists at large looked forward to the Friday meeting with confidence that differences between the plans could be reconciled.

When adopted, after approval by all AFL unions in the studios and their international presidents, a "motion picture jurisdictional disputes arbitration contract" would bind the locals to submit disputes to a three-man board composed of Keenan and representative of each disputant, with leave to appeal to a higher board composed of an arbitrator chosen by each disputant and a third man chosen by them. Initially, the machinery would be installed for a period between the adoption and Dec. 31, 1947, with half the expense pro-rated among the unions and half among the employing studios.

Unaffected by the arbitration machinery, the CSU strike continued in status quo at the close of the sixth week, with the strikers demanding signed contracts embodying wage increases and the return of all strikers to their jobs without discrimination as the principal conditions of a settlement.

Zukor, In London, Installs Perkins

LONDON, Nov. 7.—Adolph Zukor, board chairman of Paramount, officially installed J. E. Perkins as chairman and managing director in Great Britain, succeeding David E. Rose, now an independent producer. Zukor also initiated 58 members of the organization into the Paramount "25-Year Club" at a banquet here tonight. George Weltner, president of Paramount International, and Ray Milland, Paramount star, also were present.

Zukor presented to each of the initiates a scroll, membership badge, wrist watch and a leather album, containing portraits and brief sketches of each member.

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, cabled his congratulations.

Espy General Manag For Vidor-Garnett

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7.—Reeves Espy, who recently resigned as vice-president in charge of studio management at PRC here, has joined the new King Vidor-Tay Garnett outfit, Viking Productions, as general manager. Viking, he said, will make from six to nine high-budget films within three years. Distribution has not been set.

Variety Anniversary

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 7. — The Variety Club of Charlotte, Tent No. 24, will celebrate its sixth anniversary with a banquet Monday at Hotel Charlotte. Principal speaker will be William McCraw, national executive director of Variety and former attorney general of Texas. R. J. O'Donnell, national president, will also attend.

"One People" Screening

"One People," a one-reel animated cartoon produced by the foreign language department of the Anti-Defamation League of B'Nai B'Rith, wil have a preview screening today at the Preview Theatre here.

Production on Coast Still Stands at 40

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 7. — Production remains unchanged as six new films went before cameras, five were finished, and one—"Vendetta"—was temporarily suspended; the shooting total stood at 40.

Columbia

Finished: "Twin Sombreros," "The Guilt of Janet Ames," "Framed" (formerly "They Walk Alone).

Started: "Prairie Raiders," with Charles Starret, Smiley Burnette, Nancy Saunders.

Shooting: "Millie's Daughter," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love," "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Shooting: "Undercover Maisie," "The Personal Touch," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "It Happened in Brooklyn," "Unfinished Dance," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Started: "The Devil's Deputy," with Johnny Mack Brown, Raymond Hatton, Peggy Wynne, Bonnie Jean Hartley.

Paramount

Started: "Blaze of Noon," with Anne Baxter, William Holden, Sterling Hayden, Sonny Tufts, William Bendix, Howard da Silva.

Shooting: "Variety Girl," "The Big Haircut," "Unconquered" (DeMille); "Desert Fury" (formerly "Desert Town"—Hal Wallis).

PRC

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Started: "Magic Town" (Riskin), with James Stewart, Jane Wyman, Kent Smith, Donald Meek, Ned Sparks; "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw," with Ralph Byrd, Kay Christopher.

Shooting: "Build My Gallows High," "Thunder Mountain," "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Shooting: "Gallant Man."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights," "Boomerang."

United Artists

Finished: "New Orleans" (Levey); "Carnegie Hall" (Federal); *Temporarily Suspended:* "Vendetta" (California).

Universal-International

Shooting: "The Egg and I."

Warners

Started: "Dark Passage," with Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Clifton Webb, Tom d'Andrea.

Shooting: "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night Unto Night," "Love and Learn," "Possessed."

E. G. Collins Promoted

Eric G. Collins has been appointed RKO Radio director of advertising and publicity for Australasia by managing director Ralph R. Doyle, replacing Percy Curtis, resigned.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 12	SO DARK THE NIGHT Steven Geray D—70 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) NO LEAVE, NO LOVE C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46) RAGE IN HEAVEN D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	DANGEROUS MONEY Sydney Toler D—66 mins. (605) (Rev. 10/11/46)		GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Block 1) SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) (Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) June Haver George Montgomery Vivian Blaine (Rev. 9/5/46) HOME SWEET HOMICIDE Peggy Ann Garner Randolph Scott C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46) STRANGE JOURNEY Paul Kelly Osa Massen D—65 mins (643) (Rev. 9/9/46) (Re-release) THE BOWERY George Raft Wallace Beery D—84 mins. (642)	Comet Prod. LITTLE IODINE Jo Ann Marlowe Marc Cramer C—55 mins. (Rev. 9/6/46)	(October Release) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 19	BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Rev. 9/13/46) LAND RUSH (Rev. 9/17/46)				LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby				(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders D—100 mins. (Rev. 11/4/46)		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605) (Rev.10/17/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)				TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean						
Nov. 2			WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D—73 mins. (605) (Rev. 10/31/46)								NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606) (Rev. 10/24/46)
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks D—65 mins. (818) (Rev. 11/1/46)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/45) UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)			HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542)		(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)		(Nov. Releases) MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson	
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)		SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563)		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang		(Block 2) NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)		(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven	
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)		BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)	STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O		GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46) CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer C—109 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46) SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—(824)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland					WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)			
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue		CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46) DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney		(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd	(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERA-ZADE (Color) Brian Donlevy Yvonne de Carlo	
Dec. 14			(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.				(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)		(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce	TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	
Dec. 21			SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan								

[Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily Review Date.]



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To get the utmost from his special skill, his creative ability, the director of photography naturally wants a superior film, one on which he can depend, one perfectly suited to the conditions and circumstances under which he's working. That's why he so often prefers Eastman Plus-X for general studio and outdoor use . . . and why he turns to Eastman Super-XX for use under adverse lighting conditions.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 93 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1946 TEN CENTS

Say Decision Does Not Bar Percent Suits

If Contracts 'Illegal,' False Returns Are, Too

By TOM LOY

Although the New York Federal court has found phases of exhibition contracts illegal, distributors are confident of obtaining "restitution in full" of monies alleged to be due them in more than 140 percentage suits now pending throughout the country.

Commenting on an opinion expressed among others by Thomas C. McConnell, attorney for the Jackson Park Theatre in Chicago, to the effect that the ruling on the present contracts undermines the legal status of actions alleging damages resulting from falsified percentage returns, as well as on a question about the same point raised at the recent Allied States convention in Boston by Max Cohen, New York circuit operator, counsel for distributors declare they began pre-

(*Continued on page 6*)

UA for Enterprise In US, Loew's Abroad

It is reliably understood that Enterprise will release its first six attractions through United Artists in the United States and Canada with Metro handling distribution elsewhere throughout the world.

The deal would be unique and, so far as known, without precedent in recent years.

"Progress Made" in Studio Union Confab

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—At the close of a six-hour conference attended by CSU, IATSE and neutral union representatives Joseph Keenan was nominated permanent chairman. The committee in charge of the movement to establish arbitration machinery to prevent future work stoppages based on jurisdictional disputes adjourned to reconvene Monday morning.

In a short statement, the committee said "much free and frank discussion" had taken place in the first session and "progress made."

Meanwhile the current strike con-

(*Continued on page 6*)

$300,000 Increase For NY Publicists; $150,000 Back Pay

Wage increases, estimated by the Screen Publicists Guild to raise company payrolls by $300,000 in the following year, became effective Friday for approximately 375 publicists of film companies here under terms of a new contract with the union. The contract also provides for distribution of an estimated $150,000 in pay rises retroactive to May 4. Involved were Columbia, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, RKO Theatres, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warner Brothers.

Discussions on a new contract with Republic have been resumed, after being held in abeyance since expiration of the old contract on Aug. 25, it was learned. Roger Lewis, president of the SPG, revealed that talks will start soon with PRC. The pact signed some

(*Continued on page 6*)

Wallis-Para. Talk New Long Term Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Hal Wallis, now in the East, is discussing a renewal of his deal with Paramount, providing for 12 additional pictures for release over a period of probably three years.

Johnston Contracts Pneumonia Abroad

London, Nov. 10. — Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, visiting from New York, has pneumonia, contracted following his appearance at a trade luncheon here on Thursday against the advice of doctors who had been treating him for a heavy cold.

Johnston's tour of the Continent in behalf of the American film industry, which was to have started today, has been cancelled.

Johnston's Plan Excites British

LONDON, Nov. 10.—The proposal made at a trade luncheon here on Thursday by Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, that the world's motion picture industry leaders establish an international film council is causing excited debate throughout the London film industry, with the consensus of opinion from persons both for or against the proposal being that a prolonged examination of it should be made before any conclusive action is taken.

Sir Henry French, director general of the British Film Producers Association, suggests such an organization might well supplement the film work of the United Nations.

Decree Transcends Trade Practice Field: Coyne

Answering criticisms of the American Theatres Association's participation in the New York anti-trust suit, Robert W. Coyne, ATA executive director, states that ATA's petition to intervene in the case constituted no departure from its originally-stated policy of avoiding intra-industry matters. He explains that the matter of competitive selling as contained in the court's original opinion presented a problem "transcending the field of trade practices" and that the ATA was impelled to launch a fight against it to protect the interests of its membership.

Exhibitors in all likelihood would have demanded a stand against "auction selling" if it had been an issue at the time of ATA's organizational meeting in St. Louis, last spring, Coyne commented.

He said that the association has pursued the intervention course rather than that of *amicus curiae* in the anti-trust suit because the former allows for appeal of a denial of its petition, if such should be the case, as well as the right to appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court on the lower court's final decree. If permitted to intervene in the Supreme Court, ATA could present arguments in addition to filing a brief, as *amicus curiae* only allows.

ATA would "encourage" the establishment of arbitration machinery in the industry and in so doing would be operating under its own mandate to "promote the welfare of the industry," Coyne said.

He said that the possibility of the development of such an intra-industry program is considerably stronger at present than it was a few years ago in that the trade problems extant are now crystalized in the minds of theatremen.

US to Talk to 18 Countries On Quota Laws

Films Among Items Up For Treaty Discussions

A concerted trade-agreement negotiations program between the United States and 18 trading nations for the reciprocal reduction of trade barriers on a wide variety of products, including motion pictures and film quota laws, was announced here at the weekend by the U. S. State Department's Winthrop Brown, chief of the Department's division of commercial policy.

The negotiations, which, insofar as motion pictures are concerned, would be directed chiefly toward liberalizing film quotas, will look toward substantial elimination of trade discriminations among the various nations, Brown said.

The nations slated to participate in the negotiations—which will be pre-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Companies Consider Brandt Settlement

Attorneys for Paramount, RKO Radio, Loew's and Warners will consider out-of-court settlement of the companies' claims of inaccurate percentage reports by the Brandt circuit, here, headed by Harry Brandt, in a series of meetings with Brandt's coun-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Goldwyn Gets Astor In '3-Cornered' Row

The question of which film will tenant the Broadway Astor Theatre, during the Christmas holidays and subsequent weeks, apparently has been decided in favor of Samuel Goldwyn

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

Review of "Children of Paradise" appears on page seven of this issue, and reviews of "Stairway to Heaven," "Wanted for Murder" and Tumbleweed Trail" on page eight.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, President of Monogram Southern Exchanges, has left Atlanta for Los Angeles.

•

BENJAMIN FIELDING, New York City's license commissioner, well known in motion picture circles here, has been awarded a plaque by the News Dealers Post 1169 of the American Legion for his interest in veterans welfares.

•

MYRNA LOY, accompanied by her husband, GENE MARKEY, was due to arrive here at 9:15 this morning at LaGuardia Airport via American Air Lines.

•

JACK KIRBY, Warner district manager in Atlanta, and MERRITT DAVIS, Republic Atlanta district manager, have returned there from Charlotte.

•

BERNARD J. GATES, Monogram Latin-American division manager, has left New York for a tour of his territory.

•

MARC J. WOLF, vice-president of Theatre Managers, Inc., Indianapolis, and Universal branch manager in that city, were Cincinnati visitors.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern sales manager, has returned from a week's trip to Atlanta and Charlotte.

•

EDWARD MOREY, Monogram vice-president, left New York for Hollywood on Friday. He will return in about 10 days.

•

EDWARD M. SAUNDERS, M-G-M assistant general sales manager, returned to New York at the weekend from Seattle, Salt Lake City and Chicago.

•

NORMAN AYERS, Warners Southern division sales manager, returned to New York over the weekend from Nashville.

•

LUKE STEIN and CARL FLOYD of the Stein and Floyd Circuit in Florida, have been Atlanta visitors.

•

NICK LAMANTIA, Southern division manager for the J. Arthur Rank Organization, has been visiting Charlotte.

•

LEO HANDEL, head of M-G-M's audience research department, has returned to New York from Havana.

•

JAMES A. FITZPATRICK, M-G-M short subject producer, left Chicago yesterday for the Coast.

•

A. L. CAPLAN, Warner general manager for China, is en route to that country from New York.

•

SIDNEY WRIGHT, M-G-M London attorney, is due in New York from Hollywood.

•

E. P. (JACK) FIELDS recently celebrated the 30th anniversary of his theatre, the Capitol at Moose Jaw, Ont.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE increasing acceptance of British pictures by both British and American film-goers has been receiving a good deal of New York press attention, most of it uninformed and, consequently, confusing to the public.

The basic attitude of most of the New York writers is that the appearance on American screens of British pictures in increasing numbers and improving quality is a manifestation of a brand new "trade war" on the part of the British industry against Hollywood. Not only that, but a war that has taken the American industry by surprise; has already caused it considerable worriment and will probably have it hanging on the ropes within a matter of weeks or months.

Hollywood, never having been exactly beloved by the general run of Eastern writers, is destined to run second to London in the film world unless it wakes up pretty soon and develops an artistic and social conscience, according to the current prognosticators in the public prints. Reading them, it is difficult to escape a feeling that there is some genuine glee and a large amount of wishful thinking behind most of the writings on the subjects.

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The facts that explain the increasing acceptance of British pictures here have not yet been touched upon in any of the New York journals that have commented upon the situation up to now. If they have been, it was in one we missed.

The rejuvenation of British production, as the informed in the industry are aware, is as much a result of American (or should we say Hollywood?) interest and cooperation as it is British determination.

The upper executive strata of the American industry acknowledged long since that our pictures could not go on indefinitely syphoning off $80,000,000 to $90,000,000 in revenue annually from Britain without a measure of reciprocation, sometime, somehow. Britain's desperate sterling position during the war brought the matter to a head, even though it was temporarily alleviated by American Lend-Lease to Britain.

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American film executives came to the conclusion that the only right and fair answer was to help Britain's films to recoup in this and, incidentally, other world markets, some of the millions that American films will be garnering in Britain.

That did not entail, simply, booking British pictures into American theatres. Unless the pictures were good, there would be no patronage for them and both the American theatre operator and the British producer-distributor would lose. Thus, the first step was to assist Britain in making pictures which would be acceptable to American film-goers. That assistance was volunteered by some of the foremost American film companies, their executives and their production talent. It led to a great deal of cooperative action. In addition, British talent and technicians have been and will continue to be used in American productions made in Britain.

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The opinions of New York lay press writers to the contrary, notwithstanding, it is much too early to decide whether Britain's excursions into this and other world markets will even be successful, let alone elevate its film industry to a position ahead of Hollywood's. Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, at his press conference following his recent arrival in London, predicted that British films would gross $10,000,000 in the American market during the next year.

By comparison with the recent past, that is good. By comparison with Hollywood grosses—Well, it's just not time to make such a comparison.

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Many American industry executives are concerned that their grosses in Britain are being affected by the increasing popularity there of the home product. There are many answers to that known to those concerned, and all of the answers are quite apart from the fact that, with some American assistance and some American tutelage, some British pictures have improved remarkably compared with prewar standards.

That was a part of what the brains of the American industry knew to be necessary and offered their aid to achieve.

Certainly no trade war is involved in that, nor is Hollywood being taken by surprise.

Newsreel Parade

TWO events share the newsreel spotlight in current issues: The Republican Party's nationwide election sweep, and film notables and stars at the Royal command performance in London. Skiing, Canadian record logging haul, and the $800,000 *swindle in New York, are also featured; complete synopses follow:*

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 21—Election landslide gives Republicans control of Congress. Hindu-Moslem feud flairs in violence throughout India. Cashier arrested, faces charges in swindle. Palestine crisis increases with new outbreaks. Canadian pulp logs sent down river in record drive. Film stars hailed in London at Royal command performance.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 219—Republican landslide. Turmoil in India between Hindus and Moslems. U. S. film stars meet Royalty at command performance in London. Nickel, the New York cashier, captured in alleged $800,000 embezzlement. Sport topics of the day: Stunt piloting in Virginia. Horse show opens in New York.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 22—Early birds hit ski trail in State of Washington. Royalty and film stars at London picture command showing. GOP sweeps nation at polls. Football: Philadelphia Eagles defeat New York Giants.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 24—Hollywood stars meet British Royalty in London at command performance. Canada stages huge log drive. Election returns roll Republicans into power. Skiiers tackle Mt. Rainier. Washington.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 553—Republicans sweep nation, win Congress. Swindle ring uncovered in New York. Record log haul in Canada. Stars of screen at Royal command performance, London. Skiing season opens at Chinook Pass, Washington.

Cheever Cowdin, Jr. Rites on the Coast

Funeral arrangements for J. Cheever Cowdin, Jr., 33, son of Universal's board chairman, have been delayed pending arrival of the remains in San Francisco. Cowdin died suddenly in Nassau, Bahamas, on Wednesday, while traveling. J. Cheever Cowdin, Sr., who left New York on Friday for the Bahamas, is accompanying his son's remains on the journey to San Francisco.

Young Cowdin, who resided in San Francisco, had been recently discharged from the Army. He attended St. Paul's Preparatory School and Harvard before joining the Army five years ago. He served in the Aleutians with an anti-aircraft unit and later in the European theatre with the infantry.

Korda, Others Arrive Today on 'Elizabeth'

Among those who will arrive here this morning on the *Queen Elizabeth* are: Sir Alexander Korda, Michael Powell, British producer; Walter Wanger and his wife, Joan Bennett, and Joseph Friedman, European supervisor of Columbia. Also on board are the Goldwyn Girls, back from a seven-week trip arranged in connection with the showing in Britain of "The Kid from Brooklyn."

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Nov. 28-Dec. 5 Set As '20th-Fox Week'

CHICAGO, Nov. 10.—The rallying-point for 20th-Fox sales drives in the final quarter of 1946 has been set for the week of Nov. 28 to Dec. 5, which will be inaugurated as "20th Century-Fox Week," it was decided at a wind-up session of the two-day regional exploitation conference held here at the Blackstone Hotel.

Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, who presided at the parley, announced that one of the most intensive exploitation drives in the history of the company is under way now to speed up its "Spyros P. Skouras Sales Drive" and to establish the new "20th-Century Fox Week."

Discussed here were world premiere plans for "The Razor's Edge," "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," "The Late George Apley," and "13 Rue Madelaine," as well as campaigns for "Margie" and "My Darling Clementine."

Schlaifer and Morris Kinzler of the Kayton-Spiero agency are due to return to New York tomorrow. A second regional meeting will be held in New York for Eastern exploitation men of the company some time after the opening of "The Razor's Edge" there on Nov. 19.

Schlaifer, Rodney Bush and other 20th-Fox executives were hosts at a cocktail party held for the daily and trade press and for publicity men of Balaban and Katz and Essaness circuits at the Blackstone.

'Razor's Edge' Drive to Reach Climax This Week

Campaign on the world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's 20th-Fox production of "The Razor's Edge," reached a highlight yesterday with the insertion of 1,000-line advertisements in New York newspapers featuring a Norman Rockwell painting of Tyrone Power. Climax of the promotion will come tomorrow night when the giant electric sign in Times Square, announcing the opening of the picture at the Roxy Theatre on Nov. 19 is lighted up.

Another feature was last night's nationwide broadcast of the "We, the People" radio show devoted exclusively to the picture and its makers. Wednesday night, Arnold Constable will unveil window displays containing the costumes worn by Gene Tierney in the picture. NBC's "Honeymoon in New York" will place further emphasis on the picture from today through Friday.

On Saturday the *New York Post* will run a 7,500-word serialization of the story. The billboard campaign, according to the company, is the biggest it has ever undertaken for one of its films. In addition to the Times Square illuminated sign, another one has been completed in the Columbus Circle area. The Roxy Theatre is also devoting much space to the film.

Harold Greene Joins Comet and Triangle

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10. — Harold Greene has resigned from Paramount's story department to join Comet and Triangle corporations as general manager.

Allied Leaders at Detroit Meet Today

DETROIT, Nov. 10.—Kim Sigler, Governor-elect of Michigan, will be the principal speaker at the 3-day Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan meeting, which will open at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, here, tomorrow. Other speakers will be Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, Abram F. Myers, general counsel, and William L. Ainsworth, executive treasurer. Numerous executives from distributing companies will also attend.

The complete agenda will be formulated when the board of directors meets in the morning. However, already slated for discussion are distribution practices, availability of product, and the possibilities of acquiring additional product from independent sources. Winding up the convention will be a banquet Wednesday evening, sponsored jointly by Allied and the Variety Club of Michigan at which veterans of the industry will be honored.

Oklahoma Theatre Owners Defer Meeting to Dec. 9-10

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 10. — The annual convention of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, originally planned for Dec. 2-3, has been postponed to Dec. 9-10, presumably since the first dates conflicted with the New Orleans meeting of industry executives. Principals of the American Theatres Association plan to attend both meetings.

Allied Decision on ITOA in January

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—Decision on the proposal merger of the Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York with Allied States will be made at an Allied board meeting in January, Abram F. Myers, chairman, reports.

At the Boston convention of the organization some months ago, a five-man committee was appointed to study the proposed merger, and a report by the group is expected some time before the board meeting. Chairman of the group is Irving Dollinger. Other committee members are Ed Lachman, Sidney Samuelson, Nathan Yamins, and W. L. Ainsworth.

Allied's membership reaction to the proposals that it support the production of several films will also be considered by the board, it was said.

Stamp Club Formed; Nat Cohn Chairman

Nat Cohn of Columbia, was named chairman of a steering committee at an organizing meeting of an industry stamp club on Friday here, at the Warwick Hotel. Thirteen attended the meeting. Jack Levy, National Screen; Jack Hoffberg, independent producer; and Sidney Kulick, Bell Pictures, are also serving on the steering committee.

Other members of the collectors group are: Ed Aarons, M-G-M; Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio; Albert Dean, Paramount; Howard Levy, M-G-M; Robert Maroney, RKO Radio; Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M; Joseph Seiden, Cinema Studios; John Wenisch, Film Classics. The next meeting will be held soon, Cohn said.

UA Files Affidavit On 'Outlaw' License

Affidavits contesting efforts by New York City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding to have "The Outlaw" exhibition license revoked by the State Education department's motion picture division, on the grounds of "objectionable" advertising, were filed on Friday by United Artists lawyers to the state board's office here. Copies of the statements, which were made by Paul Lazarus, Jr., UA advertising manager, and Harry L. Gold, general manager of Hughes Productions, were also sent to the New York corporation counsel.

At the motion picture division offices, here, it was learned that the legal aspects of Fielding's motion and the weighing of evidence on the film's exploitation would be in the hands of Charles Brind, counsel to the board's acting director, Dr. Ward C. Bowen. At the weekend they were both in Albany, where the affidavits and briefs to be submitted by the end of next week, will be examined.

Affidavits on the license commissioner's position are to be submitted this week.

UA attorneys, in the meantime, are drawing up briefs for submission to the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court for the hearing of the appeal from Judge Walters' decision refusing to compel the Rialto, Republic and Gotham theatres to exhibit the Hughes picture, as booked by them. The briefs are expected to be ready this week, according to George Raftery, UA counsel. Hearing of the appeal has been set for Nov. 22.

Arnold Stoltz Wins $50,000 Court Action

Judge Carroll G. Walter in Supreme Court, New York County, has decided in favor of Arnold Stoltz, publicist, in his $50,000 action brought by him against Arthur I. Darman and Max J. Cohen, former owners and operators of the New Park Theatre, Woonsocket, R. I.

The theatre owners had made an application for a summary judgment to dismiss the complaint of Stoltz, contending that their sale of the New Park to Fred Greene, operator of the Bijou Theatre in Woonsocket, was made without a breach on their part of agreements which they had with Stoltz, under which Stoltz was employed as general manager of the New Park, with option to buy the theatre or a half interest in it. It was contended by defendants that they had terminated the agreement with Stoltz in accordance with provisions of the contract.

Conner and Chopnick were attorneys for Stoltz and Poletti, Diamond, Rabin, Freidin and Mackay represented the defendants.

Hal Wallis to Speak At Nobel Dinner Here

Hal Wallis, producer, will speak for the industry at the forthcoming sixth Nobel Anniversary dinner, to be held here on Dec. 10 at the Hotel Astor. "Progress for Peace" will be the theme of this year's program, which marks the 50th anniversary of Alfred Bernard Nobel's death.

Business Will Hold, Owners Tell Orr

Motion picture box-office grosses will hold to their present levels for at least three more years, according to Western independent theatre owners and circuit heads, in opinions expressed to Maury Orr, Western sales manager for United Artists, who has returned to the home office following a six-week tour of his territory.

He noted definite exhibitor optimism regarding both the future prosperity of the nation's theatres and future distributor-exhibitor relationships.

Exhibitors cited three factors, Orr said, which will materially aid business for an indefinite length of time. These are:

Housing—With an appreciable alleviation of the housing shortage, there is no evidence of population shifts to occasion any loss of theatre patronage.

Increased popularity of films—The industry's war-time job in servicing "GI's" overseas is paying off with increased attendance at box offices.

Better product—Exhibitors are convinced that keener competition is forcing Hollywood to provide top quality pictures, a fact which the public is fast beginning to recognize.

Jackson Denies He Will Join WB, ABC

LONDON, Nov. 10.—Louis Jackson, British National producer, denies rumors circulating here that he presently will assume production control of Associated British Cinemas and Warners British.

Jackson said an agreement still has not been reached in connection with possible disposition of Anglo-American to Warners or ABC, but that, in any event, his intention is to remain a producer with British National.

Heywood, Kaplan to NBC Advisory Board

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 10.—Jack Heywood, New Richmond, Wis., and A. H. (Abe) Kaplan, Minneapolis, have been named members of the advisory board of North Central Allied, president Ben Berger announces.

They replace the late W. A. (Al) Steffes, and Ben Friedman. The latter recently resigned from the post following disagreement with Berger over his stand for divorcement, Friedman declaring divorcement a "basis of industry chaos."

Yorke Is Extending Coverage for Video

Emerson Yorke, producer, here, has returned from Hollywood where he consummated a pact with Herbert Aller, business representative of the cameramen's union, Local No. 659, for news and special events coverage for television throughout 11 Western states.

A similar deal was closed by Yorke with William H. Strafford, business agent for cameramen's Local No. 666, Chicago, for coverage of 22 states in the Midwest and South.

Another Crown
King of the

Alka-Seltzer selects Roy Rogers to succeed radio's famous National Barn Dance Program following a run of 13 consecutive years of popularity on the air.

"SATURDAY NIGHT ROUNDUP"

Starring **ROY ROGERS · GEORGE *"Gabby"* HAYES**

DALE EVANS · PAT BUTTRAM · BOB NOLAN an

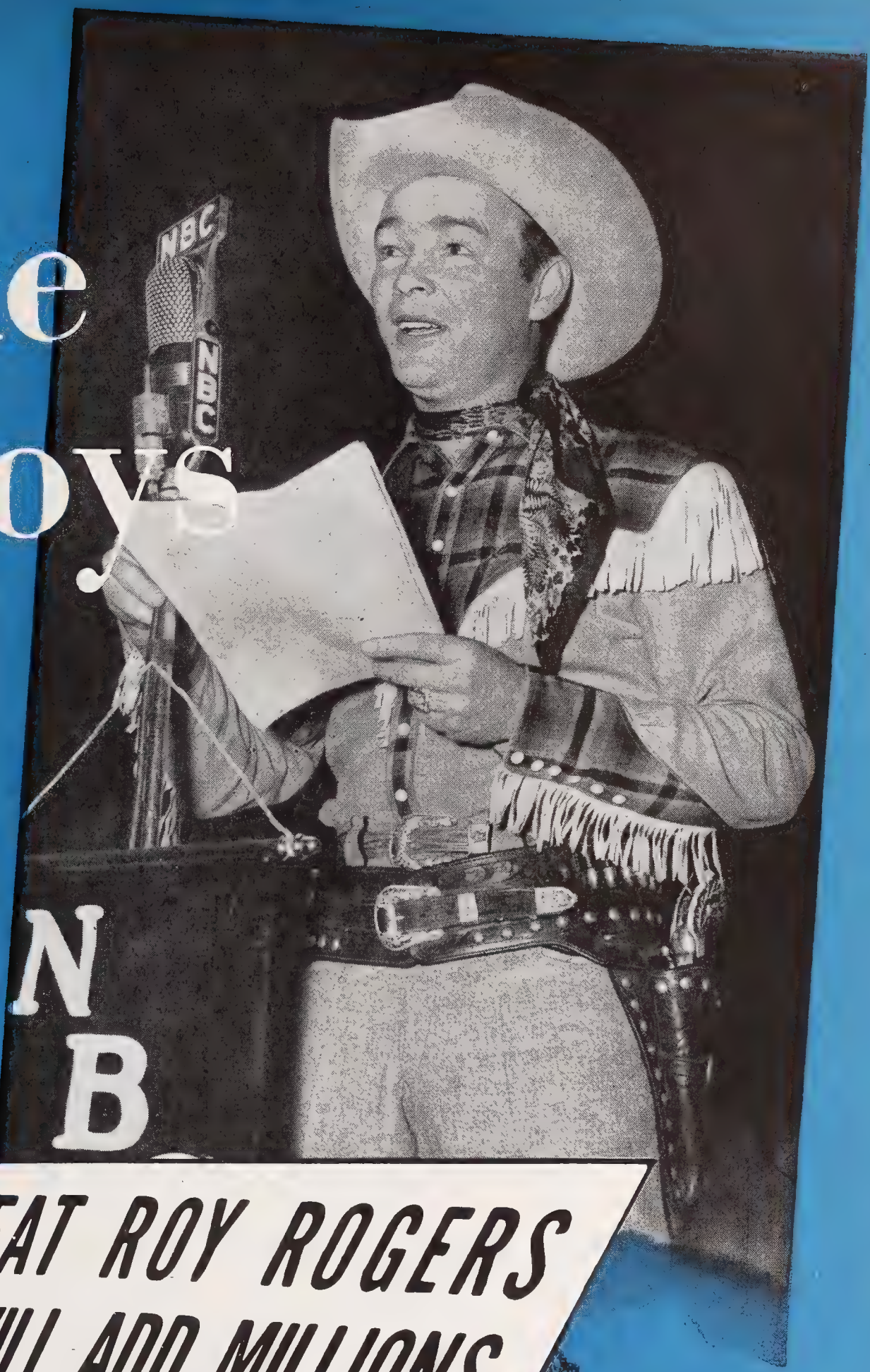
the SONS of the PIONEERS · COUNTRY WASHBURN

Same Day Same Time

Saturday night - 9 to 9:30 EST - ove the entire NBC network of 158 st tions coast-to-coast, including Canad

KEEP YOUR BOX OFFIC

for the Cowboys



THIS GREAT ROY ROGERS AIR SHOW WILL ADD MILLIONS OF FANS TO THE MILLIONS WHO NOW SEE HIM ON THE SCREEN IN REPUBLIC PICTURES!

YE ON REPUBLIC.....

Percent Suits

(*Continued from page* 1)

paring several years ago for the industry anti-trust decision by eliminating all mention of contracts from actions for recovery on percentage suits. The efficacy of this move is attested by Abram F. Myers, who holds that the pending decree of the Federal Court here has no bearing on the distributors' continued right to examine exhibitors' books.

Some exhibitor attorneys contend that the phases of the license agreements found to be in violation of the anti-trust laws have the effect of bringing the distributors into court with "unclean hands," thereby invalidating their position as plaintiffs for recovery in the percentage actions.

Legal Avenues Open

Distribution attorneys, on the other hand, claim that even if that were so, other legal avenues would be open to distributors for recovery in these cases. They specified actions for fraud and actions to establish a fair return on their property which has been licensed and used commercially by exhibitors.

Distributor counsel explain that the present percentage suits are tort actions (actions claiming civil wrongs independent of contract), based solely on exhibitors' alleged fraudulent returns as to collections at their theatres. Whether or not the original terms may have been induced by the existence of a monopoly does not enter into the matter, they hold, pointing to a Supreme Court ruling of several years ago, which held that municipalities had to pay in full for the purchase of sewer pipe although a monopoly in the fixing of its price had been proven. However, if an individual purchaser can establish that he has been damaged by price fixing, he may later resort to the remedy of a suit "for relief under conspiracy," it was indicated.

Bulwark

As a bulwark to the position they are taking, the distributors point out that it is an established procedure for courts to "enforce the good features of bad contracts." The judges in the New York case ruled that their holding that "the defendants have all engaged in unlawful price-fixing does not prevent the distributors from continuing their present methods for determining film rentals; they may measure their compensation by stated sums, by a given percentage of a particular theatre's receipts, by a combination of these two, or by any other appropriate means."

Moreover, according to distributor counsel, a primary element in the percentage suits is to prevent the "false representation of prior grosses from influencing future contracts." This, they point out, is forbidden by law. A study of past cases strongly indicates that an attempt to get lower terms in the future has been the chief motive of many exhibitors who have made fraudulent returns, the counsel claim, explaining that in numerous instances the difference between the amount actually owed and the amount paid was less than the bribe allegedly given to checkers to obtain their assistance in the deception. Exhibitors, it is said, fear that showing high returns on percentage pictures will result in demands for a higher rate for their "flats."

Since the opinion in the New York anti-trust case was handed down on June 11, percentage suits have been brought against the operators of the Delmar and Dorset theatres in New York; the Ezella and Madison, Cleveland; State, Galion, Ohio; Berea, Berea, Ohio; Willoby, Willoughby, Ohio; Parma, Parma, Ohio; Beach Cliff, Rocky River, Ohio; Highland and Liberty, Akron; Regent and Victor, New Castle, Pa.; Forum, Barstow, Cal., and Apollo, Momart and Lyric, Brooklyn and Frisina Theatres in upstate New York; Van Nomikos, Chicago, and against William and Betsy Rosenthal, operating the Irving, Indianapolis; Royal, Danville, Ind., and Vogue, St. Mathews, Ky., in Federal court, Indianapolis. Auditing is going on, suits are going forward, and payments of the amounts found to be due are being made, counsel state.



$300,000 Increase

(*Continued from page* 1)

weeks ago with PRC stipulates that contract negotiations would be initiated 10 days after conclusion of a pact, with larger companies, he said.

Provisions of the new agreements grant increases of $6 for apprentice publicists formerly earning between $30 and $49.99 a week; $10 for associate publicists who earned between $50 and $69.99 a week; $12.50 for publicists earning between $70 and $99.99 a week, and $15 for senior publicists earning $100 or more a week. In addition, base starting salaries for these classifications were boosted 15 per cent.

Other features of the contract provide for a modified union shop in which three out of every four employes must be members of the SPG; a "lay-off clause" declaring that companies may cut down their staffs only if there is a genuine economic necessity and if the retrenchments will not create "speed-up" conditions for other employes, and the creation of a union-management panel, representing employes and management of each company, if the union contests lay-off procedures.

Grant Forms Company

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10. — Marshall Grant, former Universal producer, plans an independent producing company bearing his name.

Brandt Settlement

(*Continued from page* 1)

sel to begin shortly. Each of the four distributors will take up the matter with Brandt separately, with Paramount scheduled to be first.

Last summer Brandt settled a 20th Century-Fox claim in an arbitration proceeding presided over by Spyros Skouras, president of that company at Brandt's request. The outcome was that Brandt paid 20th Century-Fox a reported total of $134,000 over a period of time.

Goldwyn Gets Astor

(*Continued from page* 1)

Productions, which announced here on Friday that "The Best Years of Our Lives," RKO-Radio, will open at the house on Nov. 21.

The booking has been the subject of controversy between Goldwyn and United Artists which had sought the house for David O. Selznick's film, "Duel in the Sun." The Selznick office here reported that it does not have a print of the picture here; however this was not meant to imply that a print could not be available for a holiday opening.

In Unique Position

Meanwhile the theatre finds itself in a unique position since a possibility still exists that its present attraction, UA's "Caesar and Cleopatra," might be ordered out of the house early this week. New York Supreme Court Justice Aaron J. Levy on Friday reserved decision after arguments on an order obatined by United Artists directing New York county sheriff John J. McCloskey to "show cause" why the print of "Caesar" has not been recovered. This was in consequence of a writ of replevin served against the the Astor, and which the latter repudiated. Purpose of the UA-obtained writ was to make the theatre available for a run of its "The Strange Woman," which, it was intended, would play until a "Duel" print became ready.

Maurice Maurer, who operates the theatre for City Investing Co., states that "The Strange Woman" has not been booked. Additionally, he confirmed the booking of the Goldwyn film. Judge Levy's decision on confiscation of the "Caesar" print is expected tomorrow.

A spokesman for the Goldwyn office asserts that a five-month run of "The Best Years of Our Lives" is expected.

Funeral Services for Newcomb Thompson

Funeral services were held yesterday at the Church of the Mediator, here, for Newcomb F. Thompson, 46, syndicate and special contact representative in S. Barret McCormick's RKO Radio advertising-publicity department under Rutgers Neilson, publicity manager.

Thompson had been with the company for two and one-half years. Previously he served in the Maritime Service after a long association on newspapers in New York and Boston. He is survived by his widow, Ruth E. Thompson, and his father, J. Bain Thompson of Norfolk, Conn. Thompson was a member of the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers.

Henry Lehrman, 60, Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Henry Lehrman, prominent in early silent pictures, died Thursday night at his home here, due to a stroke. Lehrman, who was 60 years old, started with Griffith and Sennett, and also produced Fox Sunshine Comedies. No relatives survived.

Rites for Mrs. Leon Errol

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Funeral services will be held Tuesday afternoon at the Church of the Recessional, Forest Lawn, for Mrs. Stella Errol, wife of Leon Errol, who died Thursday night following a stroke.

Quota Laws

(*Continued from page* 1)

ceeded by a six-week period during which briefs embracing the advice and judgment of any and all American business organizations concerned (including film trade organizations and firms) can be submitted to the U. S. Tariff Commission's Committee for Reciprocity Information, in Washington and by approximately 18 weeks of public hearings of views and opinions—are as follows: Australia, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, France, India, Lebanon, Luxemburg, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Union of South Africa, Soviet Union, United Kingdom, and, of course, the U. S.

Russia is the only nation which has not yet formally accepted the invitation to enter into the negotiations which will aim at establishing a charter for an International Trade Organization, Brown said. He added, however, that informally Russian officials have indicated a willingness to participate. With the exception of Russia, no other nation can enter into the negotiations, the panel having been closed, according to Brown.

Tariff Concessions

In a list of products on which possible tariff concessions by the U. S. Government will be considered in reciprocal trade agreement negotiations with foreign countries, the U. S. Inter-Departmental Trade Agreements Organization (consisting of the Departments of State, Commerce, Agriculture, Treasury, War and Navy, and the U. S. Tariff Commission) includes reference to motion pictures.

A small tariff, amounting to approximately one cent per foot, is carried by the U. S. on the importation of motion picture prints, according to Carl E. Milliken, secretary of the Motion Picture Association. However, the tariff may be avoided altogether, Milliken added, by bringing negatives into this country and making prints here. In the case of "important" pictures, it is the practice to import negatives and do the printing here.

Milliken Favors

The MPA Milliken added, views the trade agreement negotiations program with much favor. The MPA, he said, is committed to support the elimination of all film trade barriers.

The Tariff Commission's Committee for Reciprocity Information has set Dec. 21, 1946, as the closing date for the submission of briefs. That date likewise is the closing date for the hearing of oral applications. Public hearings will open in Washington next Jan. 13. All concerned with or likely to be affected by the negotiations may submit briefs, render oral advice and participate in the hearings, Brown said. He emphasized that the Government specifically encourages the filing of information, since, he said, business organizations are regarded as having pertinent details which the Government would not otherwise obtain.

"Progress Made"

(*Continued from page* 1)

tinued as anticipated, with CSU resuming mass picketing at the Columbia Ranch," and at the Universal and Warner studios. The police arrested 11 pickets at Warners.

Brandon Says Czechs Film Propaganda

WASHINGTON, Nov. 10.—Asserting that Czechoslovakia is "out front" with production facilities for film-making in Europe, Tom Brandon of Brandon Films, who recently returned from a tour of Poland, Czechoslovakia and other European countries, declares that Czechoslovakia is becoming a propaganda film center for the Russians.

Production facilities built by the Germans when they dominated Czechoslovakia, are now being operated by both Czechs and Russians to turn out "leftwing" films on social problems, Brandon declared.

He emphasized that the U. S. must find some way to eliminate the barriers presently imposed upon cultural pictures in order to get more American documentary films into Europe, so that we can "sell" democracy to the populations abroad.

Urging that "some agency" assume the film program of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration when it ceases operation on Jan. 1, Brandon said that William Wells, UNRRA film chief, has no immediate plans after his present assignment ends.

Brandon also stated that conditions for production in Poland are bad. He added, however, that an effort is being made to rebuild studios and set up circuits.

Year's Work Ahead On Nuremberg Film

A full year will be required by film representatives of the four-power Allied Council to prepare a feature-length picture of the Nuremberg trials and their background, according to a spokesman for Pare Lorentz, head of the civil affairs division of the U. S. War Department, who is planning a trip to Europe to represent this country in an advisory capacity when material for the film is assembled.

Headquarters for preparation of the Nuremberg picture may be moved from that city to France or England. The film, similar in scope to "The True Glory," which officially detailed the European military campaigns, is said to be intended for compulsory distribution in the occupied countries. It also will be circulated generally throughout the world, with distribution in the U. S. being arranged by the Motion Picture Association.

The picture will draw largely on captured German footage, French underground sequences, shots compiled by the Russians in Eastern Europe and British and American photos of atrocities in their respective sectors. Much of it was used by the Allied Council's photographic evidence section at the trials.

Roshon and 'Vets' in Deal

The Veterans' Administration has awarded the Russell C. Roshon 16mm. Exchanges contracts to distribute newly-released Columbia, PRC and Monogram productions to 122 Veterans' Administration hospitals throughout the country. The contracts extend through next June.

Review

"Children of Paradise"

(Alexander Korda—Tricolore-French)

Hollywood, Nov. 5

ALTHOUGH this is possibly the finest film to come out of France, its reception in this country is dubious, because it is so totally different from the average American picture. It is caviar to the general, and will find a welcome only in the small "art" houses.

The acting is superb, and Jean-Louis Barrault is unquestionably the greatest pantomimic genius since Chaplin. Pierre Brasseur's performance is almost equally fine, though of a different and more astringent quality. Arletty, the heroine of the piece, is somewhat less talented than her male antagonists. Supporting parts are skilfully played by performers unknown in this country. Among them, Marcel Herrand, cast as a cynical assassin, is perhaps most notable, though Pierre Renoir and Etienne Decroux contribute sparking bits.

Jacques Prevert's screenplay is a far cry from the cut-and-dried, formula story, moving with mechanical precision, which has long been the accepted American standard. Rambling and realistic, Prevert's story seems not a story at all, but rather a vision of life from varying aspects and angles. His dialogue, always moving and sometimes heartbreakingly beautiful, will delight French-speaking audiences. The English subtitles, a fairly faithful translation, convey the continuity if not the quality of Prevert's prose.

Laid in Paris in 1840, the picture deals with the little lives of little people: an actor, a mime, a thief, a matter-of-fact young woman whose beauty and whose circumstances predestine her to the life of a *femme soutenue*. Beloved of the mime, she leaves him when it becomes apparent that he demands more of her, emotionally, than she is capable of giving. He marries another woman, a devoted and passionate girl, who believes that her own love for him must, in time, be returned. The story, inconclusive as life itself, stops six years later, when the mime meets his love again, and in the course of a few brief, bitter hours, his wife's faith is betrayed, his beloved's protector is murdered, and the beloved herself eludes him in the end.

Though the picture does not compare, technically, with American films, and the lighting and photography may seem inexpert to American eyes, the picture has the incomparable advantage of Marcel Carne's direction. He is a master, and there is hardly a director in Hollywood who could not profit by a study of Carne's effects. For discriminating audiences, "Children of Paradise" will prove a memorable experience. American roadshow rights to the film are owned by Alexander Korda.

Running time, 161 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, November 15.

THALIA BELL

To Make 'America' Series in Color

RKO Radio's "This Is America" series will be produced in color, just as soon as color facilities are available, Jay Bonafield, producer of the series, has disclosed. These two-reelers examine various phases of American economic, industrial, rural and political life. Technicolor will probably be the process the company will adopt, Bonafield added, but he emphasized that this does not preclude the possibility that some other process will be utilized.

"This Is America" and RKO Television have been jointly weighing methods for producing the series for television, Bonafield said. Although nothing definite in that connection has been arrived at as yet, since problems of cost are said to be formidable, the two organizations expect ultimately to work out a satisfactory plan, Bonafield indicated.

Meanwhile, Richard de Rochemont, March of Time producer, is reported to be currently studying methods for his organization's production of films for television.

Albany Variety Election

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 10.—The local Variety Club will elect 11 canvassmen at its annual meeting tomorrow. The canvassmen will in turn elect a chief barker, first and second assistant chief barkers, and a dough guy. A national canvassman and an alternate will also be elected. Chief barker now is Charles A. Smakwitz.

Japs Say They Like American Films Best

Jap film fans go to theatres on an average of more than once a week, prefer American and other foreign pictures to the native variety and would rather see romantic pictures than any other kind, according to a recent poll of 8,000 patrons of the Nikkatsu theatre in Japan, the Motion Picture Export Association reports.

A breakdown of the ballots submitted by MPEA's Tokyo office discloses that 47 per cent make theatre-going a habit more than once a week, 32 per cent exactly once a week and only 21 per cent less than once a week. Preference for imported entertainment prevailed over native product by a close 52 to 48 per cent split.

In the matter of entertainment content, 32 per cent gave top choice to romantic films, while musicals ran second with 24 per cent. The remaining preferences were about equally divided between ideological films, mysteries and westerns.

New Company Sets 18 French Features

Western Hemisphere Films, Inc., will import 18 French features for distribution in North and South America. Emil Bourcourt is president of the new firm here. The 18, first of which is "Clandestine," will be edited and titled in English in New York.

Maurice Lev is general manager of Western Hemisphere.



Greater Union and Rank Get 20 More

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Nov. 3 (By Airmail.)—Greater Union Theatres, owned in part by J. Arthur Rank, has added 20 theatres to its circuit by purchasing the Clifford Theatre Circuit in South Australia, at a cost of £280,000.

The purchase culminates a vigorous expansion policy accelerated early this year when the Rank group took a 50 per cent partnership in the company. During the past few months, Union has acquired ownership or control of several top Sydney suburban theatres, including the King's circuit of eight.

In addition to it theatre-operating activities, Union is blue-printing plans to equip studios and engage in feature production in Australia next year. This will be done in association with the Rank organization.

Exhibitors' Council

M-G-M's 16mm. division in Australia has estimated that there are 10,000 situations throughout Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands which are not served by 35mm. and will be suitable for sub-standard presentations. M-G-M has brought in several 16mm. prints of theatrical subjects and expects to have its first unit traveling New South Wales by Christmas.

Meanwhile the formation of a Federal Exhibitors' Council representing independents throughout the Commonwealth is favored by the Queensland Exhibitors Association, which is preparing proposals for submission to exhibitors of other states. These call for a Federal Council with authority to speak for independents on matters of common policy. The idea is not to interfere with the autonomy of state bodies on local questions.

A sharp difference in Australian exhibitors' attitude towards increasing admission prices is reflected in the annual report issued by the Exhibitors' Association of West Australia. The report declares: "Admission prices must be increased and a move has been made in this direction." Previously, Queensland and NSW exhibitor associations confirmed a policy opposing action to raise prices, whereas in New Zealand there has been agitation for some time to lift them by 25 per cent.

S M P E of the East To Hear E. S. Seeley

The contributions of theatre servicing to 20 years of sound motion picture progress, and a preview of possible theatre problems of the future which proper service will help solve, will be discussed by E. S. Seeley, chief engineer of Altec Service Corp., at the next monthly meeting, on Wednesday, of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, Atlantic Coast section, presided over by Frank E. Cahill Jr. of Warner Bros., chairman.

Through the 20th Century-Fox, the meeting will be held at the Fox Little Theatre, at its home office.

Compere, NBC Legal Aid

Thomas H. Compere, Chicago attorney, has been engaged to represent National Broadcasting in legal matters in Chicago and Cleveland, by A. L. Ashby, NBC vice-president and general counsel, here.

Reviews

"Stairway to Heaven"

(General Film Distributors—British)

London, Nov. 5

"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN," known in Britain as "A Matter of Life and Death," was written, produced and directed by Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger. It had its premiere here in London at Metro's Empire Theatre, drawing the largest and most tumultuous crowd to Leicester Square since V-E Day.

The story concerns a British bomber pilot whose plane catches fire over the ocean, and who, gravely wounded, jumps without a parachute and lands in the sea unconscious but alive. The remainder of the crew is killed. The pilot is rescued, and he suffers queer hallucinations due to a concussion. He imagines he should be dead but isn't, and that the "conductors" of the other world come looking for him. The film develops with extraordinary charm and technical efficiency, showing alternately reality in Technicolor and fantasy of that other world as it exists only in the pilot's fevered brain. In the crazed man's imagination a trial is held in the other world's court on the issue whether the pilot should continue living on earth or should surrender himself to the hereafter.

Powell and Pressburger put across myraid shafts of shrewd, ironic wit which may pass over the heads of many, but which make the film one of those "adult" exhibits that give distinction to the motion picture. "Stairway to Heaven," notwithstanding, his appeal to audiences of all sorts by reason of the moving performances of David Niven, the pilot; Kim Hunter, his American girl friend; Marius Goring, "conductor" of the other world; Roger Livesey, the doctor endeavoring to save the pilot's life, and Raymond Massey, the prosecutor in the other world trial. This is a surefire British box-office bet. Britain's King George and Queen Elizabeth and the whole audience rapturously applauded the premiere. It is a film to be commended to discriminating American audiences.

Running time, 104 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Wanted for Murder"

(20th Century-Fox-Excelsior-British)

PRODUCER MARCEL HELLMAN'S "Wanted for Murder," imported by 20th Century-Fox from Britain, is a solid example of what taut, stirring drama can be educed from an inherently commonplace, mediocre theme through the exercise of superior directorial know-how, flawless casting, excellent camera work and good script writing.

Plainly and simply, what transpires in this film is the systematic tracking down of a psychopathic killer—a strangler of women—by a Scotland Yard inspector and his staff. The proceedings, directed by Lawrence Huntington, are recounted, for the most part, with a brash, documentary-like straightforwardness. The audience is apprised of the murderer's identity almost at the outset, and theatre-seat sleuths have but to relax and be carried away by a realistic demonstration of shrewd, dogged detective work that eventually spells doom for a clever, audacious killer.

Eric Portman, the only cast member known to any extent to American filmgoers, turns in a splendid performance as the successful, respected London businessman who lives a Freudian nightmare of murder. Roland Culver is *par excellence* as the precise, sartorially-perfect inspector. Stanley Halloway, playing the inspector's chief aide, is especially good. Love interest is in the competent custody of Dulcie Gray and Derek Farr. Percy Robinson and Terence DeMarney are credited with the scenario, Emeric Pressburger and Rodney Ackland, with the screenplay.

This film, which ranks among the better British psychological dramas, stands to make a box-office showing that is at least consistent with the financial accomplishments of its more effective British predecessors in the genre.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. For November release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Tumbleweed Trail"

(PRC)

PRC has some solid situations and songs in "Tumbleweed Trail" that should be acceptable to many. Injecting ranch-land intrigue with a convincing twist here and there, Eddie Dean, Shirley Patterson, and a youngster named Johnny McGovern (keep an eye on him) do well in this latest Frances Kavanaugh screenplay, produced and directed by Robert Emmett Tansey.

The conflict in this one involves Miss Patterson and her kid brother, played by Johnny, in their effort to keep a ranch in the face of a will forged by their father's half-brother, after the father mysteriously disappears. Eddie Dean and his stooge, Roscoe Ates, enter the picture with a song, and, running the gauntlet of ambushes by the half-brother, played by Brad Duncan, the two are hired as Miss Patterson's only ranch hands. The "shooting iron" is thereafter much in evidence, but, nevertheless, there is more than a semblance of character development in the unfolding of the story. It develops that the father wasn't really killed by his half-brother's henchmen, and that Dean is working for the U. S. marshall and finally nabs the outlaws.

Three songs, sung by Dean and the Sunshine Boys are neatly woven into the film. The cast as a whole and the technical handling all contributed.

Running time, 57 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Oct. 28.

BILL COPE

Hungarian Filming May Be Resumed

By ALEXANDER FODOR

BUDAPEST, Nov. 5 (By Airmail).—The four political parties now in control of Hungary's exhibition may attempt to revive the country's production.

Local production is still stagnant because of lack of capital. Since the introduction of the new Hungarian currency, the Forint, new private capital has not yet been accumulated. On the other hand, the government is economizing all down the line and consequently is unable to invest any money in film production.

Profits Into Production

Lately the idea has been suggested that the political parties, which now receive the profits from exhibition, use those profits to restore production. They are said to be willing to attempt this and intend to start production soon, provided they can get a certain amount of support from the government and from production employes.

The distribution of theatre licenses among the political parties still continues. At present theatres are divided among the four political parties in this order: Social Democratic, 65 theatres; Independent Little Farmers, 75; Communist, 68, and Peasant, 25.

It is believed that the Motion Picture Export Association will start operations in Hungary some time next month.

Oklahoma Variety Citation Dinner

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 10.—The local Variety Club of Oklahoma, which operates in Oklahoma City and Tulsa, will hold a dinner here on Dec. 3, at which time it will officially receive the silver plaque and charity citation award which it won at the last national convention, in New York, in May. The three judges who made the award to the tent are Martin Quigley, Jack Alicoate and Abel Green.

At the presentation dinner the national tent will be represented by William McCraw, national executive director, and Chick Lewis, national publicity director. Industry personalities from all of the Southwest will journew to Oklahoma City for the event.

FON Publishes Catalog

Films of the Nations, Inc., has issued a 40-page catalogue listing 16mm. educational films of many lands that this non-profit membership corporation, sponsored by agencies of foreign nations, will make available. Maurice T. Groen is executive director; other officers, all of New York, are: H. M. Moolan and B. Nordholm, vice-presidents; William Rosenfeld, secretary; H. Van Weeren-Griek, treasurer.

R. Wilson Recovers

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 10.—Richard Wilson, associate producer with Orson Welles of "Lady from Shanghai," now being made at Acapulco, Pacific Coast port-resort, has resumed his work after a short rest to recover from a bad shakeup and 12 stitches in his head from a plane crash. While scouting for jungle locations for the picture near Acapulco, the plane crashed while skimming palm tops.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 94 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 1946 TEN CENTS

Tesma-Tedpa Forge Closer Supply Links

Meeting Hits Leftist Elements in Hollywood

By GEORGE SCHUTZ
Editor, Better Theatres

TOLEDO, O., Nov. 11.—The industry's organized theatre equipment manufacturers and dealers convention ended here today, a four-day joint meeting that established closer co-operation between them for the supervision of distribution of theatre supplies in the United States.

While the Theatre Equipment and Supply Manufacturers Association did not accept a proposal of the Theatre Equipment Dealers Protective Association, calling for the manufacturers to recognize only those dealers which have been approved by the dealer's

(*Continued on page 6*)

Coast Unions Hit By Calif. Senator

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—Senator William Knowland of California today called for a permanent solution to jurisdictional disputes such as the present Hollywood strike.

Asserting that "along with power there must go responsibility," Knowland said that some means should be devised to prevent strikes where there is neither a matter of contract or wages involved, but rather the jurisdiction of power-mad unions.

Knowland said he agreed with Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston's recent statement that the Coast jurisdictional strife should

(*Continued on page 6*)

Studio Strike Hits General Service

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11. — Independent producers, heretofore exempted by the Conference of Studio Unions in its strike against the major studios, today came into range of the conflict's crippling effect when picket lines formed at noon around the General Service Studio, where Hunt Stromberg is shooting "Personal Column." Immediate cause was the walkout of carpenters in protest against the employment of IATSE set erectors.

The studio which employs workers

(*Continued on page 7*)

Para. Backlog Up 8 Millions

Since Jan. 1, 1946, Paramount's product inventory has increased by about $8,000,000, Barney Balaban, the company's president, has informed stockholders.

The increase, Balaban stated, is due to "the improved quality of the pictures comprising our inventory, as well as to a rise in costs of both labor and materials, and includes an estimated amount of unpaid retroactive labor salary adjustments at the studio."

Cash in a corresponding amount has been absorbed by the increase in inventory, continued the company president, adding that, likewise, cash in the amount of approximately $5,000,000 has been applied this year to the payment of practically all the company's remaining fixed debt. "While our cash has increased substantially

(*Continued on page 6*)

New M-G-M Contract Forms Are Adopted

New M-G-M contract forms supplanting those which became outmoded when the company adopted its single-feature sales policy last July 1, but continued in use with necessary alterations made by sales personnel, have been sent to exchanges. The new form is merely a mechanical change and does not alter the selling practices of the company in any manner whatever, it was said here.

The old form, which was designed for group selling in most cases, since July 1 required stamping thereon a clause attesting to the fact that the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Allied and Variety Will Honor 23

DETROIT, Nov. 11.—Twenty-three motion picture pioneers who have been with the industry 35 years or longer and who will be honored at a banquet Wednesday night, sponsored jointly by the 37th annual Michigan Allied convention and the Variety Club of Michigan are:

Samuel Ackerman, George Berger, Carl Buermele, Lou Cohen, Morton Dennis, Ernest H. Forbes, N. E. Frank, E. J. Goodall, Ellsworth G. Hamer,

(*Continued on page 6*)

Truman Backs Wyatt On Construction Ban

Washington, Nov. 11. — President Truman told his press conference today that he intends to stand with housing expediter Wilson Wyatt in a plan for continuation of commercial building curtailment despite decontrol of materials. Such a continuance will, of course, prevent new theatre building.

The President, in answer to a query, said that he intends to back Wyatt, and that the weekend statement that "controls must continue" has his full backing.

See Johnston Shorts Appeal

In view of threatening exhibitor opposition to the paying of higher cartoon short subject rentals, which are anticipated as a result of mounting production costs, an appeal to exhibitors from Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston and other industry leaders may have to be looked for ultimately as a move toward preventing virtual extinction of cartoon-short entertainment. This is the opinion of William B. Levy, world sale supervisor for Walt Disney Productions in New York.

Levy indicated that, in the case of the Disney short subjects, it will be apparent fairly soon as to whether RKO Radio, Disney shorts distributor, will succeed in present attempts to raise rentals on those subjects, and that if success is not forthcoming in that regard, high production costs

(*Continued on page 6*)

Tri-States Meets In Memphis Today

MEMPHIS, Nov. 11. — Exhibitors from Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee poured into Memphis today for a two-day session of the Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners meeting tomorrow at the Hotel Chisca.

Auction selling and the New York Federal Court case dealing with this question are scheduled to be discussed before the meeting by Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, national president of the MPTOA, and Herman N. Levy, New Haven, chief attorney for MPTOA.

The 1946 annual meeting of the

(*Continued on page 6*)

Fight Is Due On Decontrol Of Buildings

CPA Says That 250 New Theatres Are Involved

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 11.—A fight for the removal of all commercial building restrictions is forthcoming as a result of price decontrol of all construction materials. The Civilian Production Administration discloses that when barriers are removed, an estimated 250 new theatres could be started.

Wilson Wyatt, housing expediter, asserts that he will fight any attempt to remove building barriers at present. "All controls must be kept in force," he said.

More than 300 theatre applications have been turned down by the CPA

(*Continued on page 6*)

W. J. German Heads Brulatour Company

William J. German has been elected president of J. E. Brulatour, Inc., exclusive distributors of Eastman Kodak film for the motion picture industry, the company announced yesterday. German, heretofore vice-president and general manager of the organization, succeeds the late Jules E. Brulatour, its founder, following the latter's death at Mt. Sinai Hospital on Oct. 26. Simultaneously, German was named president of J. E. Brulatour, Inc., of California.

A native of Port Hope, Canada,

(*Continued on page 6*)

J. M. Schenck Seen In on Mexican Deal

Further expansion of 20th Century-Fox theatre interests is reported from Mexico City where Joseph M. Schenck is understood to be negotiating for 49 or possibly 50 per cent of the Jenkins circuit of about 50 houses. Twenty-one of these are in

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

Reports of theatre grosses will be found on page seven.

'Night of Stars' to Be Staged Tonight

The 13th annual "Night of Stars," for Palestine resettlement and refugee relief, will be given tonight at Madison Square Garden. Sylvan Gotshal is chairman of the affiair. Proceeds will go to the United Jewish Appeal on behalf of the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the National Refugee Service.

An estimated 1,500 stars, musicians and technicians, under supervision of Marvin H. Schenck, chairman of the producing committee, will participate in the show. Assistants to Schenck include: Arthur Knorr, Roxy Theatre, in charge of lighting; Sidney Piermont, Loew's, stage manager; Don Albert, director of the symphony orchestra, and Robert M. Weitman, Paramount Theatre, co-chairman, and Lester B. Isaac and Max Wolff, vice-chairmen; Alan Corelli, John Dugan, Ernest Emerling, William Feinberg, Harry Kalcheim, Nat Kalcheim, Leon Leonidoff, Larry Puck, Sam Rauch, Frank Roehrenbeck, Leonard Romm and John Shubert.

Zukor Group Travels Through Britain

A contingent of Paramount executives, headed by Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of directors, this week will visit provincial cities in England to introduce to the organization's staff and to the press and exhibitors its new chairman and managing director for Great Britain, J. E. Perkins, who was officially installed in London last week, the home office reported here yesterday.

The entourage, which includes George Weltner, president of Paramount International; Fred E. Hutchinson, general sales manager for the UK and T. C. Reddin, director of advertising, publicity and theatres in the UK, will go to Cardiff, Birmingham, Leeds, Manchester and Liverpool. Next week they will conclude the tour with visits to Glasgow and New Castle, and then return to London.

Johnston To Return In About 10 Days

LONDON, Nov. 11.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, who suffered an attack of pneumonia here last week, was slightly improved today and plans to return to the U. S. as soon as his doctors will permit and travel reservations can be made. He must, however, remain in bed for at least 10 days longer, according to the physicians.

Johnston's projected tour of the Continent has been cancelled, as previously reported.

Para. Paris Shows Start

Paris trade showings of Paramount product were commenced last week when a morning screening of "The Hitler Gang" was made for exhibitors at the Paramount Theatre there, according to the home office.

Personal Mention

STAN SHUFORD, Paramount advertising manager, is due back from the Coast today.

•

ANGELA GREENE, Warners star, arrived in New York by plane from the Coast yesterday. She will be married soon to STUART MARTIN, Los Angeles realtor.

•

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, and his executive assistant, WILLIAM SAAL, left Hollywood via American Airlines for New York yesterday.

•

WILLIAM WYLER, vice-president of Liberty Films, and his wife, actress MARGARET TALLICHET, have arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

RODNEY BUSH, SID BLUMENSTOCK and EDDIE SOLOMON, 20th-Fox exploiteers, returned to New York yesterday from Chicago.

•

FLOYD CROWDER, Monogram distributor in China, has left New York for the Coast from where he will embark for Shanghai.

•

FRANK GIBSON, director of M-G-M studio construction in London, has left the Coast by American Airlines for New York.

•

CLIFF WORK, vice-president and general manager of Universal-International, has left Hollywood by plane for New York.

•

VIRGINIA MAYO, Samuel Goldwyn Productions actress, is due to arrive in New York by plane from the Coast this morning.

•

CAROL BRANDT, Eastern M-G-M editorial head, returned to New York yesterday from Europe on the *Queen Elizabeth.*

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal's general assistant sales manager, is due to arrive in Pittsburgh from New York today.

•

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M executive, is in Hollywood from New York. He will leave the Coast shortly for London.

•

ARTHUR DE BRA, Motion Picture Association executive, left New York yesterday for Grand Rapids, Mich.

•

LON MCCALLISTER, United Artists actor, arrived in New York yesterday by plane from the Coast.

•

BARNEY GERARD, Monogram producer, has planed out of Hollywood for New York.

•

ANNE JEFFREYS, RKO Radio star, has planed out of Hollywood for New York.

•

MISCHA AUER is due in New York by American Airlines from the Coast.

•

BOB HOPE has returned to Hollywood from Baltimore and New York.

•

LT. COMM. WAYNE MORRIS arrived here yesterday from the Coast.

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity-exploitation and radio director, will return to New York today from Chicago.

•

HAROLD HENDEE, director of research for RKO Radio, will speak on Nov. 15 before a meeting of the Springfield, Mass., Motion Picture Council. CHARLES S. STEINBERG, director of Warners educational bureau, will address the group on Feb. 21.

•

MR. and MRS. THOMAS LOY (he is on the staff of MOTION PICTURE DAILY) have returned to New York from a honeymoon in the South.

•

BILL TRUDELL of the Capitol Theatre, London, Ont., and MRS. TRUDELL, are parents of a new-born boy, WILLIAM MICHAEL.

•

IRVING HILLMAN, manager of the Empress Theatre, Danbury, Conn., was married recently to HELEN SAULSBURY.

•

GILBERT DAVIS, National Screen Service auditor, was married on Sunday in St. Louis to PHILLIS MENDELSON.

•

DAVE MILLER, Universal district manager, Buffalo, has returned to his desk following an attack of the flu.

•

DAVE YELLEN of Warners contact department, Cleveland, was married there yesterday to EVELYN HIRSCH.

•

JOE ROBINS, Ohio circuit owner, is recuperating from a heart attack in North Side Hospital, Youngstown.

•

HOWARD WALLACE, branch manager of Sack Amusement Co., Atlanta, is touring in Alabama and Florida.

•

HELEN CULLOTON and RUTH BARSLEY of M-G-M's Chicago office were in New York for the weekend.

•

RICHARD THORPE, M-G-M director, has left Hollywood by plane for Tallahassee, Fla.

•

FRED MOON, *Atlanta Journal* film editor, is away from his desk because of illness.

•

ROY MARTIN of Martin Theatres, Columbus, Ga., has been visiting in Atlanta.

•

DORE SCHARY, Vanguard producer, left Hollywood by train yesterday for New York.

•

HUGH HERBERT, film comedian, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

LIONEL KEENE, Atlanta circuit owner, is vacationing in Illinois.

•

LOUISE ALBRITTON has left Hollywood by plane for New York.

•

ADELE JERGENS will leave New York today for Chicago.

•

JOSENH BERNHARD is in Hollywood from New York.

Walling Moves Up

Ernest Walling, executive producer of Philco television station WPTZ, has been promoted to program manager.

NEW YORK THEATRES

THE THUNDERING SAGA OF THE PONY EXPRESS! Gaiety a car
"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY"
starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT - VERA RALSTON
GAIL PATRICK - JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
Associate Producer and Director
JOSEPH KANE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
2ND WEEK • GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
in Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
GEORGE RAFT · LYNN BARI
in
NOCTURNE
with
VIRGINIA HUSTON · JOSEPH PEVNEY · MYRNA DELL

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
'WHITE TIE & TAILS'
DAN DURYEA
ELLA RAINES
WILLIAM BENDIX
IN PERSON
HENNY YOUNGMAN
SARA ANN McCABE
MAZZONE & ABBOTT

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

NOW!
WINTER GARDEN
B'way at 50th
Doors Open
9 a.m.-3 a.m.
J. ARTHUR RANK Presents
REX HARRISON
LILLI PALMER
TOGETHER IN
"NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN"

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Friedman and Korda Head Arrivals Here

Joseph Friedman, European supervisor of Columbia Pictures; Sir Alexander Korda and his brother, Vincent; Walter Wanger and his wife, Joan Bennett, and Michael Powell, British producer and director, arrived here yesterday aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* on the liner's second postwar voyage to the U. S.

Describing his trip as "just an ordinary business affair," Friedman, who is also managing director of Columbia British, said he would confer on plans for the production of two pictures, "The First Gentleman," a Regency play, which has been running in London for two years, and "The Chasm," a novel by Victor Canning. The Norman Ginsbury play was purchased for $100,000, it is understood. Whether these will be for British or American production will be decided in discussions with Columbia executives on the Coast, Friedman declared.

A major problem confronting American-owned companies in Britain, according to Columbia's European head, is that of securing Technicolor film, since British output is distributed among British companies. Although this operates a difficulty for American production in England, he added, Columbia British has been able to get substantial amounts from the U. S. Friedman will leave for the Coast today and expects to return to New York in three or four weeks.

Due on the Coast next week in connection with the premiere there this Friday of "Children of Paradise," the French film which is being handled by Tricolore, Sir Alexander also termed his trip as "just a routine visit." He plans to remain here a month.

British Attendance

Remarking that British films and stars are today drawing greater attendance than American pictures in England, Walter Wanger, who returned from a brief visit to London where he, his wife, and several film stars participated in a command performance before the King and Queen, asserted that coincident with the rising standard of British product, exhibitors are billing British pictures as homemade; this, Wanger pointed out, is a new departure in promotion by exhibitors there, who have made no distinction between American and British films heretofore.

Wanger also stated that American films, if they hope to maintain a hold in the British market, will have to recognize the "more serious mood which pervades the British public." In emphasizing his call for less "glamor, production and froth," Wagger said: "I think it is impossible for us to ignore the new intellectual attitude which has arisen as a result of the war years."

While in England Wanger consulted Rosamond Lehmann, author of "The Ballad and the Source," which he bought for $200,000. He also disclosed that Michael Redgrave, British actor, who is to appear as leading actor in Joan Bennett's next picture, leaves England Nov. 22 for the U. S.

Michael Powell, British producer and director, who is associated with Emeric Pressburger in Archer Films, will leave for Mexico, Peru and Brazil after a brief stop-over in New York. He said he would "look around" studios and facilities in Central and South America, but added that he has no plans for undertaking any productions here at present. A unit of his company is now finishing shooting in Brazil of "Green Days and Blue Days," starring Sabu. Universal-International will distribute the picture, he said.

Also aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* were Maria Montez and the Goldwyn Girls.

Coyne on Tour for U. S. Treasury

BANGOR, Me., Nov. 11.—Robert W. Coyne, executive director of the American Theatres Association is scheduled to make the first in a series of three addresses to business leaders and industrialists, here tomorrow, when he will be the principal speaker at a dinner sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Boston in cooperation with the U. S. Treasury Department.

As former national field director of the Treasury's War Bond program, Coyne will discuss bond ownership in peacetime as a method of bringing about increased participation by citizens in Government management. Similar meetings have been set for Augusta and Portland on Wednesday.

Mason Sailing to U.S., Says Rose Deal Off

LONDON, Nov. 11.—James Mason, British film star, plans to sail for the U. S. on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Nov. 22 following current negotiations with American industry executives now in England, the actor states.

A deal whereby Mason would make two pictures a year for David Rose during the next five years has been "completely abandoned," according to the actor, although Rose reiterated in New York last week that it had been consummated, on a 50-50 partnership basis.

Mason, upon his arrival in America, plans to spend several weeks on a holiday in New Canaan, Conn., and may then proceed to Bermuda for a short stay.

'Song of the South' Premiere Tonight

ATLANTA, Nov. 11.—This city will be the setting for the world premiere tomorrow of Walt Disney's "Song of the South" based on the legendary figure and his tales of "Brer Rabbit." The event will be attended by Ned E. Depinet, RKO executive vice-president, with Robert Mochrie, Nat Levy, Sol Schwartz, Harold Mirisch, Terry Turner.

Disney executives will include William Levy, Leo Samuels, Charles Levy, Vern Caldwell and Joseph Reddy.

U-I Frees Jackson

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11. — Universal-International reports that producer Felix Jackson had requested and has been granted a release from his contract. Jackson is currently editing "I'll Be Yours." He will not leave U-I until that assignment is completed.

WB Club Holiday Dance

The Warner Club, here, will hold a Thanksgiving-festival-dance in the clubrooms at the Warner home office on Friday night, Nov. 22. Members will see a program of Broadway entertainment, arranged by Harry Mayer, the club's vice-president in charge of entertainment.

Treasury Savings Bond Drive Starts

Washington, Nov. 11. — The Treasury reports that more than 1,000,000 volunteers will help in an Armistice Day-to-Pearl Harbor Day campaign to sell U. S. savings bonds. Vernon L. Clark, national director of the savings bonds division, said there is no set cash goal and there will be no house-to-house canvass, but every American will be urged to "$ave for $ecurity."

Firms that have dropped the payroll savings plan of bond buying are being asked to reinstate it. Those firms still carrying the plan are being asked to "revitalize and promote it, to increase participation."

Ferguson's M-G-M Meeting in Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 11.—William R. Ferguson, exploitation head for M-G-M, today and tomorrow will hold the third in a series of district meetings with his men in connection with promotional campaigns on "Gallant Bess" and other forthcoming M-G-M films.

The meetings, scheduled to open this afternoon at the Biltmore Hotel, here, will be attended by Ferguson; Howard Herty, Los Angeles exploiteer and advance man for Bess' nationwide personal appearance tour; Bill Ornstein of the home office; E. B. Coleman, Dallas; Emery Austin, Atlanta; Bernie Evens, Kansas City; Al Burks, Charlotte; James Thames, Memphis; Ken Prickett, New Orleans; Ed Gardner, Oklahoma City.

Bell and Howell 'U' Continue Negotiation

CHICAGO, Nov. 11. — Negotiations are progressively whereby Bell and Howell, camera and other equipment manufacturer, will sell its large 16mm. library to Universal, according to a B. and H. spokesman here.

The library operates mostly in the non-theatrical and home motion picture fields.

Campbell to Buchanan

Stuart Campbell has been named a senior art director of Buchanan and Co., advertising agency, here. Past president of the Art Directors Club and currently a member of its standing advisory committee, Campbell has been variously vice-president of the Kenyon and Eckhardt Agency and art director of the Abbott Kimball and Lawrence Gumbinner agencies.

To Consult on Eagle-Lion

Al Schwalberg and Max Youngstein of Eagle-Lion, are scheduled to leave from New York Thursday by plane for Hollywood where they will confer with Arthur B. Krim and Bryan Foy on forthcoming production plans for Eagle-Lion.

Lewis on Coast

"Chick" Lewis has arrived on the coast from New York to make preliminary plans for the convention of Variety Clubs of America in the spring.

SAG Votes Aid to AFRA in Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—The Screen Actors Guild has pledged support to the American Federation of Radio Artists in the latter's threatened strike against the four major networks. AFRA's Hollywood chapter already has authorized the group's national board to call a strike unless NBC, ABC, Columbia and Mutual agree to new contracts, while votes are to be taken in New York Thursday and Friday. The Chicago chapter also will ballot on the subject.

SAG will forbid its members to appear on network shows if the walkout occurs.

Chief issue in the controversy, according to George Heller, AFRA's national executive secretary, is the union's demand for a contract clause requiring all networks to refuse to "pipe" programs to any affiliated station which refused to negotiate or arbitrate issues with AFRA. Talks have been going on since Oct. 1 to replace a contract which expired on Oct. 31, he said.

The networks, according to an official of one of them, take the position that the "piping" clause might be interpreted legally as a secondary boycott.

'Razor' Premiere To Be Telecast by NBC

National Broadcasting's key television station, WNBT, here, will set up three of its cameras in the lobby of New York's Roxy Theatre to telecast the Nov. 19 world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge," thus marking the first time that any theatrical event has been given complete television coverage, on the spot, it is reported by 20th Century-Fox, distributors of the picture.

Among those who will be introduced on the video-screen are Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney and Clifton Webb, stars of the film and Zanuck, and Edmund Goulding, who directed the film. Many of the United Nations delegates, who have accepted invitations to the premiere, will also be televised.

ATA Board Meet in New Orleans Likely

Early December and New Orleans are being considered as the time and place for the next board meeting of the American Theatres Association, as a matter of convenience. A number of the directors of the organization are slated to attend the meeting of film executives in that city Dec. 3-4 for the purpose of establishing an industry foundation for the sick, needy and destitute. The board would name successors to Fred Schwartz and Rotus Harvey, both of whom have resigned as vice-presidents and directors, as well as taking up other matters.

Zander to Willard

Jack Zander heads the animation department of Willard Pictures, New York, producers of motion pictures and slide films for business and industry. T. W. Willard is president of the company. Zander, previous to serving in the Army, was head of the animation department for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for five years.



RAFT ON A RAMPAGE . . .

of blasting action and tough-guy loving—to pin the murder rap on one of the ten beautiful brunette suspects in sensational playboy slayings!

RKO
PRESENTS

GEORGE RAFT
LYNN BARI

IN

NOCTURNE



WITH

VIRGINIA HUSTON • JOSEPH PEVNEY
MYRNA DELL

Produced by JOAN HARRISON • Directed by EDWIN L. MARIN
Screen Play by JONATHAN LATIMER

RKO RADIO PICTURES

NATIONALLY ADVERTISED *where* IT WILL DO YOU THE MOST GOOD . . . to the 54,225,-201 CIRCULATION of fifty Detective, Mystery, "Pulp" and Men's Magazines . . . Sunday Newspaper Comic Sections . . . Life, Look, Liberty, Saturday Evening Post, Collier's, and Fan List.

TESMA-TEDPA

(*Continued from page* 1)

organization, the executive board of TESMA did express a policy of working closely with TEDPA in the determination of "dealers with a substantial established business and good credit standing" who would merit a manufacturer's recognition as a "legitimate" distributor.

With a registered attendance of 457, including 180 representatives of manufacturers, this joint convention of the two organizations far surpassed in size the first one at the end of the war, and had an equipment exhibit whose 53 displays was equally unprecedented. Nearly every basic class of equipment was represented among 60 booths which overflowed the capacious Main ballroom of the Secor Hotel, where all but the social activities of the meeting were held.

TESMA continued its incumbent officers, but elected a new board of directors consisting of Harry Strong, Strong Electric Corp., Toledo; Carl Weber, Weber Machine Corporation, Rochester, N. Y.; E. J. Vallen, Vallen-Vallen, Inc., Akron; Robert Engel, Devry Corp., Chicago; and Erwin Wagner, Wagner Sign Service, Chicago.

TESMA Officers

TESMA officers continued are: Oscar New, Neumade Products, Inc., New York, president; William A. Gedris, Ideal Seating Co., Grand Rapids, vice-president; and Roy Boomer, secretary-treasurer. Ray G. Colvin, Exhibitors Supply Co., St. Louis, continues as head of TEDPA. Mrs. Charlotte Boomer was named press representative.

Among proposals voted, one by each organization and later jointly affirmed, got the convention notice from the national press services and space in some of the country's leading newspapers. It strongly condemned communistic activities by industry groups and efforts to insinuate propaganda into screen material, citing the movement of Hollywood writers to set up an organization to control the work of American authors.

N. D. Golden of the Department of Commerce urged the manufacturers to act promptly to take advantage of post-war conditions in foreign markets.

On the social side, the annual banquet at the Commodore Perry Hotel Sunday evening had its position as the principal event of the convention vigorously contested by a party given by Harry Strong Saturday evening at the New Villa night club just over the Michigan line.

The final day of the convention opened at the Secor Hotel with a welcoming address delivered by the Mayor and the President of the Chamber of Commerce. Both associations were complimented on bringing such an important body of men to Toledo, and a tribute was paid to the manufacturers located in Toledo making theatre equipment and supplies.

Exhibits of equipment by 60 manufacturers brought several maintenance directors and theatre operators from all over the country. Jake Elders of Interstate Circuit, Texas; the Tate Brothers, exhibitors of Pennsylvania and New York; L. D. Pavis, builder of East Alton, Ill.; Irving Fredericks, theatre architect of Chicago; C. A. Dentlebeck of Famous Players Circuit, Canada, were some of the operators.

At the Sunday morning meeting Pete Wood and Martin Smith, president of Ohio Exhibitors Association, together wth N. D. Golden, chief of the motion picture division of the Department of Commerce, delivered short addresses to both associations.

Para. Backlog

(*Continued from page* 1)

during the year, it is essential that our cash reserves be established and maintained at an adequate level, because such reserves enable us to follow sound, consistent financial policies, to maintain continuity in divident payments, as well as to finance desirable expansions of our foreign operations and to select the most effective and economical means of conforming our theatre operations to the requirements of the decree in the pending anti-trust suit," Balaban said.

In the foregoing connection, he continued, "a policy of acquisition of the common stock of the corporation has been approved by the board. The board has not fixed a definite number of shares to be acquired, nor has it set a price, or a time either as a commencement or a termination date, for their acquisition." When, and if, general circumstances, including such factors as the market price of Paramount's common stock and the condition of the company, are favorable to purchases, Balaban said, shares will be acquired from time to time. "Any shares acquired will be available for corporate purposes," he added.

Fred Astaire Starts Dancing Studios

Fred Astaire Dance Studios Corp., with dancer Astaire as president, has been formed, announces Charles L. Casanave, who will be vice-president and general manager.

The first public dance studio, to be located in New York, is scheduled to open about Jan. 15, Casanave said, with other studios to be established in large cities throughout the country and abroad.

E-L Buys 'Valiant'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Eagle-Lion Films has purchased screen rights to King Features' adventure strip, "Prince Valiant," it was announced here by Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production.

At the same time, Foy announced that production reins will be given to Leonard Picker as his initial assignment for the company.

Critics To Air Views

Archer Winsten, John T. McManus and Eileen Creelman are among the New York motion picture critics who will participate in a panel discussion to be conducted by Professional Film Forum at the Barbizon-Plaza, here, tonight. Patricia Smith and Paul Bennard are co-chairmen of the forum.

Drop Suit Against 'Time'

The $300,000 damage suit filed against March of Time by Hans Engebrigtsen, who charged he was depicted as a Norwegian Nazi in a March of Time subject in 1941, was discontinued in New York District Court on Friday.

Johnston, Shorts

(*Continued from page* 1)

will very likely force the Disney organization to abandon production of the shorts and devote its facilities exclusively to making part "live-action" features. Before such a point is arrived at by Disney and other cartoon producers an appeal by the industry's top leaders, such as Johnston, may have to be looked for by the public if film-goers want cartoon shorts entertainment.

Whether Johnston and others would step in on behalf of the cartoon shorts (and directly or indirectly, on behalf of the nation's theatregoers) is questionable at this point, of course, but Levy's statement in that regard would make it appear that cartoon-shorts producers are seriously weighing a decision to bring up the matter if and when the situation should so demand.

Tri-States Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Tri-States organization will be for exhibitors only, J. A. West, president, said. Distributors and other motion picture persons will be guests, however, at the dance and banquet closing the convention on Wednesday.

The question of changing the Tri-States organization into an ATA (American Theatres Association) chapter by voting to join it as a unit is not expected to be brought before the meeting officially, West said. However, such a question may be brought before the business sessions from the floor.

Officers for 1947 will be elected. Matters of taxation and admission prices may come up for discussion and deliberation.

W. J. German

(*Continued from page* 1)

German studied at the Ontario Business College and joined the Eastman cost accounting department at Kodak Park in 1906. In 1921, he came to New York as manager of G. M. Laboratories, Long Island City, and Paragon and San Jacq Laboratories at Ft. Lee, N. J. German's association with the Brulatour company began a year later, 10 years after Brulatour had become U. S. distributor of motion picture film for Eastman.

In 1944, German was elected to the board of directors of Universal, of which Brulatour had been a founder.

Schenck Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Mexico City.

Dan Michalove, head of the 20th-Fox theatre subsidiary, National Theatres, states here that he is not in a position to confirm or deny the reports, adding that a statement would have to come from Schenck.

The company made it clear some time ago that acquisition of additional theatre holdings in Mexico was actively under consideration. A recently promulgated presidential decree in that country prohibits a foreign country from holding more than 49 per cent of any Mexican concern.

Col. Signs Goldstone

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Columbia has signed Richard Goldstone, formerly with M-G-M, as a producer under the supervision of Bennie F. Zeidman.

Building Decontrol

(*Continued from page* 1)

because of the restrictions. Most of the theatre building requests were for necessary repairs, with few exhibitors asking to build new theatres.

Republican Party observers, including Congressman Clarence Brown, Ohio, Republican campaign manager, indicated it is entirely possible that the GOP will not favor continued regulation over private building. Meanwhile, powerful real estate lobby groups are said to be determined to see an end to the building control. They are due to start work immediately on the new Congress in a plea to the public for support.

Wyatt said that in order to make the veterans' housing program a success, limitations on non-residential construction must continue. Wyatt will make a report to President Truman within 10 days on the steps necessary to carry out the housing program in the light of material price decontrol on materials.

President Truman is expected to recommend continuation of all building barriers, and also production premium payments and priorities. The real fight will start in January, and as time goes on, the lobby wanting immediate elimination of building restrictions will keep talking to the lawmakers in search of relief, it is said.

Will Honor 23

(*Continued from page* 1)

Howard C. Holah, David Idzal, Harry Irons, Frank E. Lee, Joseph Lee, A. Lorenzo, H. R. Martin, Edward Murphy, Charles C. Perry, George F. Smith, Jake Sullivan, Edward Westcott, Jack Stewart and William Sturgess. Previous pioneers honored in 1942 were: Ray Branch, E. C. Beatty, J. O. Brooks, Glen Cross, J. R. Dennison, Tom Eland, Edward Kirchner, W. S. McLaren, J. C. Ritter, P. C. Schram and Jacob Stocker.

Allied's convention, to run two days, will open tomorrow morning at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, here.

Coast Unions Hit

(*Continued from page* 1)

be settled by democratic methods. The Senator said that the newly-elected Republican congress does not intend to "swing too far right," and that the Republican Party does not intend to rule out the rights of labor, but would endeavor to instill a proper sense of responsibility into union leaders and thereby avoid repetition of such controversies as the studio jurisdictional dispute.

M-G-M Contract

(*Continued from page* 1)

sale of each film was negotiated separately. This is written in in the new form. Designation (of terms) clauses are eliminated in the new form, along with the bracketing schedule. The sliding scale table in the new form jumps percentages in terms of one per cent. The old table had jumps of two-and-one-half per cent. However, blank forms also could be put to use where one per cent jumps were appropriate.

Interstate-Mono. Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Interstate Circuit has booked the Monogram program for 1946-47 season.

NY 1st-Run Grosses Strong; 'Rage' Scores at Capitol

Box- office activity at principal first-runs in New York continues with little letup. The majority of runs are holdovers and business for the most part is splendid. The week's income was boosted considerably by the holiday revenue yesterday.

Local point of much interest among theatremen was the Capitol, where M-G-M is "re-introducing" its "Rage in Heaven." The reprint went over in robust fashion, with a new Sunday record established at the house, and with the gross for the first week expected to reach a mighty $85,000. Enric Madriguera and his orchestra are on the stage.

The only other newcomer in town is "Nocturne," which had a successful opening at the Palace, the house figuring to bring in a lofty $40,000 for the first week.

With the conclusion tomorrow of an 11-week run of "The Killers," the Winter Garden indisputably has become established as an important first-run house. The picture, unassisted by any stage show, averaged $42,000 weekly during the engagement; "Notorious Gentleman" will open tomorrow.

"Margie," with Frances Langford and Jon Hall topping the stage show at the Roxy, is still one of the top money-makers, with $103,000 indicated for a fourth week. "The Jolson Story," with a stage presentation at the Music Hall, similarly is doing top-notch box-office, with $130,000 in view for the fifth week; business last week amounted to $135,000.

'Blue Skies'

Another one raking in blue chips is "Blue Skies," which, with Stan Kenton's orchestra and Dean Murphy and the King Cole Trio on the stage, is on its way to a big $100,000 for a fourth week at the Paramount.

"Nobody Lives Forever," with Lionel Hampton's orchestra, at the Strand, has fallen off a little in its second week, on an estimated $62,000, but this still constitutes good business for the house; the first week's gross amounted to $79,000. "Deception" holds up well at the Hollywood, where a $42,000 fourth week is in sight.

"The Dark Mirror" is a good money-making tenant at the Criterion, where it figures to do $35,000 in a fourth week. And at the Rivoli, "Two Years Before the Mast" is holding up very well, with $41,000 expected for a fourth week.

"Henry V" is a favorite at the John Golden Theatre, where advance sales now run through to March. The 12th week's business is put at $13,500; the picture, which is playing on a two-a-day basis, had been at the City Center 10 weeks before moving over to the Golden. The admission scale runs from $1.20 to $1.80 for afternoon performances, and $1.80 to $2.40 evenings.

"Caesar and Cleopatra" is faltering at the Astor, with $15,000 expected for the 11th week. "The Plainsman and the Lady" is going over well at the Gotham, which figures on $13,000 for a second week. The fifth week of "The Westerner" at the Victoria is good for $13,000.

"Fantasia" should take about $6,500 in a seventh week at the Republic, which is fair, while the second week of "Decoy" will probably bring the Rialto $6,500; "Criminal Court" will follow on Friday. "The Chase" will bow in at the Globe Saturday, following "Angel on My Shoulder," which should take $18,500 in its fourth and final week.

Radio to Observe Its 26th Birthday

"National Radio Week," marking the 26th anniversary of the commercial "birthday" of broadcasting will be observed Nov. 24-30 under the joint sponsorship of the National Association of Broadcasters and the Radio Manufacturers Association. Special programs and displays are now being arranged with 1,100 stations, 30,000 dealers and 330 radio manufacturers slated to cooperate.

Studio Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

for independent producers leasing its space and facilities, tonight was maintaining official silence on developments.

On the contrary, however, president Donald M. Nelson of SIMPP, of which Stromberg is a member, issued statement declaring: "We have exerted every bit of influence we have to get this useless strike settled. Up to the present our relations with all labor groups in Hollywood have been most cordial. Our position in the whole situation has not changed since we stated it last October in a telegram to all people concerned."

The telegram was addressed to AFL president William Green, international presidents of the principal unions, and government officials.

Picketing was resumed at M-G-M where 36 pickets were arrested.

Cinecolor Picketed

Today also brought cessation of actual operations at Cinecolor, following the establishment of picket lines by the laboratory workers, IATSE Local 683, because the company had begun processing major studio film as well as for independents. A Cinecolor official told the MOTION PICTURE DAILY, "this places us in the same 'middle' as the major companies. We will keep our doors and open and welcome back all our workers who will come, and we will urge the eightieth Congress to enact legislation to protect innocent bystanders from damage of this kind."

Meanwhile the arbitration committee seeking to establish manchinery to handle future jurisdictional disputes spent the day in conferences with Joseph Keenan, nominated for the permanent chairmanship.

Intimation that independent producers may be subjected to strike action was voiced last night by Herbert K. Sorrell, CSU president, who also said he had asked the interational presidents of the Carpenters, Painters and other building trades unions to halt work on theatre construction nationally.

Meanwhile, further dissension developed in the ranks of the IATSE, with Local No. 705 (costumers) setting Thursday night as a deadline for work stoppage unless a signed contract with the producers is obtained by them. A published declaration blamed the producers and IATSE international officers for a 16-month delay in negotiating a contract.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Sensational returns are in prospect at both the RKO Albee and Palace, while plus-average business is indicated at a majority of the other spots. The weather is cool. Estimated receipts for the week ending. Nov. 12-15.

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-67c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Donald O'Connor and Peggy Ryan, plus acts. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $22,000)

NO LOVE, NO LEAVE (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE CRIME DOCTOR'S MANHUNT (Col.) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600)

ROARING RANGERS (Col.) and SECRETS OF A SORORITY GIRL (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $13,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on a moveover. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,000)

ATLANTA

Business is holding up during Indian summer weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 13:

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,200)

IN OLD SACRAMENTO (Rep.)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c). Gross: $5,700. (Average: $5,600)

NIGHT TRAIN TO MEMPHIS (Rep.) and STRANGE IMPERSONATION (Rep.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,200)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c). Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

Theatres had the benefit of a legal holiday in observance of Remembrance Day, but the week was beset with much opposition and more than a sprinkling of rain. Sports included the first of the football playoffs, plenty of hockey, professional basketball and harness racing, on top of which the Royal Winter Fair swung into action for the first time in six years. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14-15:

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,900. (Average: $4,700)

MEET THE NAVY (British)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,300. (Average: $14,300)

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $13,300)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,100. (Average: $14,600)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,900. (Average: $11,400)

TWO GUYS FROM MILWAUKEE (WB)—VICTORIA (1,270) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

Sayers, Wolcott in New Posts at ARI

Jack C. Sayers, vice-president of Audience Research, Inc., has left New York for Hollywood after reorganization of the New York office of the company. Under the new plan Sayers assumes charge of client relations in New York and in Hollywood James L. Wolcott, vice-president and general manager of ARI will head business and management from the home office in Princeton, N. J. James E. Sayers will assist in client relation activities in New York, with B. M. Jones in a similar position on the Hollywood end.

ARI, headed by Dr. George Gallup as president and director now services 11 organizations in the fields of motion picture and editorial research.

Newspaper Strike Halts Theatre Ads

ROCHESTER, Nov. 11.—Managers of first-run theatres here are depending on radio advertising to promote coming and current attractions after three days without a daily newspaper.

A wage dispute between printers of Typographical Union Local 15 and the Gannett Company, publishers of both the morning *Democrat* and *Chronicle* and the afternoon *Times-Union,* led to a walkout of the printers Friday night, and there has been no daily since. A special edition of the *Rochester Sun,* weekly advertising throwaway, offered the only published advertising medium on the street today. It made slight dent in the more than 200,000 combined customers of the Gannett papers. No immediate break in the strike was foreseen here.

William Reilly, 63

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 11.—William E. Reilly, 63, former Motion Picture Association official back in the early 1930's when the organization was the MPPDA, died here Saturday in a fall down the stairs of the Keith's Theatre. He was well known in the film industry in this state.

Services for Arnow

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 11.—Services for Samuel Arnow, 46, agent, who died Saturday of a heart ailment after a long illness, a were held here yesterday, with interment in the Home of Peace Cemetery. His widow and father survive, along with a brother, Maxwell Arnow, Columbia executive.

Hugh M. Becket Dies

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 11.—Hugh M. Becket, 46, managing operator of the Metropolitan Theatre, Seattle, died of a heart attack.

COMING

"IT PAYS TO BE FUNNY"

Produced by Coronet Pictures, Inc.

Released thru Astor Pictures Corp.

CHARLES R. ROGERS
presents

PAUL
MUNI

ANNE
BAXTER

CLAUDE
RAINS

in

"Angel On My Shoulder"

with
ONSLOW STEVENS • GEORGE
CLEVELAND • ERSKINE SANFORD

Associate Producer DAVID W. SIEGEL

Original Story by Harry Segall • Screenplay
by Harry Segall and Roland Kibbee • Music
Composed and Directed by Dimitri Tiomkin

Produced by CHARLES R. ROGERS

Directed by ARCHIE MAYO



UP-UP-UP-UP-UP-UP-UP-UP goes the take with that wonderful 4 weeks New York holdover, Miami's great 2-theatre socko, Minneapolis, Syracuse and Atlanta's mighty moveovers, those sweet 2 weeks in Philly and Atlantic City, and so nice the moola from Louisville, Houston, Providence, Cincinnati, Memphis, Kansas City.

Going **UP** with UA

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

60. NO. 95 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1946 TEN CENTS

Grosses in Oct. At Key Houses Were Down

$16,770 Average Against $18,038 in September

Continuing the downward trend shown in September, key city grosses were cut further by Indian summer during October, to an average of $16,770 per theatre, compared with $18,038 in the previous month, according to reports from Motion Picture Daily field correspondents covering some 170 key runs throughout the country.

October's average, which also compares unfavorably with the $17,708 recorded in Oct., 1945, indicated a sharper drop for October and September this year than the decline in the same two months last year.

Outpacing their closest contender, 'Notorious" and "The Killers" ap-

(Continued on page 4)

Clark Calls Trade Heads to Capitol

Washington, Nov. 12.—Production executives will be called into conference at the Justice Department sometime in December to discuss plans for an educational film program to be cordinated with the assistance of government agencies, Attorney General Tom Clark's office said today. Tentative schedule is for Dec. 12. Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, has already been in conference with the

(Continued on page 7)

Tri-States Firm on Local Checkers KO

Memphis, Nov. 12.—Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Arkansas, Mississippi and Tennessee voted unanimously here late this afternoon as being opposed to "local checkers" employed by film exchanges to check their boxoffices when pictures are engaged on a percentage basis.

More than 200 exhibitors voted for the resolution which was offered by the board of directors who met earlier in the day to formulate plans for the two-day convention.

The main topic of the open forum —held for exhibitors only—during the

(Continued on page 6)

Firms Withhold Films, Michigan Allied Charges

By HAL TATE

Detroit, Nov. 12.—Distributors are deliberately withholding product from exhibitors today to create a man-made product shortage with resultant rental price increases, was the charge made by Michigan Allied's board of directors' meeting here at the Book-Cadillac Hotel, inaugurating the organization's 27th annual convention.

Percentage terms are too exorbitant, was another charge leveled at distributors, with the board declaring that flat rental pictures are preferred

(Continued on page 7)

Richey Hits Film Controls

Detroit, Nov. 12.—There can be no lasting benefit to exhibitor, producer or distributor, from controls which are set upon the film industry by legislation or court action, Henderson M. Richey, M-G-M's director of exhibitor relations, will tell the meeting of Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan, which opened at the Book-

(Continued on page 4)

'U'-International Merger Formalized; New Product Is Set

With the actual signing of papers in New York and Hollywood yesterday, the merger of Universal Pictures Co., Inc., and International Pictures Co., Inc., was concluded.

As a result of the merger "U" becomes known as Universal-International Productions Co., with all current and coming product going out under the Universal-International trade mark. The signing of the papers culminated negotiations which began last August and marks the beginning of an expanded program devoted exclusively to top pictures with a roster of star names, and further means the elimination of Westerns, serials and small-budget pictures.

"The Egg and I," starring Claud-

(Continued on page 6)

'Caesar' Reprieved By Goldwyn Bond

United Artists' efforts to retrieve the print of "Caesar and Cleopatra," now showing at the Astor Theatre here, were stalled, at least temporarily, yesterday, when Sheriff John J. McClosky filed a brief in New York Supreme Court to support a contention that he had complied with the

(Continued on page 6)

"Till the Clouds Roll By"

[*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*]

Hollywood, Nov. 12

HERE are the stars, alphabetically as per the main title: June Allyson, Lucille Bremer, Judy Garland, Kathryn Grayson, Van Heflin, Lena Horne, Van Johnson, Angela Lansbury, Tony Martin, Virginia O'Brien, Dinah Shore, Frank Sinatra, Robert Walker. A difficult lineup of personalities to resist and, in all probability, no audience will bother trying.

Additionally, "Till the Clouds Roll By," which is based on the life and music of the late and famous Jerome Kern, features 22 of his melodies and his ballads, many of them long since taken to permanent heart by the American public. Thirdly, producer Arthur Freed and director Richard Whorf have remained doggedly faithful to the high production standard which Metro has set for its bigger musicals. This one is rich and opulent in color, eye-filling and beautiful to behold.

The attraction appears foreordained for sweeping popularity, yet this obviously expensive film is not what it should be, or might, have been. It lacks excitement. It fails to get across any warmth for its principal characters. It is casual in its development and placid in its unfoldment. Its story reflects no high spots and its musical numbers, always an optical and frequently an oral treat, come through in the same tempo with one lone-hand exception. This turns out to be the dance routine in a seedy Memphis cafe with Van Johnson and Miss Bremer as the principals. Unexpected and

(Continued on page 6)

Selznick in Center of UA Owners Clash

May Refuse to Handle 'Duel', Other Films

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 12.—Internal rows, long latent, have broken out anew within United Artists and are expected to result in the refusal of the company to handle any further David O. Selznick product, including "Duel in the Sun," unless Selznick agrees to rewrite his distribution contract, which he is not likely to do.

His co-partners, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, are understood to have instructed their directors to take this position when the board meets in New York Nov. 21 to vote on recommendations along these lines.

Under Selznick's arrangement, it is understood, distribution charges unwind as the grosses rise. If "Duel" should gross the $20,000,000 or more

(Continued on page 4)

MGM Names Shorts Experts for Field

An increase in M-G-M short subjects rentals became imminent yesterday with the disclosure by William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution, that the company has appointed special representatives in all of its 31 exchanges to closely study shorts sales, and that he, Rodgers, has

(Continued on page 4)

Hard Row to Get US Films Into Russia

Washington, Nov. 12.—It will take a long time to get commercial exhibition of American-produced pictures in Russia because that country fears public acceptance of our high standards of culture by the people. Francis DeWolf, chief of the State Department Telecommunications Di-

(Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

Review of "Till the Clouds Roll By" will be found on pages 1 and 6; reports on theatre grosses on page 8.

$110,000 for Relief From Garden Show

Before an audience of 20,000 at Madison Square Garden last night for the 13th annual performance of "Night of Stars," Sylvan Gotshal, chairman, announced that more than $110,000 had been realized from the show for aid to Jewish persons overseas, for the support of the upbuilding and settlement of the Jewish homeland in Palestine and for assistance to those in the United States. Entire proceeds of last night's performance were turned over to the $100,000,000 campaign of the United Jewish Appeal for Refugees, Overseas Needs and Palestine, which is a combined fund-raising organization for the Joint Distribution Committee, the United Palestine Appeal and the United Service for New Americans.

Under direction of Marvin H. Schenck, chairman of the producing committee, consisting of executives in the amusement industry, hundreds of celebrities of stage, screen and radio participated in last night's performance.

National Conference Will Honor Berlin

Breaking a precedent of long standing regarding dais appearances, Irving Berlin has accepted an invitation to be a guest of honor at the annual industry dinner of the National Conference of Christians and Jews to be held here next month.

A committee of 25 film industry leaders, appointed to make plans for the event, will hold a preliminary luncheon at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Nov. 18, with Louis Nizer conducting the arrangements.

NCCJ Awards on Nov. 24

Contributions to American life made by the media of films, radio, stage, press and advertising will be recognized by the National Conference of Christians and Jews at a dinner in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here on Nov. 24, it is announced by Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, NCCJ president.

11,018 Shares to Schneider

A. Schneider, Columbia executive, here, has exercised warrants for the acquisition of 11,018 shares of Columbia Pictures common stock; a Securities Exchange Commission report from the latter's Philadelphia headquarters, published in last Thursday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY, erroneously stated that Schneider had sold 11,018 shares.

'Notorious' Opens Today

Alterations involving a cost of several thousands of dollars will be completed with the erection of a new front on the Broadway, New York, Winter Garden Theatre in time for the opening, this morning, of "Notorious Gentleman" there.

New Booking Office

SAN ANTONIO, Nov. 12. — Jack Conrad has established this city's newest theatrical booking office on Harding Boulevard.

Personal Mention

CHARLES EINFELD, president of Enterprise, is due here from the Coast on Monday.

•

CHARLES SCHLAIFER, director of advertising-publicity for 20th Century-Fox, returned to New York from Chicago yesterday. He was accompanied by RODNEY BUSH, SID BLUMENSTOCK and EDDIE SOLOMON.

•

GEORGE JESSELL will leave New York today for Worcester, Mass., for the 20th anniversary celebration of Loew's Poli Theatre. SID BLUMENSTOCK of the 20th Century-Fox exploitation department will accompany him.

•

THEODORE SMITH, on the research staff of the Motion Picture Association, will go to Albany tomorrow, from here, to address the State Federation of Women's Clubs.

•

LUTHER STONE of Carbondale, Ill., RCA territorial service engineer, was seriously injured in an automobile accident while he was returning from Sikeston, Me.

•

HAROLD COHEN, former M-G-M salesman in Kansas City, has joined the Cinema Amusement Co. in Denver.

•

NORMAN W. ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, left New York last night for Washington, and will return today.

•

WILLIAM R. FERGUSON, HOWARD HERTY and BILL ORNSTEIN left New York yesterday by plane for Atlanta for a meeting.

•

BILL SEIB, Columbia manager in Salt Lake City, is enroute back to that city from a sales trip to Montana.

•

LOU WALTERS, president of Cine Supply Company, has returned to St. Louis from a California vacation.

•

IRVING KAHN, radio manager for 20th Century-Fox, returned to New York from Hollywood yesterday.

•

HARRY K. MCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitatioin manager, will leave New York today for Chicago.

•

HUNT STROMBERG will arrive here today from Hollywood for a week's stay.

•

FRANK SOULE, PRC's head field representative, is in Salt Lake City from New York.

•

TOM MCMAHON, Republic's exchange manager in Salt Lake City, is in the Idaho territory for 10 days.

•

JAMES KOLBECK, manager of Loew's Theatre in Jersey City, is recovering from burns suffered in a brush fire.

•

JOHN WALSH, PRC salesman in St. Louis, is back on the job after a long illness.

•

RUTH WARRICK will arrive in New York today from Atlanta.

CHARLES M. REAGAN, vice-president of Paramount in charge of distribution, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

HANK HEARN of Exhibitors Service, Charlotte; SAM WILSON of the Hazel Theatre, Hazelhurst, Miss., and MACK JACKSON of Alexander City, Ala., were Atlanta film row visitors at the weekend.

•

MORRIS STOFLOFF, musical director at the Columbia studio, with MRS. STOFLOFF, arrived in New York yesterday from the Coast for a month's vacation.

•

MR. and MRS. HERBERT COHN are the parents of a daughter, JUDY ANDRA, born at St. Joseph's Hospital, Far Rockaway. COHN is film critic of the *Brooklyn Eagle*.

•

H. F. COHEN, Monogram branch manager in Atlanta, SAM HINSON, manager in Charlotte; HENRY GLOVER, New Orleans, and BAILEY PRICHARD, Memphis, are in Nashville.

•

LON T. FIDLER, president and franchise owner for Monogram in Salt Lake City, is due in Denver shortly for conferences with DON TIBBS, branch manager there.

•

C. E. SCHILLER, Republic home office representative, was a Salt Lake City visitor, and is headed for Seattle.

•

EARLE SWEIGERT, Paramount's Mideastern division sales manager, is in Detroit from New York.

•

BEN REINGOLD, St. Louis manager for 20th Century-Fox, has returned there from a hunting trip to South Dakota.

•

NORMAN H. MORAY, Warner short subject sales manager, returned here yesterday from a two-month tour of company exchanges.

•

MAURICE DRUCKER, former manager of Loew's State Theatre, Cleveland, has been named manager of Loew's Ohio Theatre, there.

•

CHARLES FOGLE of M-G-M's New York office is visiting the company's Charlotte branch.

•

BOB SULLIVAN, PRC office manager in Charlotte, has returned there from Chicago.

•

CY FRIEDMAN, Midwest exploiteer for 20th Century-Fox, is in Jewish Hospital, St. Louis, for an operation.

•

JOHN JENKINS, president of Astor Pictures in Dallas, accompanied by MRS. JENKINS, is an Atlanta visitor.

•

FRANK H. SMITH has returned from New York to the Paramount exchange in Salt Lake City.

•

GEORGE PAL, producer of Puppetoons, is due to arrive here from California today.

•

GINGER ROGERS will arrive in New York Monday from Washington.

Newsreel Parade

THE Army-Notre Dame football game claims footage in all current newsreels. Other events highlighted are Molotov's visit to the White House, the Army's V-2 rocket test, the Queen Elizabeth's *cargo of celebrities, and the demonstration of a new airborne motor car; complete contents follow:*

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 22—Molotov at the White House. V-2 Army rocket test. Armistice Day ceremonies. Admiral Byrd honored. Windsors arrive in U. S. British models visit here. Flying auto. Football: Army vs. Notre Dame.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 220—Football: Army vs. Notre Dame. Truman asks cooperation. Rocket explodes. Flying automobile.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 23—New Mexico: Army sends up V-2 rocket 102 miles. Inventor Robert Fulton, 1946. Football: Army vs. Notre Dame.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 25—Celebrities arrive on *Queen Elizabeth*. One rocket rises—another crashes. Molotov calls on Truman. Demonstrate auto-plane. Football: Army vs. Notre Dame.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 554—Airborne motor car. Rocket crashes in test. British Embassy dynamited. Windsors in on *Queen Elizabeth*. Army and Irish in game of the year. Georgia Tech sinks Navy.

To Elect Brown AVC Unit Head Tonight

Walter T. Brown is slated to be elected chairman of the Motion Picture Chapter of the American Veterans Committee at a meeting of the unit to take place at National Screen Service, here, this evening. On Oct. 16, Brown and other candidates for offices were nominated by acclamation, which is tantamount to election.

Others who will also be elected at the meeting are as follows: John Guerard, first vice-chairman; Rose Elgart, second vice-chairman; Arnold Karter, third vice-chairman; George Fiedler, secretary; Herb Steinberg, treasurer; Dave Weisman, sergeant-at-arms.

Junior Film Group Forms in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 12.—The Motion Picture Council of Greater Cleveland, headed by Mrs. Edward F. Carren, has launched a Junior Council composed of students from junior and senior high schools. Purpose of the junior council is "to promote interest in the selection of better films for schools and their own entertainment; to evaluate and review motion pictures and bring a youthful viewpoint on constructive motion picture thinking."

Critics Elect Winsten

Archer Winsten of the *New York Post* was elected chairman of the New York Film Critics, replacing John McManus, at a meeting of the organization here yesterday. Joe Pihodna of the *Herald-Tribune* was named to succeed Abe Wiler as secretary.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Heralld; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies. 10c.

M-G-M NEWS IS GOOD NEWS!



BERGMAN AND BOB SET NEW CAPITOL RECORD!

New all-time Sunday record at Capitol, N. Y. where Ingrid Bergman and Robert Montgomery are spellbinding the crowds with "Rage In Heaven." First time in history that a Reprint plays M-G-M's Ace house. Packing them in everywhere!



RUNAWAY HORSE!

"Gallant Bess" continues to pay off at every gate! Big opportunity for showmanship! Filmed in Action-Cinecolor! A top audience show!



STARS OVER MUSIC HALL!

Naturally it is M-G-M which has captured the highly valued Christmas - New Year's booking at Radio City Music Hall. "Till The Clouds Roll By" Technicolor Musical of Jerome Kern's life and songs is a Big Show for a big Showshop. 13 Top Stars, 13 Top Featured Players, 26 Songs and Numbers! Something to look forward to.



"THE YEARLING" WORLD PREMIERE!

M-G-M will shortly make announcement of the most important World Premiere in years. No picture in recent film history has had such advance praise. It has already been selected as their Prize Picture by Louella Parsons in Cosmopolitan, Thornton Delehanty in Redbook, Jack Moffitt in Esquire, Dorothy Kilgallen in Modern Screen and more every day.



VAN DOES IT AGAIN!

"No Leave, No Love" is delighting every Van-fan from Coast to Coast. Van Johnson adds another gay musical hit to "Thrill Of A Romance" and "Easy To Wed."



REMINDER FOR THE FUTURE!

This week we screened an amazing attraction "Lady In The Lake." It reveals a unique technique in screen story-telling, the most startling innovation since talking pictures began! *YOU* are co-starred in the picture with Robert Montgomery and a sterling cast. You'll see what we mean! It's powerful, suspenseful, daring, revolutionary!



YOU CAN SAY IT AGAIN AND AGAIN!

The Big Ones Come From M-G-M. The Big Ones Come From M-G-M. The Big Ones Come From M-G-M. Ditto! Ditto! Ditto!

Richey Hits

(*Continued from page* 1)

Cadallac Hotel, here, today, and will last through Wednesday.

Richey will point to "the chaos that comes with Government interference," when he addresses the convention, holding the present division of exhibitor groups into a half dozen separate camps in connection with the results thus far achieved in the New York equity suit to support his contention that the three segments of the industry will reap "no lasting benefit" from controls which are expected to stem from court action.

The M-G-M executive will "deny that motion pictures are a public utility, like the railroads, or that it is now or ever has been necessary to put a control over this *one* branch of the amusement business."

"You can't legislate success in film industry, nor create a box-office attraction by an act of Congress. Some of the demands of the Government today are contrary to every known precedent in this business. For instance, a ban against road-showing. Every top film through decades of motion picture history has been of road-show calibre, and if the Government succeeds in this prohibition, it will level off production below any present standards of quality," according to Richey.

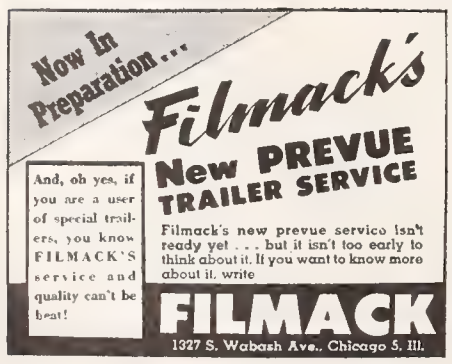
Likening a possible "motion picture commission" with the Interstate Commerce Commission, which was founded to supervise American railroads "on much the same basis of industry chaos that now obtains in motion pictures today," Richey will hold that "given a commission form of Government in motion pictures, you'll see admission prices fixed, along with the wages you pay your employes. The ICC encourages deluxe trains at extra fares, but they also specify what you pay on your neighborhood bus," Richey contends.

More Theatres

"It is probable," Richey will tell the group, "that within the next few years, for every three theatres now operating, there will be one new one." In this connection, he holds, "last year, the War Activities Committee listed 16,000 operating theatres," and predicts that by 1950, "there will be 20,000 theatres."

That will mean new competition in every trading area, Richey holds. "The Government has been asked to insure 'free competition.' It was never necessary to 'restore' it, for the film industry has always been highly competitive. New theatres are therefore apt to fall into new classifications. They won't all be top-bracket, in fact, I look for a majority of new small theatres, and this may be the 16mm. competition that has been threatening. There is great likelihood of a separation between those theatres that run new, modern films at top prices, with superior showmanship, and the lesser runs. Admission prices may level off in two grades of amusement value, the better and newer films will go *up* while the lesser and cheaper runs will go *down* in price at the box-office. They do it that way *now* in Mexico."

Richey will tell the group that although some companies have made 16mm. available through the past 10 years or more, M-G-M has been "a hold-out against making M-G-M pictures available" in the lower gauge. "Not only have we refused to allow old pictures to be made or sold in this dimension, but we have no present plans or intention to issue any 16mm. film whatever in the continental U. S.," he will say.



October Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

peared most frequently during October as leading box-office attractions in the correspondents' tallies, with "Holiday in Mexico" next. This was the second consecutive month that the Cary Grant-Ingrid Bergman film has been in top place. Other films showing strength throughout the nation were: "The Big Sleep," "Three Little Girls in Blue," "My Darling Clementine," "Till the End of Time," "Cloak and Dagger," "The Kid from Brooklyn," "Make Mine Music" and "Mr. Ace."

Composite key-city box-office reports for 1946, compared with the corresponding weeks of 1945, follow:

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,777,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
March 1-2	164	3,106,000	18,939
March 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
March 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
March 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
March 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16,734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1	130	2,058,200	15,855
June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 28-29	159	2,559,000	16,094
July 5-6	167	2,737,500	16,392
July 12-13	154	2,944,200	19,112
July 19-20	163	2,599,300	15,928
July 26-27	157	2,702,700	17,215
Aug. 2-3	165	2,856,600	17,193
Aug. 9-10	162	2,919,700	18,023
Aug. 16-17	157	2,852,000	18,165
Aug. 23-24	167	3,078,800	18,435
Aug. 30-31	166	2,984,500	17,979
Sept. 6-7	171	3,469,600	20,290
Sept. 13-14	170	3,015,600	17,739
Sept. 20-21	169	3,944,800	17,425
Sept. 27-28	168	2,804,900	16,696
Oct. 4-5	172	2,995,300	17,409
Oct. 11-12	169	2,740,800	16,218
Oct. 18-19	169	2,701,000	15,982
Oct. 25-26	177	3,093,000	17,475
Nov. 1-2	174	2,925,000	16,810

1945 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 5-6	136	$2,828,300	$20,796
Jan. 12-13	133	2,393,400	17,995
Jan. 19-20	136	2,289,400	16,826
Jan. 26-27	149	2,543,400	17,069
Feb. 2-3	148	2,534,300	17,123
Feb. 9-10	144	2,506,700	17,407
Feb. 16-17	141	2,491,800	17,672
Feb. 23-24	143	2,448,000	17,118
March 2-3	134	2,462,100	18,373
March 9-10	144	2,448,700	17,000
March 16-17	152	2,530,500	16,648
March 23-24	144	2,248,900	16,687
March 30-31	137	2,123,100	15,446
April 6-7	129	2,293,900	17,872
April 13-14	138	2,268,600	16,349
April 20-21	123	1,893,700	15,395
April 27-28	137	2,179,500	15,908
May 4-5	132	2,141,000	16,219
May 11-12	123	2,166,400	17,613
May 18-19	141	2,390,000	16,950
May 25-26	127	2,052,800	16,153
June 1-2	119	1,902,700	15,989
June 8-9	128	2,020,800	15,788
June 15-16	136	2,266,600	16,666
June 22-23	125	1,903,400	15,227
June 29-30	119	1,952,800	16,410
July 6-7	132	2,248,900	17,371
July 13-14	143	2,586,800	18,089
July 20-21	131	2,271,300	17,384
July 27-28	123	2,156,100	17,529
Aug. 3-4	136	2,395,400	17,613
Aug. 10-11	120	2,316,100	19,300
Aug. 17-18	129	2,367,500	18,352
Aug. 24-25	147	2,699,200	18,362
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	146	2,676,100	18,334
Sept. 7-8	139	2,689,600	19,350
Sept. 14-15	141	2,484,600	17,621
Sept. 21-22	143	2,535,700	17,732
Sept. 28-29	140	2,360,100	16,858
Oct. 5-6	146	2,512,400	17,208
Oct. 12-13	136	2,475,200	18,200
Oct. 19-20	137	2,454,100	17,913
Oct. 26-27	139	2,476,700	17,818
Nov. 2-3	134	2,331,300	17,400

Myers Attacks

In an address winding up yesterday's session of Allied Theatres of Michigan's twenty-seventh convention, Abram F. Myers, Allied's general counsel, attacked President Truman for failing to declare hostilities officially over so that the present emergency 10 to 20 per cent increase on theatre admissions could be abolished. Myers said "The President should have issued such a proclamation long ago, but he seems reluctant to give up the war powers which are dependent upon a theoretical state of war."

Myers also attacked Congress for its failure to act, since the emergency wartime measure could be abolished by a Congressional resolution. Myers said: "Both Chairman Doughton of the Ways and Means Committee and Chairman George of the Senate Finance Committee promised to reconsider the excise rates at the last session of Congress, but both appear to have defective memories."

Myers said that an effort should be made to bring to the attention of the new Congress, not merely the necessity of dropping the war rates, but of repealing the admission tax altogether. Myers said he thought the new Congress would act promptly to end the President's emergency war powers.

Slap at ATA

Although not specifically mentioning American Theatres Association, Myers took a slap at the ATA in its attempts to gain repeal of the admission tax by direct action. He said that "exhibitors and all leaders who have had experience in legislative work must be genuinely disturbed by the announced purpose of an exhibitor organization composed of and financed by the great chains to seek repeal of the admission tax by direct action. The activity of such a group, boasting a $250,000 budget, will drive from the congressmen's minds the recollection of the modest, home-owned neighborhood and small-town theatres with which he is familiar and supplant it with visions of the great, chain-operated metropolitan first-runs which, on the basis of their financial statements, have small claim to the sympathy of the tax collectors." He urged Allied members to work through their local legislative representatives, rather than through paid Washington lobbyists, to attain their ends.

Myers also spoke at great length on the New York court decree and urged exhibitors to watch the final provisions carefully since, he said, the distributor defendants woud try to twist the final verdict to their own advantages.

Selznick

(*Continued from page* 1)

which Selznick representatives regard as probable, Miss Pickford and Chaplin interests reportedly feel UA, as distributor, will find itself concentrating on "Duel" at little or no return to itself and perhaps to the detriment of other product.

Selznick's representatives, however, take another view. They regard it as "curious" for this situation to develop on the eve of formal delivery of "Duel" at which time Selznick will have arrived within two film units of his 10-unit deal on completion of which he acquires full possession of his UA stock. They don't say so positively but they intimate clearly and strongly the latest squabble has its roots in the old, and thus far unresolved, court action filed by Chaplin over Selznick's "package" deal with 20th-Fox including "The Keys of the Kingdom" and "Jane Eyre." They also say they are inclined to believe the proposed negotiations on new distribution terms are less significant than an alleged move on the part of the Pickford and Chaplin groups to "weaken" Selznick's position on the approximate eve of its culmination. Miss Pickford and Chaplin are the only other two member-owners of the company.

Selznick's Position

This is Selznick's position, filtering through a brief statement issued late Monday night by Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard: "If perchance the United Artists board supports this weird and suicidal manouevre, we shall have much to say of great interest to the trade, and it will not be limited to our plans concerning 'Duel in the Sun'."

A spokesman for Miss Pickford admitted UA stockholders will ask the board to seek a revision of Selznick's contract and to decline to accept any further pictures until such revision has been effected "without prejudice."

A spokesman for Chaplin coincided on the proposal to refuse acceptance of further Selznick product, and also indicated a brand new legal action to terminate Selznick's relation with UA is contemplated and, perhaps, a second new action to cancel the original agreement providing for UA stock transfers under the original 10-unit agreement.

President Edward C. Raftery declared UA, per se, had no statement "as the matter is between the company and its partners."

M-G-M Shorts

(*Continued from page* 1)

written to circuit heads around the country with the aim of promoting increases. Higher production costs necessitate the increases, he said.

Rodgers said that there will be no blanket percentage rise in the rentals and to this added that increases will be made only to the extent which best suits each situation. He said that in some cases there even may be reductions.

The shorts representatives in the exchanges are working under E. W. Aaron, assistant general sales manager.

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'U'-I Merger

(Continued from page 1)

ette Colbert and Fred MacMurray, now shooting, will be joined within the next few weeks by the Sam Wood production, "Ivy," starring Olivia de Havilland, with Richard Ney, to be produced by William Cameron Menzies and directed by Sam Wood; "Time Out of Mind," Jane Murfin production, to be directed by Robert Siodmak, in which the English star, Phyllis Calvert, will make her American debut in a starring role, along with Robert Hutton, Ella Raines and Eddie Albert; "Buck Privates Come Home," starring Abbott and Costello, to be produced by Robert Arthur and directed by Charles Barton; "Assigned to Syria," starring Ronald Colman, to be produced by Joe Sistrom and directed by Compton Bennett, the British director; "The Secret Behind the Door," a Diana production, which will be produced and directed by Fritz Lang and star Joan Bennett and Michael Redgrave.

Other Pictures

In addition to these scheduled for immediate starting, Universal-International has announced for early production the Skirball-Manning picture, "Portrait in Black," starring Joan Crawford, and directed by Carol Reed, British director; and "The Exile," which will mark Douglas Fairbanks, Jr.'s debut as a producer and in which he will star.

Now being edited or actually ready for release are: "I'll Be Yours," starring Deanna Durbin, Tom Drake and William Bendix; "Temptation," starring Merle Oberon, Charles Korvin, George Brent and Paul Lukas; "Slave Girl" in Technicolor, starring Yvonne De Carlo and George Brent; "Smash-Up," starring Susan Hayward and Lee Bowman; the Mark Hellinger production, "Swell Guy," starring Sonny Tufts, Ann Blyth and Ruth Warrick.

Also, "Magnificent Doll," Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning production, starring Ginger Rogers, David Niven and Burgess Meredith; "Pirates of Monterey," in Technicolor, starring Maria Montez and Rod Cameron, and "Song of Scheherazade," Technicolor production starring Yvonne De Carlo, Brian Donlevy and Jean Pierre Aumont.

St. Louis Theatres Not Hit by Strike

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 12.—A five-hour strike of Union Electric Power Plant engineers, which closed large plants and stores, did not affect film theatres. All first-run houses, playing to near capacity crowds, remained open throughout the strike, but did curtail the use of electricity by dousing marquee signs and outside lights.

The strike was over the companies' refusal to fire a man as requested by the union. It started at 8:30 A.M. and ended at 1:30 P.M., when the company acceded to the union's demand.

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"Till the Clouds Roll By"

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unsuspected, it pops through the screen with a surprising bang and will rate the concentration of attention and word-of-mouth which it is now predicted will be its reception. But it is a long time arriving.

The story, once more, is the weak-kneed and familiar affair about the efforts of a young songwriter to achieve the fame which became Kern's. His mentor and friend is Van Heflin, but everyone has a pleasant time through the years with no undue struggle and no undue heart tugs. Perhaps all of this is an accurate reflection of the main aspects of Kern's life. If so, it was a dull life insofar as dramatic material was concerned.

But the attraction, setting out to tell about him through his music, is consistent in that respect. The wealth, and sometimes the welter of numbers, keeps on unfolding without seeming end. The impression once again is that two hours and 17 minutes are too long for the assignment at hand.

Yet the starring power is present and never should be sold short, nor should the Johnson number of Sinatra's first-class rendition of "Ol' Man River." Sparkle may be shy, but nostalgic reminders are not. There are four out of "Showboat," including "Make Believe," "Can't Help Lovin' Dat Man" and the necessary "Ol' Man River;" two from "Leave It to Jane;" two from "Sunny," including the title song and "Who?;" three from "Roberta," including "Smoke Gets in Your Eyes," and "I Won't Dance;" the song from "Oh, Boy" on which the title of the film is based, and single numbers from the Kern show album such as "Look for the Silver Lining," from "Sally," which Miss Garland sings, and Dinah Shore's "They Wouldn't Believe Me," from "The Girl from Utah" and "The Last Time I Saw Paris." Most are solo numbers, which is how the Metro players get in, and some are duets.

Robert Walker, as Kern, does what he can to keep the straight story line breathing, with principal assists from Heflin and Miss Bremer, in a story by Guy Bolton, which was adapted by George Wells, plus a screenplay by Myles Connolly and Jean Holloway.

Running time, 137 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

RED KANN

'Caesar' Reprieved

(Continued from page 1)

law by merely placing a deputy in the house to guard the film until a bond for twice its value had been posted.

After a study of the brief, Judge Aaron J. Levy will rule, perhaps today, on an order obtained by UA directing the Sheriff to "show cause" why the print has not been recovered in consequence of a writ of replevin served against the Astor.

The Sheriff, in his brief, points out that he placed a custodian in the projection booth on Nov. 6. Under the law, he contends, the property could be returned to the defendant if sufficient bond were posted within three days. On Nov. 7, a bond of $2,795 was put up by Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., whereupon the custodian departed.

This does not satisfy UA, a spokesman for that company said here yesterday. In the first place, the presence of the custodian did not prevent the Astor from showing the film, which, the distributors contend, should have been surrendered on Oct. 26, when the weekly gross fell below $21,000, the amount said to be specified in the contract as determining the end of the run. In the second place, UA holds, the Goldwyn company was not entitled to furnish the bond since it was not a party to the suit and since its relationship with the Astor is only a booking arrangement.

Back of the controversy is understood to lurk a battle between Goldwyn, who plans to show "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor, beginning Nov. 21, and David O. Selznick, one-third owner of UA, who desires the house for "Duel in the Sun" when a Technicolor print can be completed. The two producers have an agreement to take turns using the theatre as a showcase. Selznick's turn is next, but in the event of his being unable to use it, the privilege is understood to revert to Goldwyn. With "Caesar" now waning at the box-office, UA has moved to step in with Hunt Stromberg's "Strange Woman" to fill the gap until "Duel" can be made ready.

Maurice Maurer, who operates the Astor for City Investing Co., finds himself in the "middle" as the moves and counter-moves continue. He said yesterday he will not accept "Strange Woman" unless both Selznick and Goldwyn instruct him to do so. They agreed upon "Caesar" to fill the gap when neither had product to install, and Maurer apparently is standing by that agreement.

Vote on Morey for Mono. Board Today

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—Monogram vice-president Edward Morey, who has been serving in place of the late Trem Carr on the company's board of directors until a permanent successor to Carr is elected, will be voted upon by Monogram's stockholders for re-election to the board at the company's annual stockholders' meeting, which will be held here tomorrow. Morey has been nominated for the post by Monogram's management.

Morey, who, in May, 1944, was appointed assistant general sales manager of the company, was elected a vice-president in February, 1946.

Other board members who have been renominated by the management for reelection at the meeting are: W. Ray Johnston, Samuel Broidy, George D. Burrows, Howard Stubbins, Charles Trampe, Herman Rifkin, William Hurlbut and Arthur C. Bromberg.

'McCraw Night' Nov. 18

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 12.—"Bill McCraw Night," in honor of Bob O'Donnell's chief assistant in the Variety Clubs of America, will be observed by Tent No. 9 in the Ten Eyck Hotel, on Nov. 18.

Tri-States Firm

(Continued from page 1)

afternoon was the boxoffice dollar and its division. All exhibitors, who spoke one after another, expressed themselves as being of the opinion that theatre owners were not receiving a just share of the boxoffice dollar.

Local checkers have been found guilty of using the information they obtained on theatre attendance to make up their own minds to go the theatre business or peddling information to some other citizen who would use it as a basis for opening up a competitive theatre, several delegates charged.

Will Refuse Films

The Tri-States convention brought a lively session to a close by passing a resolution which said they would refuse to run pictures in their theatres where film exchanges use local checkers.

Henry Reeve, president of the Texas Theatre Owners, Menard, Tex., joined in this discussion and advised exhibitors not to buy pictures when local checkers were used or the percentage asked by film salesmen was higher than the same picture was being sold to theatres in other sections of the country.

More Against Checkers

W. F. Ruffin, Ruffin Amusements Co., Inc., Covington, Tenn., declared: "The only reason they use local checkers is because they are not willing to pay to have theatres checked. If percentage pictures are not right, don't buy them."

R. X. Williams, Oxford, Miss., said it was the consensus among exhibitors that local checkers were not healthy for theatre operators.

The board of directors had earlier recommended that the convention "better balance its representation" by having a new board of directors composed of five from Arkansas, four from Mississippi and three from Tennessee. The present board is composed of six from Arkansas, three from Mississippi and three from Tennessee. Thus, Arkansas lost one director to Mississippi. The convention approved this change. Directors and officers will be elected tomorrow.

Auction Report

A report from Herman Levy, New Haven, general counsel for the MPTOA, dealing with the three-judge Federal Court case in New York on auction selling, was read to the board and the convention. Fred Wehrenberg, St. Louis, national president of MPTOA, elaborated on this report. Wehrenberg will speak tomorrow before the convention.

Jim West, president of the Tri-States convention, presided at today's meeting and appointed a doorman for tomorrow's session to be sure that no one was admitted except exhibitors who presented proper credentials.

Coming for 'Pioneers'

CLEVELAND, Nov. 12. — John Urbansky, Sr., Leo Greenberger and E. Stutz will join Max Lefkowich, Henry Greenberger, Meyer Fine, M. B. Horwitz and I. J. Schmertz as Cleveland's representatives at the Picture Pioneer dinner in New York on [illegible]r. 20.

Plan 'Stepping Up' Of Strike Tempo

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 12.—The strike outlook appeared worsening as the arbitration committee working on the plan for avoiding future conflicts prepared to hold a third meeting tomorrow with nominated permanent chairman Joseph Keenan, who conferred with CSU's president, Herbert K. Sorrell and other individuals today.

CSU summoned all members of all factions to a meeting Thursday morning, with attendance mandatory under penalty, with the declared intention to plan a "stepping up of the strike tempo."

CSU's morning meeting will precede a night meeting of IATSE Local 705, (costumers), which has set that deadline for receipt of a new contract under a threat of calling its members off their jobs on Friday. IATSE's Roy M. Brewer notified 705 officials that he has made an appointment for its negotiators to meet the producers in contract session next Monday. But the local's officers said this would not alter their plans.

IATSE president Richard F. Walsh posted an offer of a $5,000 reward for the identity of the persons who early this morning bombed the home of Technicolor laboratory department manager, Norman Pottle, shattering windows and endangering the family. The incident climaxes a series of similar acts involving stench and acid bombs.

Harriet Lubin Named To Century Position

Harriet Lubin has been appointed head of Century Circuit's opinion research and survey department, by Fred J. Schwartz, vice-president of that Eastern theatre circuit. She was previously connected with the Department of Agriculture and the executive office of the Secretary of the Navy, both in Washington.

Coming for 'Razor's Edge'

CLEVELAND, Nov. 12. — Harry Weiss, 20th-Fox exploiteer, will accompany a group of newspapermen and women to New York to attend the formal opening of "Razor's Edge," next Tuesday. The group will include W. Ward Marsh, *Plain Dealer;* Omar Ranney, *Press;* Arthur Spaeth, *News;* Betty French, *Akron Beacon Journal;* Bill Fitzgerald, *Youngstown Vindicator;* Mitch Woodbury, *Toledo Blade.*

Rothenberg to Liberty

Daniel A. Rothenberg has assumed duties as office manager and chief accountant of Liberty Films' New York office, it is announced by E. K. (Ted) O'Shea, general manager. Rothenberg was associated with Columbia Pictures, and until recently was with the accountancy firm of S. D. Leidesdorf and Co.

Garden Schedule Holds

The Winter Garden Theatre, here, will continue its "open 'till dawn" hours with J. Arthur Rank's "Notorious Gentleman," Universal-International release, which will open on Wednesday. Continuous shows are scheduled until three A. M. every day, and on Saturday the theatre will remain open until five A. M. Sunday.

35 Million Loew Service Admissions

U. S. Armed Forces numbering 35,505,927 admissions attended Loew's Theatres at cut-rates between July, 1941 and August, 1946, according to a tabulation released by Harold J. Cleary, general auditor of Loew's Theatres.

Over 11,000,000 were accounted for in New York City theatres, the remainder in Loew theatres located in other cities.

US Films in Russia

(*Continued from page* 1)

vision, said today upon his return from Russia.

Our Embassy in Moscow is showing British pictures every Sunday, DeWolf stated. He said that American films are not being shown at the private exhibitions because of a mixup caused by the Embassy failing to return prints to the U. S. companies who loaned them.

"If we finally get pictures into Russia, we should start out by exporting Western films, which do not have too much glitter," DeWolf added.

First Wedge

The first wedge in getting our films into Russia is the American missions in that country, where weekly showings are held, he said.

DeWolf cautioned that American companies must be careful what type of pictures are offered for exhibition in Russia "if and when" present barriers are lifted. Sophisticated pictures and those displaying capitalism will not be acceptable to the Russian high command, he said.

Legion Ratings for Five More Features

Four out of five films currently reviewed by the National Legion of Decency are given an A-I classification, including "Landrush," Columbia; "The Mighty McGurk," M-G-M; "Rainbow Over the Rockies" and "Song of the Sierras," both Monogram.

The fifth, "Wanted for Murder," 20th Century-Fox (British), was classified A-II.

Films at Ambassador

On Nov. 26 the Amassador Theatre, here, will become a Broadway showcase for international films. As its first, the house will show the film version of "Carmen," with a French cast starring Viviane Romance and Jean Marais. It was produced in Italy. "Carmen" will be distributed in this country by Superfilm Distributing Corp., of which Marcello Girosi is president. English titles were done by Herman Weinberg.

Wellsville Ban Repealed

WELLSVILLE, O., Nov. 12. — The Liberty, only motion picture theatre in this town, owned and operated by George Davis, was open on Sunday for the first time in its history, as a result of an election in which approval was given by a vote of 1,273 to 771 to repeal of a 32-year-old ban on Sunday shows and sports.

Clark Calls Confab

(*Continued from page* 1)

Department and has pledged his support to the program.

While the educational picture plan will not be directly tied with the youth delinquency problem, the 70 per cent increase in youth crime is believed to be an important factor in the Department's decision to call for assistance from the picture industry.

Omaha Asks Astaire To Stay in Films

OMAHA, Nov. 12.—Mayor Leeman's formal resolution that actor Fred Astaire, a native of Omaha, reconsider his announced retirement from the screen was passed unanimously today by the Omaha City Council.

The resolution asked that Astaire reconsider "for the benefit of all amusement lovers of these United United States and for the citizens of Omaha who have taken Astaire to their hearts and hold him in their esteem."

Mrs. R. J. Booth, 84

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 12.—Mrs. Rolla J. Booth, who had operated the Booth Theatre and funeral home at Rich Hill, Mo., more than 40 years, died on Nov. 9, at 84. Her son, Shirley, helped with the theatre since the death of her husband. Funeral services will be held at Rich Hill tomorrow.

Withhold Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

by owners. Michigan Allied also condemned the use of local checkers, saying that in those cases where checkers are being used a checker from some other town should be hired.

Indications are that Ray Branch, president of Michigan Allied for many years, will be reelected at tomorrow's election.

In one proposed change to the constitution, which will be up for consideration tomorrow, circuit members of Michigan Allied, which now have one vote for each theatre, will be limited to one vote for the entire circuit. Another proposed amendment involves a new method of electing a board of directors and officers. Under the new plan, 15 nominees receiving the highest number of votes will comprise the board of directors. The five highest vote-getters will each serve a three-year term, the next five highest will serve a two-year term, and the next five highest will serve a one-year term. The president and secretary-treasurer will be chosen from the 15-man board.

Included among distributor representatives here are: Leon Bamberger, RKO Radio; H. M. Richey, M-G-M; Claude Lee, Paramount.

Special cocktail parties for the exhibitors in attendance here are being held by United Artists, Paramount, RKO and 20th Century-Fox.



Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

New offerings did better than average at all first-run theatres—despite cold, wet weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 13:

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,300. (Average for 7 days, $8,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $19,000)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c60c-85c-$1.00). 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,600. (Average for 7 days: $14,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U.) — EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,700)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average for 7 days: $12,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (U.)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c). 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $23,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (U.) — IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $11,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $26,200)

COURAGE OF LASSIE (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,200. (Average for 7 days: $24,600)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $10,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $6,100)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) MUSI CHALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $4,750. (Average: $6,-000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $5,800)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U.) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.) — ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $23,100)

THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.) and THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $24,100)

THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.) and THE MAGNIFICENT ROGUE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE DARK MIRROR (U.)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $9,300).

THE DARK MIRROR (U.) — STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $12,-000. (Average: $8,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (U.) — UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $34,000. (Average: $15,100)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U.) — VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00). 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) — WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $21,600)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,-600. (Average: $16,100)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) — WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

Although the continuing bus strike caused business to fall off somewhat in comparison with recent weeks, most first-run grosses are above average, with "Two Years Before the Mast" and "The Dark Mirror" in the lead. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $12,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c) 2nd week. On stage: Phil Regan. Gross: $68,-000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) twice daily, 14th week. Gross: $11,-000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,-150) (55c-65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $21,-000. (Average: $18,000)

FLIGHT TO NOWHERE (Screen Guild) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $4,-000. (Average: $4,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Joan Leslie. Gross: $47,000. (Average: $45,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—SALT LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $40,000. (Average: $29,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $34,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—WOODS (1,-200) (95c) 3rd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Margie," opening strong, seems set for a good run. Business for other films has been spotty. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 12-14:

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,400. (Average: $14,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $7,250)

DECEPTION (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $22,800)

EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Lena Horne. Gross: $32,500. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $28,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $26,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)

GALLANT JOURNEY (20th-Fox) — KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $34,-000. (Average: $28,300)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—STANLEY (3,-000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,900)

BLACK ANGEL (U)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,200)

KANSAS CITY

With Armistice Day attendance a little above normal and a state teachers' convention helping, grosses are above average. The weather has been cooler and mostly clear. Legitimate theatre and athletic competition has been strong. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 12-14:

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) — ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c). 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $8,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c). 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $1,750)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c). 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—NEWMAN (1,-900) (45c-65c). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $11,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VERSUS CUEBALL (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c). 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c). 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,500)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c). 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Holdovers ran well in an average week at Loop houses, with "The Killers" having fine second week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14:

DECEPTION (WB)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover from Radio City. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,500)

DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild) GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,-000. (Average: $8,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $2,500)

DENVER

Good Armistice Day business has helped grosses for the week. "Margie" and "Decoy" have broken the house record at the Orpheum. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 13:

MR. ACE (UA) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (Screen Guild)—ALADDIN (1,-400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,000)

MONSIEUR BEAUCAIRE (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and DECOY (Mono.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $15,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and DECOY (Mono.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,500)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $19,-500. (Average: $15,500)

HOME, SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and SECRETS OF A SORORITY GIRL (PRC)—PARAMOUNT (2,400) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Aladdin. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and DECOY (Mono.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $3,000)

BUFFALO

"The Jolson Story" is setting the pace here, while returns for other films are only fair. The weather has been cold and damp. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 16:

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB), LITTLE IODINE (UA)—BUFFALO (a/489) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $19,-000. (Average: $19,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—GREAT LAKES (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox) — HIPPODROME (2,100) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — LAFAYETTE (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,200. (Average: $12,000)

SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue) and THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue)—TECK (1,500) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $5,400. (Average: $6,000)

CRACK-UP (RKO Radio) and BEDLAM (RKO Radio)—TWENTIETH CENTURY (3,000) (40c-50c-60c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $16,000)

PITTSBURGH

All first-run houses are getting back to average business or better. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14:

CANYON PASSAGE (U.)—FULTON (1,-700) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—PENN (3,500) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days, 2nd week. week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $25,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) — RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Stanley. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) — SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from Harris. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,200)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) — STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

KING'S ROW (WB reissue) and WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (WB reissue)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c). 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Moderated late fall weather, plus some strong holdovers, are keeping grosses satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14:

DECEPTION (WB)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,900)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)

PERSONALITY KID (Col.) and TRAIL TO MEXICO (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) with vaudeville, 7 days. Gross: $3,850. (Average: $3,600)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $3,900. (Average: $3,600)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $4,700)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) — UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-66c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $5,800)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $12,000)

'Bess' Premiere Here

"Gallant Bess," M-G-M's Cinecolor film, will be given its New York premiere at Loew's State Theatre on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28. It was originally booked for the Criterion Theatre.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 96—In Two Sections: Section 1 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1946 TEN CENTS

Gov't Prepares Appeal of Equity Verdict

To Further Its Fight For Total Divorcement

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Anticipating an unsatisfactory Federal Court decision in the New York case, plans for filing an appeal are already being prepared by the Department of Justice. It hopes to submit a petition of appeal some time in January, after the final judgment is rendered by the New York Federal Court. A period of 60 days after the New York decision will be granted both the Government and the company defendants to prepare appeal.

Anticipating that the relief to be given by the court will not eliminate the alleged monopoly in the industry, Government attorneys will seek complete exhibition-distribution divorcement in their intended appeal of the case.

The Department reportedly will have the support of the Conference of

(*Continued on page 3*)

Ark.-Tenn.-Miss. Unit Elects Williams

MEMPHIS, Nov. 13.—R. X. Williams, Lyric Theatre, Oxford, Miss., was named president of the Tri-States Motion Picture Theatre Owners at the closing session of a two-day convention here which came to a climax with an effort by the Arkansas exhibitors to be excused from paying dues to the association since they had already joined the ATA. Request was made in a letter from Claude Mundo, president of the Arkansas MPTO, who was unable to be present.

The request brought on a storm of protest which was ended by the adoption of a motion by M. A. Lightman that the entire matter be referred for action to the new board of directors.

(*Continued on page 3*)

2 Sections of 'Daily'

***Motion Picture Daily*, today, is published in two sections. The second section is devoted to the Darryl Zanuck-20th Century-Fox production, "The Razor's Edge," and to reports from exhibitors in the field.**

Cliff Work Resigns As 'U' Studio Head, Remains As Advisor

Cliff Work, formerly vice-president and studio head of Universal, has resigned as a vice-president and director of the company and has been given a new six-year contract providing for his services in an advisory capacity when needed during that period, it is revealed in a statement filed by the company with the Securities and Exchange Commission.



Cliff Work

Work's former contract would have expired at the end of 1947. The new six-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Universal Has New Company for 16mm.

Claiming to be the first major film distributor to embrace all phases of the sub-standard film field, Universal has formed United World Films, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary to produce and distribute both 16mm. and 8mm. product, it was announced here yesterday by N. J. Blumberg, president of the parent company.

To start off the new enterprise, Universal has bought Filmosound Library, comprising some 6,000 subjects, from Bell and Howell and has

(*Continued on page 7*)

Strike Situation Slightly Improved

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Committee meetings aiming at the establishment of permanent arbitration machinery continued on a two-ply basis. The outlook improved after an overnight flareup in which IASTE president Richard F. Walsh declared his representatives would not sit at a conference table with CSU representatives.

To prevent a breakdown the SAG-instigated movement which resulted in the nomination of Joseph Keenan as permanent arbitrator and his coming to Hollywood to sit in on formative sessions, an arrangement was

(*Continued on page 6*)

'U' Sets Deal for New 'Showcase'

Universal is about to close for its first showcase theatre outside of New York and negotiations for additional houses are progressing. All theatres are being acquired on lease, as was the case with the Winter Garden on Broadway, and they will use Universal-International product exclusively, which includes some J. Arthur Rank pictures.

Michigan Allied Forms Booking, Buying Combine

By HAL TATE

DETROIT, Nov. 13.—Formation of a new booking and buying combine among ex-members of Allied Theatres of Michigan and revelation of an expansion program by another Allied exhibitor group in Wisconsin, the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, were two of the highlight developments of the concluding day of the twenty-seventh annual convention of Michigan Allied Theatres here today.

Support from enough exhibitors has already been assured to start the Michigan Allied booking and buying organization, while William Ainsworth of the Wisconsin organization revealed that the booking and buying organization now enjoyed by 30 members of that state's independent theatre group will be offered to the entire membership of 150 theatres when the group holds its convention in Mil-

(*Continued on page 6*)

New Allied Artists Films to Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Formation of a new company to supply high-budget features for distribution through Monogram exchanges separately from regular Monogram product was announced here today by Steve Broidy, company president, following the annual Monogram board of directors' meeting.

To be known as Allied Artists Corp., the new organization, it is understood, will embrace product such as Roy Del Ruth's already completed "It Happened on Fifth Avenue,"

(*Continued on page 7*)

See Trend to Special Shorts Film Salesmen

Other Companies Study Plan Adopted by MGM

With all companies indicating an acute need to obtain higher rentals for short subjects, others may follow the lead of M-G-M by placing special sales representatives for these films in their exchanges throughout the country, home office short subjects sales managers disclose.

Paramount has this move definitely under consideration and will take up the whole problem of short-subject revenue next week when Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of domestic distribution, returns here from the Coast. The company had such representatives in the field before the war, but withdrew them when the manpower shortage became acute.

For the other distributors, special exchange promoters of cartoons,

(*Continued on page 6*)

American Newsreel Planned for MPEA

Distribution of an American newsreel in all countries served by the Motion Picture Export Association is now under consideration, it is understood.

Patterned after the United Newsreel in Japan, and "Welt in Film," in Germany and Austria, now being released by the American Military Government, selected subject matter for each issue would be culled and consolidated from the footage of member companies' newsreels. Processing of prints would be done in European laboratories with commentary in respective native languages.

Early newsreel coverage is anticipated in Holland, Czechslovakia, Hungary and Rumania, countries in which MPEA is already distributing, or will

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

Review of "Carnival" will be found on page six, and reports of theatre grosses on page eight.

Balaban Speakers Headed by Gibson

Harvey Gibson, president of Manufacturers Trust; Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, and executives of the entertainment industry will head the speakers paying tribute to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, at the dinner in his honor sponsored by the motion picture division of the Joint Defense Appeal on Thursday, Nov. 21, at the Hotel Astor, here.

Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia Pictures; Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler, Randforce Theatres, are serving as chairmen for the motion picture industry's effort. They point out that the event will highlight the division's campaign to raise $250,000 for the Joint Defense Appeal and help maintain the work of two beneficiary agencies.

Other speakers scheduled for the event include William McCraw, Ed Weisl and Louis Novins.

Additional leadership for the drive has also been announced. Harry Levine, Harry Romm and Robert Weitman, of Paramount; and Charlie Miller, Nat Kalchein and Tom G. Rockwell, of the talent field, will head the talent and agency division. Organization of the legitimate theatre division has been completed, with Russel Holman, Boris Kaplan and John Byram, all of Paramount Pictures, as co-chairmen.

UA-Selznick Row Awaits Board Action

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13.—Principals in the UA-Selznick conflict over terms of the latter's contractual relationship with the company uniformly reiterated yesterday's declaration that no further steps in the matter will be taken until the board meets in New York next week.

Counsel for Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, who seek a revision of Selznick's contract or his withdrawal from the company, said their recommendations to the board will stand as stated.

A spokesman for Selznick, who spent the day in Arizona visiting his mother, said the producer is determined to stand on his rights and to resist the recommendations.

UA president Edward C. Raftery said the company cannot comment prior to the board meeting.

Davis Back After 8 Months in England

Jack Davis, managing director of Associated News Theatres, Ltd., operating Monsiegneur News Theatres in England, and president of Monseigneur Enterprises, Inc., which controls the Forum Theatre, Metuchen, N. J., has returned to New York after an eight-month stay in England. While in England plans were made for reopening the firm's Marble Arch newsreel house in London as a television news theatre, next March.

Personal Mention

HARRY NACE, JR., and VINCENT MURPHY of Paramount-Nace Theatres of Phoenix, are New York visitors.

•

STUART H. AARONS of Warners home office legal staff, has received the Military Merit Medal of the Philippines for "meritorious service" while serving as a U. S. Army officer on the islands.

•

WILLIAM B. LEVY, international sales head of Walt Disney Productions, is due in New York today from Atlanta, accompanied by LEO SAMUELS, foreign sales manager.

•

JACK L. WARNER, vice-president in charge of production, is due to arrive in New York from Hot Springs, Ark., in about a week, and will leave for Europe shortly thereafter.

•

LOUIS B. MAYER will fly from Hollywood Nov. 29 for Mexico City to attend the inauguration of President MIGUEL ALEMAN on Dec. 1.

•

BYRON PRICE flew yesterday from Hollywood to San Francisco to address the American Automobile Association today, returning on Sunday.

•

PRESTON STURGES, United Artists producer, and FRANCES RAMSDEN, actress, are due in New York by plane from the Coast today.

•

LEONARD SCHLESINGER, president and general manager of Warner Brothers Service Corp., has left New York for the Coast for a months' stay.

•

PHIL GERSDORF of RKO Radio's Coast publicity staff, has returned here from Europe, en route to Hollywood.

•

JEFFREY LYNN, Warner star, returns from New York to the Coast at the weekend, following a honeymoon in Bermuda.

•

BENNY ZIMMERMAN is the new manager of the Studio Theatre, Philadelphia, replacing JACK WEISS, who resigned.

•

MRS. GUS KING of the Capital City Supply Co., Atlanta, has returned there from Dallas.

HOWARD DIETZ, vice-president of Loew's, will leave New York for the Coast at the weekend.

•

CHARLES BOYER, Enterprise actor; DAVID LEWIS, producer, and LEWIS MILESTONE, director, will accompany Enterprise president CHARLES EINFELD to New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

ORVILLE CROUCH, manager of Loew's Theatre, St. Louis, is on vacation. FRANK MURPHY is acting manager.

•

FRANK BARNES, owner of the Sioux Theatre, Cranford, Neb., was operated on at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minn.

•

MAX ROSENBERG and JOE LEVINE of Motion Picture Ventures, Inc., has left New York for Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Detroit and Philadelphia.

•

MARLENE DIETRICH, Paramount star, has been awarded a medal by the Beverly Hills Post of the American Legion for her overseas service.

•

EDWARD G. SCHULTZ, manager of the Plaza Theatre, Northampton, Mass., will be married on Nov. 20 to ROSE DONICZ.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, will return to New York today from Detroit.

•

HUNT STROMBERG, United Artists producer, arrived in New York from the Coast yesterday.

•

JULIAN BLAUSTEIN, editorial supervisor for Vanguard, is en route to New York from the Coast.

•

MELVIN DOUGLAS has arrived in New York from Hollywood for a two weeks' stay.

•

ARCHIE J. LAURIE of Canadian Eagle-Lion will return today to Toronto from New York.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, M-G-M director of publicity, will leave New York for the Coast on Tuesday.

•

HOAGY CARMICHAEL is due in New York today from Hollywood.

Funeral Services for Cowdin, Jr., Saturday

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 13.—Funeral services for J. Chever Cowdin, Jr., son of Universal's board chairman, will be held here on Saturday. Burial will be in San Francisco's Cypress Cemetery. Cowdin, who was 33, died suddenly in Nassau, Bahamas, on Nov. 6, while traveling.

Cowdin, Sr., who accompanied his son's remains from the Bahamas to San Francisco, will return to New York about the middle of next week.

Coast Strike Fails To Snag SG's Work

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 13. — Screen Guild Productions has put "The Return of Buffalo Bill" in work here, started filming of "Bells of San Fernando" yesterday, and will begin production of "Shoot to Kill" on Dec. 1, all despite the labor jurisdictional strike here, which has curtailed production activities at many studios.

Respective producers of the three films are: Jack Schwarz, James S. Burkette and William S. Berke.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

HALF in fun and wholly in earnest, the management of Famous Players-Canadian Theatres, at Toronto, suggests to its employes that whenever they feel they are overworked, and begin to sigh wistfully for "the old days," they should read the following item, being the actual rules governing the conduct of a large Chicago department store some 80 years ago:

"Store must be open from six in the morning until nine at night, all year around.

"Store must be swept, counters, base shelves and showcases dusted, lamps trimmed, filled and chimneys cleaned, pens made, windows and doors opened, a pail of water and a bucket of coal brought in before breakfast, and attend to customers who call.

"The employee who is in the habit of smoking Spanish cigars, getting shaved at the barber shop, going to dances and other places of amusement, will surely give his employer reason to be suspicious of his integrity and honesty.

"Men employees are given one evening a week for courting and two if they attend prayer meeting.

"After 14 hours of work in the store leisure hours should be spent mostly in reading."

▽

Revoking war-time orders which had been issued to save materials, the Civilian Production Administration now formally and officially permits the use of more cloth in women's slips, nightgowns, "pop's" pajamas, negligees, demi-housecoats and brunch coats. But the CPA refuses to budge a yard on materials for new theatres!

▽

Marvel of this age of motion picture distribution-exhibition and percentage-picture playing, is Charles Constantine Skouras, president of National Theatres, who is understood to have torn up his license agreement with Universal for the playing of "The Seventh Veil," when the box-office returns of the picture were in, and handed "U" an extra $50,000 in film-rental because the picture earned it!

▽

It was Lew Lehr who once said: "Never start work before breakfast. If you find you must work before breakfast, get your breakfast first."

▽

Hollywood syndicate news-writer Frank Hughes is currently complaining in a *Chicago Tribune* survey of Hollywood studio writers that some of them get as much as $5,000 a week. Screen-writer Nunnally Johnson received $18,645 a week for each of eight weeks work in one stretch last year.

▽

Mexican City policemen, when off-duty, make up to $20 daily "shaking-down" petters in that town's motion picture theatres. The cops complain that they need money, pointing to their daily wage of $1.75, less deductions for pension and other items.

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Williams Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

Henry Reeve, president of the Texas Theatre Owners, spoke at today's session telling of a state legislative bill now pending in his state that would levy a 10 per cent amusement tax on theatre admissions for the state and cities if and when the Federal Government decides to reduce the present federal tax.

He warned the exhibitors that such [illegible]es might be attempted in their [illegible] states.

Fred Wehrenberg, national president of the MPTOA, St. Louis, spoke in favor of clean, family-type pictures instead of salacious pictures and said progress was being made in this direction.

Wehrenberg said the 16mm. business was progressing by leaps and bounds and constituted a major threat to the motion picture industry.

He paid tribute to the late Ed Kuykendall, Columbus, Miss., former MPTOA president, and said one of Kuykendall's last requests to the industry was to change over to a fireproof film system.

Lightman spoke against divorcement of film exchanges and theatre ownership at length and Wehrenberg replied that the MPTOA was not recommending divorcement.

Officers Elected

Besides President Williams, the following officers were elected: W. E. Malin, Lura Theatre, Augusta, Ark., vice-president for Arkansas; Arthur Rush, Houston Theatre, Houston, Miss., vice-president for Mississippi; W. F. Ruffin, Jr., Ruffin Amusement Co., Covington, Tenn., vice-president for Tennessee.

Orris Collins, Paragould, was named secretary-treasurer; W. F. Ruffin, Sr., president of Ruffin Amusements Co., Covington, was elected chairman of the board of directors.

B. V. McDougal, Monticello; Claude Mundo, Little Rock; L. F. Haven, Sr., Forrest City; Jack Rhodes, West Memphis, and Miss Emma Cox, Osceola, were named to the board of directors from Arkansas.

D. F. Blisser, Okolona; Ramond Goodman, Starkville; Earl Elkin, Aberdeen, and Sank Taylor, were named directors from Mississippi.

Dave Flexer, Memphis; M. A. Lightman, Jr., Memphis, and Miss Louise Mask, Bolivar, were elected directors from Tennessee.

W. F. Ruffin, Sr., president of Ruffin Amusements Co., Covington, was named representative to the national MPTOA board of directors.

Porter May Go to FCC

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—President Truman refused to comment on the report that Paul Porter will return to the Federal Communications Commission. The president told newsmen at his first post-election conference that they would have to ask Porter, who is expected to leave what is left of the Office of Price Administration within 30 days.

Rogers-Skirball Luncheon

CLEVELAND, Nov. 13.—Ginger Rogers and Jack Skirball, who arrived here for the opening of Universal's "Magnificent Doll," tonight, were guests of honor today at a luncheon-reception which was attended by representatives of the Cleveland, Akron, Youngstown, Columbus and Dayton press.

Powell Declines to Slant Films to US

Stressing his "deep admiration for Hollywood film craftsmen," Michael Powell, British producer-director, who arrived here Monday on the *Queen Elizabeth*, yesterday, asserted that he would not slant his pictures to the American market since that would destroy "our own—British—flavor." He added that he regards the rivalry between American and British production as a stimulus for the industries of both countries.

Powell, whose latest film, "A Matter of Life and Death," starring David Niven, Raymond Massey and Kim Hunter, had its premiere on Nov. 1 in London for the King and Queen, also revealed that he had been experimenting with various color processes. The film, release of which has not yet been set for American exhibition, is a product of his experiments with a di-monochrome process, he added.

The British producer, who is associated with Emeric Pressburger in Archer Productions, a member of the J. Arthur Rank production organization known as Independent Producers, Ltd., also said that he has a new theory of design for two pictures slated for 1947, "The Red Shoes" and "The Small Back Room," with which he expects to cut production costs. However, he observed, it is "only a theory as yet and remains to be proved."

His production plans for 1947, he said, include an Anglo-American musical about the set-up of "The Stars and Stripes," the Army newspaper overseas.

Charlotte Variety Elects New Crew

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 13.—The Charlotte Variety club, Tent no. 24, has elected 11 crew members for 1947 and voted to sponsor a 1947 March of Dimes campaign in this county. Elected were: Byron Adams, Roy H. Bradley, Cy Dillon, Harry Haas, H. F. Kincey, Tom Little, Olin Mock, B. A. Slaughter, Jr., John H. Vickers, Ralph Iannuzzi, and George Roscoe.

John H. Bachman was elected national canvasman, with Frank H. Beddingfield as alternate. Cy Dillon and George Roscoe were appointed delegates to the national convention, with Al Burks and Ralph Iannuzzi as alternates.

Toledo Receives a Variety Charter

TOLEDO, Nov. 13.—The film industry in this city has received a Variety Club charter from Robert J. O'Donnell, national Variety chief barker.

First officers follow: Jack Lykes, chief barker; Jack O'Connell, first assistant; Marvis Harris, second assistant; Milt Karloff, property master; Burt Schoonmaker, dough guy. The first six canvasmen are: Jack Armstrong, Jiles Robb, Steve Toth, James Dempsey, Paul Heuter and "Curly" Posen. The inaugural dinner will be held about the middle of December.

Exhibitors Honor Morin

HARTFORD, Nov. 13.—Theatre managers from all parts of Connecticut gathered at the Fairfield Inn, Fairfield, yesterday to honor Earl R. Morin, of Fairfield, who has retired as an inspector of motion picture theatres for the state police.

Rochester Theatre Tax Rise Up to $900

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 13.—Rochester theatre managers today protested what they termed unfair taxation, following the surprise passage by the City Council of an ordinance which raises annual municipal licensing fees from $50 to $900 in the case of houses seating more than 2,000.

The new schedule of fees, effective Jan. 1, is as follows: houses seating 500 or less, $5 per performance, or $100 annually; seating up to 1,000, $10 per performance, or $200 annually; up to 1,500, $15 per performance, $400 annually; up to 2,000, $20 per performance, or $600 annually; over 2,000, $25 per performance, $900 annually.

Managers are now studying possible ways of effecting a curtailment of the new licensing fees which they say are out of all proportion to those charged in other cities of comparable size.

City Manager Louis B. Cartwright said the increase was made necessary by increased costs of inspection by the municipal building and fire bureaus.

'Let Films Alone,' Ramsaye Urges

"The motion picture as it is, the property of the people, the whole people, who pay for it, can do with some letting alone as a democratic product," Terry Ramsaye, *Motion Picture Herald* editor, told the Town Club at its autumn meeting at the Park Central, here, yesterday. He urged that "pressure groups and 'highbrow' critics represent special interests and points of view which can properly expect to be served only in the ratio of their importance as elements of the audience."

The Town Club is an organization of several hundred clubwomen and social leaders from suburban communities surrounding New York City. It includes many who are members of local community motion picture organizations. The speaker was introduced by Mrs. Alice C. Massa, program chairman and a member of the Staten Island Better Films Council.

'Best Years' To Open As Benefit for Blind

A $10-per-ticket opening of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor Theatre, here, on Nov. 21, will be for the benefit of The Lighthouse of The New York Association for the Blind, which serves 4,000 blind persons.

Mrs. George F. Baker heads the committee in charge of the event. Mrs. Howard Cullman and Mrs. Marshall Field are co-chairmen. Goldwyn, director William Wyler, and a number of the film's players, including Myrna Loy, Dana Andrews, Virginia Mayo, Hoagy Carmichael and Cathy O'Donnell, will attend.

Two CBS Dividends

The Board of directors of Columbia Broadcasting has declared a cash dividend of $1.00 per share on the present class "A" and "B" stocks of $2.50 par value. The dividend is payable on Dec. 6 to stockholders of record at the close of business on Nov. 22.

Gov't Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Independent Exhibitor Associations, which includes National Allied and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors. It is believed that the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America and the American Theatres Association will be opposed to theatre divestiture and will not take part in the Government's appeal.

'Fluid' Price Policy For New York Roxy

The Roxy Theatre, here, will raise its top box-office admission price to $1.80, from $1.50, beginning with "The Razor's Edge," next week, and will maintain a "flexible scale" thereafter, A. J. Balaban, operator of the theatre, declared yesterday.

Claiming that the new scale will enable the theatre to step up its showmanship because it will fluctuate with the stage and film presentations, Balaban said the adoption of "such a fluid policy" is needed for all top theatres.

Balaban said he has been investigating the possibility of making the Roxy the only motion picture theatre to present an ice show along with a regular, though shortened, stage presentation, with a film. Installing an ice rink on the stage will probably take until Easter, he said.

Roxy Drops Stage Show For 'Razor' Premiere

Departing from its usual policy, the Roxy Theatre will not present a stage show for the premiere performance next Tuesday evening of "The Razor's Edge," A. J. Balaban, general manager, said here yesterday.

Huge Broadway Sign Hails 'Razor's Edge'

Heralding the Nov. 19 world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre, here, what was described as the largest sign on New York's "Great White Way" was illuminated last night atop the Schrafft Building at 43rd and Broadway. The occasion was marked with ceremonies atop the building, as 20th-Fox director Edmund Goulding threw the switch in the presence of City Council president Vincent R. Impellitteri, 20th-Fox advertising-publicity director Charles Schlaifer, Roxy assistant general manager Irving Lesser, the Roxy's Gae Foster girls, and others.

The sign, electrically animated, is 150 feet long and 92 feet high. A total of 3,300,000 watts of electricity are used for illumination, which requires 200,000 light bulbs, 3,000 feet of neon, and 40 floodlights.

MPA - UN Film Pact To Be Set Today

A cooperative film program agreement between the Motion Picture Association and the United Nations' Visual Information Division, Department of Public Information, will be outlined for the trade today by Glendon Allvine of the MPA and Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the UN division, at a conference at Benoit-Levy's headquarters, here.



An speake

2 FRANK BORZAGE PRODUCTIONS

I've Always Loved You
Gallant Man

•

8 DELUXE PRODUCTIONS

Angel And The Badman
Calendar Girl
Hit Parade Of 1947
A Nelson Eddy Production
Wyoming
Heaven For Jenny
The Fabulous Texan
Crime Passionelle

•

4 MAJOR PRODUCTIONS in TRUCOLOR

That's My Gal
Down Tahiti Way
Slippy McGee
Singapore Sal

16 VARIETY PRODUCTIONS

The Pilgrim Lady
Affairs Of Geraldine
The Ghost Goes Wild
The Fabulous Suzanne
The Magnificent Rogue
Spoilers Of The North
Web Of Danger
Winter Wonderland
The Finger Woman
Whispers In The Dark
The City Slicker
Pride Of Kentucky
Thunder In The Forest
Daredevils Of The Sky
Lightnin' Strikes Twice
Hideout

8 ROY ROGERS—TRIGGER in TRUCOLOR

•

4 GENE AUTRY PRODUCTIONS

•

6 ALL-STAR WESTERNS in TRUCOLOR

•

8 RED RYDER WESTERNS

•

6 CARTOONS in TRUCOLOR

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4 SERIALS

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HIRAM PARKS.

HIRAM PARKS IS A PROMINENT EXHIBITOR OPERATING THEATERS IN GRAND FALLS, LUBBOCK AND BROWNFIELD, TEXAS.

EYE ON REPUBLIC.....

Mich. Booking

(*Continued from page* 1)

waukee a week from Friday.

Jack Kirsch, national Allied president, who flew here from Chicago expressly to attend the convention, likewise exhorted the Michigan members to lend complete support to the embyronic Michigan booking and buying organization, saying that it was only through this method that the future life of independent exhibitors could be assured. Kirsch also predicted that "this sort of service (booking and buying) has proven so popular in so many territories that a demand for it will spring up in all regions."

Strengthening Unit Ties

Kirsch also pledged the strengthening of ties between all Allied units as well as adding new units. He reported that Allied has already received membership applications from two regional associations with prospects of more to come. Kirsch added, however, that Allied will not rush into any expansion campaign. He said "little can be gained by attempting to absorb elements which are neither familiar nor sympathetic with Allied policies, organization and operations." Kirsch also lauded the Michigan Allied group for nearly doubling its membership in the past year so that today it boasts a membership representing 225 theatres in the state of Michigan.

Abram F. Myers, Allied general counsel, likewise urged the adoption of booking and buying groups and pointed out the various regional associations now functioning under Allied auspices throughout the country.

Allied Production

Jack Stewart, general manager of the Michigan Allied group, went into the proposed booking and buying group in detail and said that for the present the group will be limited to theatres outside Detroit in the state of Michigan. He also advocated support of the Allied film plans and indications are that the membership as a whole will support the Allied film production plan which calls for 12 pictures with the privilege of cancelling eight if the members are not satisfied after playing the first four.

Fourteen of the 15 board of directors were reelected here today with D. A. Ritter of Detroit, the new board member. Indications are that the present slate of officers headed by Roy Branch, will be reelected. The new officers will be chosen by the board of directors.

An amendment was also passed here today limiting votes to each member to one vote regardless of the number of theatres he owned. Circuits and single theatre owners will now be limited to one vote. Regular sessions will be held by Michigan Allied throughout the year with the first such meeting set for Dec. 4 in Detroit. A banquet honoring picture pioneers wound up the Michigan Allied meeting here tonight.

Bamberger Urges Exhibitors To Take Over 16mm. Spots

DETROIT, Nov. 13. — Exhibitors should safeguard their interests by taking over 16mm. situations in outlying areas and using them to show sub-standard versions of current pictures, Leon J. Bamberger, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, told the board of directors of Michigan Allied here today. He pointed out that many such theatres now are showing very old pictures.

Urging increased emphasis on advertising and exploitation, Bamberger noted that the Gallup polls show that, "whereas 10 years ago most folks just 'went to the movies' and only 20 per cent went to see a particular picture, today 70 per cent decide in advance what they are going to see." He also remarked that only 19,000,000 out of a possible 82,000,000 Americans are seeing "A" pictures at all.

With regard to the industry antitrust suit decree, Bamberger said: "No system, whether it be the so-called auction selling or anything else, is going to tear down the business."

16mm. Prints

Bamberger and H. M. Richey of M-G-M, yesterday, disagreed upon distribution of 16mm. prints in this country. Bamberger said that RKO has not and never will license 16mm. prints in this country in any way that might hurt regular 35mm. theatre owners.

Bookings, he said, were for the most part confined to convents, sanitariums, Red Cross purposes, veteran hospitals and similar places and at no time were 16mm. prints ever rented to women's clubs or any such groups for fund-raising purposes. Bamberger urged exhibitors to take over 16mm. operations in towns which could not support 35mm. theatre showings, and cited where an operator in Bentonville, Ark. sold 800 tickets weekly at 50 cents for a gross net of $400 for a weekly showing. He also pointed out that an Eastern theatre circuit was building 12 16mm. theatres at an approximate cost of $40,000 to $45,000 apiece to supplement their regular 35 mm. theatres.

Richey Decries

Richey, on the other hand, decried the distribution of 16mm. prints in this country and said that M-G-M is confining its distribution in this country to 35mm. prints.

The Michigan Allied board of directors went on record as supporting the national Allied plan of going into film production and pledged the purchase of 12 pictures annually with an eight picture cancellation privilege. Other speakers yesterday were George Dembow of National Screen Service, Dr. Preston H. Scott, professor at Wayne University, and David Palfreyman of the Johnston office.

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Review

"Carnival"

(*Two Cities—GFD—British*)

London, Nov. 8

MIDDLE-aged addicts of the novel may remember Compton Mackenzie's little piece upon which this film is based, and the considerable vogue it enjoyed 30 years ago. It told of those carefree London days when young gentlemen—they called them Stage Door Johnnies—were wont to stand persistently waiting for their heart-throbs of the chorus, and of the other kind of heart-throbs those young ladies suffered. Mackenzie's tale is none the worse for being middle-aged. It still possesses heart and the business of romance. It could—and has done on two previous occasions—make a very good film. Trouble with the present one is that someone thought he could better Mackenzie's pretty parable. The effort fails somberly.

Jenny Pearl, in the story, is a near-ballerina. The picture shows her birth—or very nearly that—in a dismal London slum; her "going on the stage"; her falling—or near-falling—for a painter, motivated by near-morals—her marriage to an unconsciously near-sadistic religious maniac; her death at her husband's hands just as she nearly escapes with her original (nevertheless near) lover. It is one of those films which nearly, but never really comes off. In other words, a disappointment which even the skilled approach of Michael Wilding—he's one of the real promising young men of the screen on this side—fails to redeem.

British exhibitors will find difficulty in convincing their customers of the film's merit, despite the manifest pains its makers spent over ballet sequences and such decorations. The cast also includes Stanley Holloway, Bernard Miles, Jean Kent, Catherine Lacey and a host of others.

Running time, 93 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

Grant Cohn Examination

New York Supreme Court Judge Aaron J. Levy yesterday granted a petition for the examination of Harry Cohn, Columbia president, in the $150,000 suit brought by Hollywood Plays, Hopwood Plays and Myra Wood charging breach of contract for failure to produce "Good Night Ladies," which the company allegedly agreed to purchase in 1943. Levy ruled that Cohn will be examined upon his next trip to New York or that the examination may take place in California if Columbia's attorneys prefer that arrangement.

4 Millions for 'Knights'

Culminating more than seven years of research and planning, Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., will produce and star as Sir Lancelot in a Technicolor picture of "Knights of the Round Table," based on the well known legend, with negotiations already under way to produce all or part of it in England at a budget of between $4,000,000 and $5,000,000. Fairbanks is now an independent producer releasing through Universal-International.

Royal at Video Meeting

John F. Royal, National Broadcasting vice-president in charge of television, will address a luncheon-meeting of the American Television Society at the Roosevelt Hotel, here, on Nov. 20.

Shorts Salesmen

(*Continued from page* 1)

comedies, little musicals and other films that round out an exhibitor's programs would be a departure from past practice. RKO Radio, according to indications, is also giving thought to the matter. "With costs going up, something has to give," Harry J. Michaelson, short-subject sales manager, said yesterday. The company's regular salesmen will continue to handle shorts for the present, he explained, hinting, however, that there were plans for possibly changing the system, about which he was not ready to talk at present.

Norman H. Moray, Warners' short subjects sales chief, while not considering special exchange representatives "at this time," did not rule it out as a plan which may have to be adopted later. Having the shorts handled by the regular feature salesmen has worked "as well as can be expected," he said. "We have been increasing our prices, but still are not getting enough revenue," Moray added.

Increase Quality

Universal will depend largely upon increasing the quality of its short product to bring income from that source up to an acceptable level, according to Edward L. McEvoy, who has charge of the department. He indicated that the "little films" will continue to be handled by the feature salesmen, at least for the present.

Likewise, 20th Centruy-Fox has decided to stick to its present staff, which, however, will make a definite effort to increase shorts' revenue, it was explained by Peter Leveathes, assistant to vice-president Tom Connors, in the absence of short-subjects sales manager William Clark.

Complaints of a lack of adequate revenue from short subjects have been numerous lately, especially in the cartoon field. As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Tuesday, William B. Levy, world sales supervisor for Walt Disney Productions, holds that an appeal to exhibitors by Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston may have to be looked for ultimately as a move toward preventing virtual extinction of this form of entertainment.

Strike Situation

(*Continued from page* 1)

made for SAG and neutral union representatives to meet first with Keenan while IATSE representatives waited in an adjoining room to cover the same ground in a second session unattended by CSU.

Walsh's declaration was attributed officially to doubt on his part that the carpenters' union, CSU, was negotiating in good faith. Earlier in the day Walsh had charged CSU's president, Herbert K. Sorrell with responsibility for the bombings which have damaged the homes of three laboratory workers in the past two days. Keenan expressed willingness to continue working with the committee and to undertake to compose the differences between IATSE and the carpenters' union.

Picketing continued on a routine basis today, but will be abandoned tomorrow, for the first time since the strike started, in order that all CSU members may attend a morning mass meeting designed to intensify action.

Production Is Off Again as 9 End Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 10.—Production was off again, slightly, as work was completed on nine pictures, and eight began before cameras. Shooting was resumed on "Vendetta," which had been temporarily suspended during reorganization of California Pictures. Stuart Heisler has taken over both production and direction, replacing Preston Sturges. The shooting index stood at 40; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Prairie Raiders," "Millie's Daughter."

Started: "Blondie's Holiday," with Penny Singleton, Arthur Lake, Larry Simms; "King of the Wild Horses," with Preston Foster, Gail Patrick, Big Boy Williams.

Shooting: "The Lady from Shanghai."

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love," "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Finished: "It Happened in Brooklyn," "Unfinished Dance."

Started: "A Love Story," with Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid, Robert Walker; "The Birds and the Bees," with Jeannette MacDonald, Jose Iturbi, Jane Powell.

Shooting: "Undercover Maisie," "The Personal Touch," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Started: "The Guilty" (Wrather), with Bonita Granville, Don Castle, Wally Tarsell, Regis Toomey.

Shooting: "The Devil's Deputy."

Paramount

Finished: "The Big Haircut," "Unconquered" (DeMille); "Desert Fury" (Wallis).

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl."

PRC

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Thunder Mountain."

Shooting: "Build My Gallows High," "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw," "Magic Town" (Riskin), "The Long Night" (Hakim-Litvak), "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Started: "Will Tomorrow Ever Come," with Nelson Eddy, Ilona Massey; "Marshal of Cripple Creek," with Allan Lane, Bobby Blake, Martha Wentworth.

Shooting: "Gallant Man."

Screen Guild Productions

Started: "Return of Buffalo Bill" (Schwarz), with Richard Arlen, Jennifer Holt.

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights," "Boomerang."

United Artists

Shooting: "Vendetta" (California); "Red River" (Monterey); "Personal Column" (Stromberg); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Cliff Work

(*Continued from page* 1)

year pact is on a reduced compensation basis by comparison with the old contract. At present, Work is handling the studio labor assignment for Universal as his first under the pact calling for his services in an advisory capacity.

Although it is understood that Universal's recent acquisition of International Pictures, which placed William Goetz in charge of production at the studio, influenced the making of the new contract with Work, it is reliably reported that Work had expressed a disinclination to renew the contract which would expire at the end of next year, long before the International deal came into sight. It is said he was anxious to have more time for personal activities.

The Universal-International deal, closed on Tuesday, will bring about no change of name in the parent company. Universal Pictures Co., Inc., as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 8. A new production subsidiary will be formed on the Coast with the Universal-International name and that name will be carried on the company product. Goetz and Leo Spitz are expected to become officers of the new subsidiary.

No successor to Work has been named on the Universal board of directors. Goetz and Spitz have been invited to become members of the board, but have not accepted due to the fact that their duties on the Coast would prevent them from regularly attending board meetings, which are held in New York.

Checkers Attacked By Iowa-Nebraska

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 13.—Removal of the "red flag" flaunted by local checkers, "when it obviously is apparent that local checkers are definitely undesirable from an industrywide viewpoint," was urged at a regional meeting of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska, at Norfolk, Neb., attended by 23 independent exhibitors responding to a meeting call of Mel Kruse.

Removal of the "red flag" would be a big step by the distributors in fulfilling their promises of cooperation with exhibitors, Kruse said.

AITOA president Howard Brookings and assistant secretary Bick Downey attended the confab. Another meeting has been scheduled for Norfolk on Dec. 3, with Kruse as chairman. Meetings are also scheduled for Ord and Minden, Neb., on Nov. 19 and 26, respectively, with others slated throughout Iowa.

$250,000 Theatre Fire

BOSTON, Nov. 13.—Fire today destroyed the RKO Keith Theatre at Fairhaven, Mass., with damages estimated at $250,000. A boiler-room explosion is believed to have caused the flames, which gutted the house.

Universal-International

Shooting: "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "Dark Passage," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in

Finished: "Love and Learn."

New Allied Artists

(*Continued from page* 1)

forthcoming King brothers' films, and others in a similar budgetary category, with a special staff of salesmen in field selling these.

Broidy said, "This new organization will not in any way affect the production and distribution plans of Monogram, which will continue along the same lines. Allied artists will enlist for its productions important producers, directors, actors, writers, many of whom have expressed a decided interest in becoming active participants in the new organization," Broidy declared.

He emphasized that the pictures planned for Allied Artists will not conflict with the regular Monogram product announced for 1946-47.

MPEA Newsreel

(*Continued from page* 1)

soon be distributing regular features and shorts. Additional potential markets for the MPEA newsreel are Poland, Yugoslavia, Bulgaria and the Netherlands East Indies, it is said.

Universal in 16mm.

(*Continued from page* 1)

taken over that company's operating personnel and branch offices in New York, Chicago, Washington and Los Angeles.

Matthew Fox, Universal executive vice-president, will be, in addition, United World board chairman. Col. James M. Franey, a member of Gen. Eisenhower's staff during the war, will be president. Vice-presidents will be William F. Kruse, a Bell and Howell executive for the past 17 years; Edward L. McEvoy, present head of Universal's short subjects department, and Edmund L. Dorfman, who has been president of the American Institute of Motion Pictures since 1938. The latter will be in charge of production.

Affiliated With Rank

Universal, already closely affiliated with the J. Arthur Rank interests, now will become the prime American distributor of that British film leader's sub-standard product, Blumberg disclosed. To this end, conferences are being held here between Universal executives and Ian Cremieu-Javal, representing Rank.



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Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 13

STUART Heisler has been engaged by California Pictures to take over direction of "Vendetta," which has been temporarily suspended during reorganization of the corporation. Heisler's latest directorial job was Paramount's memorable musical, "Blue Skies" . . . Independent Artists, new company whose president is Frederick Brisson, has purchased "The Velvet Touch," original story by Annabel Rose and William Mercer. Jack Gage will direct the picture, which is to be released through RKO Radio.

•

British actress Lilli Palmer has been signed to a new contract by United States Pictures, and will star in "Distant Drums," the Dan Totheroh story of the Oregon Trail, for which Ben Hecht is currently preparing the screenplay. Warners will release the film. . . . Sol M. Wurtzel's sixth production for 20th Century-Fox release will be "The Jewels of Brandenburg," by Irving Cummings, Jr., Robert North and Irving Elman. It is a topical drama inspired by the theft of royal jewels in occupied countries of Europe. Richard Travis is set for the stellar role.

•

"King Solomon's Mines," H. Rider Haggard's story of adventure in darkest Africa, has been purchased in England by M-G-M. Sam Zimbalist is slated to produce. . . . Frank Faylen, remembered for his portrayal of the male nurse in Paramount's Academy Award winning "Lost Weekend," has had his contract renewed by that studio. . . . The producer, director, and stars of the cast of Warners' "Two Guys from Milwaukee" will be reunited in a second film, to be titled "Two Guys from Texas." Alex Gottlieb will produce, David Butler will direct, while Dennis Morgan, Jack Carson and Janis Paige will have leading roles. Joan Leslie, no doubt, will be conspicuous by her absence from the cast.

•

Opportunities to enhance the laugh potential of "Here Comes Trouble," as revealed at a recent "sneak-preview," have induced Hal Roach to take the Cinecolor feature back to the studio for several weeks' shooting of additional scenes. Producer-director Fred Guiol will have charge of the added sequences, in which William Tracy, Joe Sawyer, Beverly Loyd and Emory Parnell will appear. . . . Vivian Blaine has had her 20th Century-Fox contract extended.

•

Monogram has purchased Alfred Noyes' narrative poem, "The Highwayman," from James S. Burkett, who will produce it for the studio. Noyes is collaborating with Jack DeWitt and Renault Duncan on the screenplay. Most of the picture will be filmed in England, which is the locale of the poem. . . . Robert Armbruster, who was Nelson Eddy's musical director during seven years of radio work, has been signed by Republic to perform a similar function on Eddy's initial Republic picture, "Will Tomorrow Ever Come?" for which Rudolph Friml has written an original score.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BOSTON

Rainy weather over the weekend and Armistice Day drew the downtown crowds indoors to boost grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 13:

THE KILLERS (U)—BOSTON (2,900) 50c-$1.10). Stage show: 3 Stooges. Dolly Dawn, Hal LeRoy. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $27,400)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and ROLLING HOME (Screen Guild)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25.000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and GENIUS AT WORK (RKO-Radio)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c) Gross: $31,000. (Average: $25,000)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c) Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,500)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and ROLLING HOME (Screen Guild) — PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,100)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M and CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c) Gross: $14,000. (Average: $16,900)

ST. LOUIS

Business at all houses was swelled by a big weekend and the Armistice Day matinees. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 13:

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $28,000. (Average: $18,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and INVISIBLE INFORMER (Rep.)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE WESTERNER (UA reissue) and THE BOHEMIAN GIRL (Film Classics)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $20.000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and DECEPTION (WB) — MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO-Radio) — ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 5th week. Gross: $10,200. (Average: $6,000)

VIRGINIAN (Para. reissue) and THE LAST OUTPOST (Para. reissue) — SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c) Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,500)

BALTIMORE

The first-run box-offices are doing a little better than average despite fairly strong attractions. Weather conditions are fine, and except for weekend football contests, nothing in town offers outside competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14:

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $19.000. (Average: $15,500)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,750)

KINGS ROW (WB reissue)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $17,500)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, with stage show. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $18,000)

JOHNNY IN THE CLOUDS (UA)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

SAN FRANCISCO

Business still is on the dull side, with the start of the rainy season not helping. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 14-15:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,750.

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $31,000. (Average: $32,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-1.00) With vaudeville. 7 days. Gross: $29,350. (Average: $32,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th Fox) and BELOW THE DEADLINE (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $23,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th Fox) and STRANGE JOURNEY (20th Fox)—STATE (1,459) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $13,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000.

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,750. (Average: $14,000)

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $27,000)

CLEVELAND

With holdovers predominating, grosses have been fairly satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 13:

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) — LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $23,800)

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000)

BRIEF ENCOUNTER (U)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,500)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) —RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,000)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Gene Krupa band and vaudeville. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $30,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $22,600)

THE KILLERS (U)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,650)

OMAHA

"Rendezvous with Annie" stands out among generally good grosses despite cold and snow. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 13-14:

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox) and SHADOWS OVER CHINATOWN (Mono.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, for "Three Little Girls," moveover from Paramount. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,600)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (55c-80c) 7 days. Glenn Miller Orchestra on stage. Gross: $23,600. (Average: $19,900)

THE KILLERS (U)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $11,000)

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio) and THE CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT (RKO Radio) — RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,600. (Average: $6,800)

Urges Withholding Color Standards

WASHINGTON, Nov. 13.—Standards for commercial color television should not be established until the electronic method of color has been perfected to the point of practical use, Leonard F. Cramer, executive vice-president of Dumont Laboratories, said here today. He predicted that electronic color development will take five years before it is ready for the public.

Cramer stated that Dumont will appear at the Dec. 9 hearing on television color at the Federal Communications Commission to oppose the adoption of color standards. "We feel that a broad system of color standards could be adopted by the FCC now. However, it would not be wise to nail down these standards until the electronic system of color has reached a practical stage," Cramer added.

The Dumont executive said in an interview that his company and RCA are making progress in their experimentation with electronic color. He pointed out that the electronic system has many advantages, including the use of a dual receiver, where both color and black-and-white can be intercepted. More experimentation will be required, he said.

Sound Advances to Continue: Seeley

Improvements in sound reproduction, resulting in increased technical complexities, will continue to appear at regular intervals, E. S. Seeley, chief engineer of Altec Service Corp., said last night in a speech before the the monthly meeting of the Atlantic Coast section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, which was held at 20th Century-Fox's home office, here. Frank E. Cahill, Jr., section chairman, presided.

Seeley said anticipated improvements will include control track, automatic volume control, stereophonic sight and sound, television, panoramic (wide angle) sound origin, extended range, and new color films which will require modification of reproducing equipment. These new improvements will be brought into theatres as speedily as they evolve. Seeley predicted.

Seeley also traced the evolution of sound reproduction quality and theatre service from the debut of talking pictures, through the expediences of the war, to the present day.

INDIANAPOLIS

Business generally is average or better despite occasional rains. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 12-13:

HOME, SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $11,700)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,600)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (No average, first attraction under new policy)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16.000. (Average: $14,400)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,700)

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Vol. 60. NO. 96—In Two Sections (Sec. Two) NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 1946

20TH-FOX SETS NEW

Business Has Reached Top, Showmen Say

Hard Work Required to Hold Present Gross Level

THEATRE attendance has reached its peak and the duration of the period of high level business will be dependent upon energetic showmanship from now on.

That is the consensus of leading exhibitors in strategic areas throughout the country as disclosed in interviews for MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Most theatre operators share the opinion that increased work in presenting and selling their programs will be required if present attendance figures are to be maintained for any length of time. However, many see theatre business tied closely to the national industrial position and feel that attendance from now on will move in whatever direction is taken by the nation's business index as a whole.

Considerable optimism is apparent in exhibitor camps over the quality and box office strength of Hollywood product for the coming year.

Higher Admissions

The survey disclosed that practically no adverse public reaction to increased admission scales was encountered. However, frequently mentioned among the major problems confronting exhibition, were prevailing high rates of taxation and the threat of new taxes by state and local governments.

Detailed reports of the exhibitor views appear on this page and pages 2, 23 and 24 of this section

R. J. O'Donnell Lauds New Films

DALLAS, Nov. 13.—"Prospects for the new season look great," R. J. O'Donnell, vice-president and general manager of Interstate, says. "I have screened in the last few weeks some of the greatest pictures I have ever seen, and when this product is shown business should be great if the public is a good judge. Because we have always kept the single feature policy there is no shortage of product for us. But we will play these great films just as fast as we can put them in our houses."

Labor conditions as far as Interstate, which extends over all Texas and into New Mexico and Arizona, is concerned have never been better, according to O'Donnell.

The admission price situation over this circuit is status quo. The small raise of six

(*Continued on page 2*)

'Razor's Edge' Premiere Set

Dignitaries from the United Nations General Assembly, Hollywood stars, prominent members of New York society, the press and leaders of the motion picture industry will combine to make the world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge" the most notable in the annals of motion picture openings in New York city.

A mounting campaign of publicity and advertising carried on for months by 20th Century-Fox will be climaxed on the night of Nov. 19 at the Roxy Theatre here and will set the pattern for day and date openings of "The Razor's Edge" throughout the nation during Christmas week.

Never before has 20th Century-Fox

(*Continued on page 2*)

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 13

BIG league studio operation in these strike-ridden Hollywood days finds no better example than the current thinking at 20th Century-Fox illustrates. It has been stressed before, but Darryl Zanuck—tanned, wiry and drawing upon what appears to be his inexhaustible well of enthusiasm and endurance—stressed it again today.

Forthcoming product made directly by the 20th-Fox studio will not bend a solitary knee before a fixed production budget. There is full intention of maintaining the policy of acquiring important properties, whether novel or stage play, which Joe Moskowitz has projected into such sweeping success in New York.

More so than before it is the intention to give such material all the traffic can bear in casting, script treatment and the investitures of big-time production.

■

Zanuck says "The Razor's Edge" marks a turn in the road for the company. He explains this as meaning its domestic and overseas career will be subjected to rigorous and constant inspection and its course weighed in the scales as an indicator of the precision to be applied to future negative investments.

Spyros Skouras and Tom Connors have given him an expectancy

(*Continued on page 2*)

an original score.

' JOHNNY IN THE CLOUDS (UA)— Average: $6,800)

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

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(Continued on page 2)

'Razor's Edge' Tops Quality List of Product Climaxing The 'Skouras Sales Drive'

COMING down the homestretch in the "Spyros Skouras Sales Drive," 20th Century-Fox declares it will have the most impressive group of pictures in its history ready for release. The company's sales executives look for the booking records that already have been set to be far exceeded in the final weeks of the drive which closes on Dec. 28.

This unprecedented drive, which has been in progress since Aug. 25, will end with the release of Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge." The picture, claimed to be the most important production ever to come from the company's studios, goes into general release during Christmas Week, and will have behind it added prestige generated by the world premiere to be held at the Roxy in New York on Nov. 19.

Other Releases

In simultaneous release will be the company's top musical of the year, "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim," filmed in Technicolor, with Betty Grable and Dick Haymes as the stars, and a score written by the late George Gershwin. William Perlberg produced the musical, while George Seaton directed and wrote the screenplay.

Also in release during the climactic weeks of the drive will be John Ford's "My Darling Clementine," a tale of the old West, starring Henry Fonda, Linda Darnell and Victor Mature, and "Margie," in Technicolor, starring Jeanne Crain. Both attractions have been setting box-office records over the country in pre-releases, it is stated.

"Three Little Girls in Blue," a lighthearted musical romance in Technicolor, starring June Haver, George Montgomery, Vivian Blaine, Celeste Holm, Vera-Ellen, and Frank Latimore also will be playing in subsequent runs.

The studio, anticipating the demand for top pictures during the Skouras Drive,

(Continued on page 21)

HARVEST OF HITS— PAGES 5 TO 20—THIS ISSUE

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

TEN CENTS

FILMS

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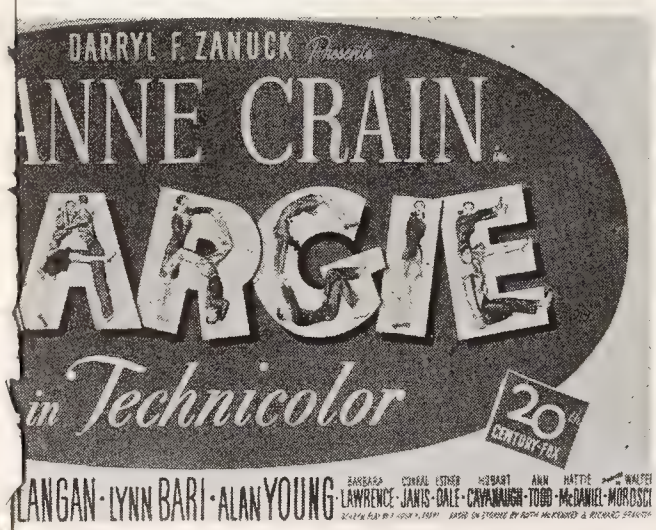
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(Continued on page 21)

Seeing These n's Billboards







Best Sellers Added to 20-Fox List

WITH the recent purchases of "The Snake Pit," "Nightmare Alley," "Britannia Mews," "Lydia Blakely," and "Moss Rose," 20th Century-F is continuing its boxoffice-tested policy of adapting the nation's top best-sellers to production. The company reports it has the largest stockpile of unproduced story properties in its history, with 14 producers readying 55 scripts for future production.

This backlog contains many recent best-sellers, two of which, "Forever Amber" and "The Captain from Castile," are now in production. Among others undergoing advance preparation for future production are:

"The Foxes of Harrow," based on the novel by Frank Yerby, which has sold a 1,000,000 copies to date.

"Green Grass of Wyoming," by Mary O'Hara, author of "My Friend Flicka" and "Thunderhead."

"The Black Rose," from the adventure novel by Thomas Costain, to star Cornel Wilde.

"Daisy Kenyon," based on the novel by Elizabeth Janeway, in which Gene Tierney will play the title role.

"Chicken Every Sunday," by Rosemary Taylor, to star Jeanne Crain, Henry Fonda and Maureen O'Hara.

"The Dark Wood," by Christine Weston, one of the season's most widely read novels.

"The Turn of the Screw," by Henry James, based on the horror classic.

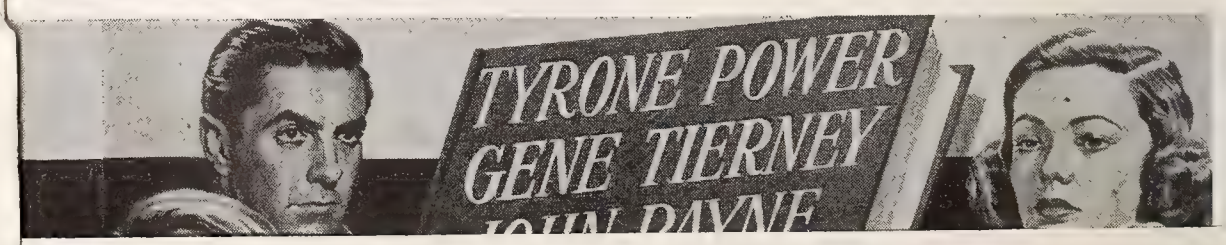
"Escape," from the theatrical success by John Galsworthy.

"The Walls of Jericho," based on Paul Wellman's new novel, which is the Literary Guild selection for February.

"Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!", from the novel by George Agnew Chamberlain, author of "In Old Indiana."

"The Gay Illiterate," from the book by

(Continued on page 21)



HARVEST OF HITS— PAG

THE
BIGGEST
Announcement
IN
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SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 13.— district manager for Nationa states that in Utah, Idaho and M tendance is good because most tory, once depleted by the m larger centers during the war, i ing a reverse movement.

For example, Montana, prior had a population of 500,000. mated, unofficially during the there was a civilian populatio approximated 20 per cent, mo coastal war areas. With the s war industries on the coast, thi is returning. This is largely a agricultural area, except for l like Salt Lake City, Provo an Utah and Butte in Montana.

Prospects for additional taxa appear too dark at present. M and has had, for some years a but at the forthcoming session lature it may be eliminated.

Warns Against Ta

Baetz further states most s munities have been faced with in their own governmental and points out this frequently tempts to raise funds by impo ment taxes. In this district, ho frequently has been found a m manner of raising such funds tion of downtown parking met

"We see no prospect of any crease in admission levels," His company plans no incre near future but is introducing mission prices" for children ages of 12 and 16 in some plac

The new season's product l greatest, Baetz declares. He forward to comprehensive imp theatre remodeling, as soon as restrictions permit. Blueprint completed, as well as many pla ation and remodeling of exist But the whole problem, he sta check by restrictions necessar facilitate the veteran's housing

Sees Attendance Ho

Tracy Barham, vice-presid eral manager of Intermount Inc., expects theatre attend maintained at present levels some time to come. Business, ity, he explains, has been rat in getting the Geneva Steel C opened, the Government hav plant to United States Steel.

Barham, who is on the b ernors of the local Chamber was present at a meeting of

ded intelligent
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turing. "Be-
of film, over-
general all-
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hibitor today
er prices."

war bonds runs its course, this trend should become noticeable. That's the view of Samuel E. Rosenblatt, who operates three theatres in Waterylet and another in Lake George.

"There still is plenty of money around, although take-home pay has decreased from the high level of a year or more ago," states Rosenblatt.

years, to admit of holding for second or third week, he thinks. However, as a whole distributors are to be commended for their current product in his opinion.

It is believed present war-time admissions will hold. This optimistic report is based upon the continued heavy lumber and agricultural production and lack of strikes in this area.

Premiere Set

(*Continued from page* 1)

made such elaborate preparations for launching one of its pictures. The premiere will have all the brilliance of an international event since it is the first time in New York's history that the city has been filled with leaders of 51 foreign governments.

The contingent of Hollywood celebrities who will be here for the premiere will be headed by Zanuck, director Edmund Goulding, and three of the stars of the film, Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney and Clifton Webb. They will be joined by a representative group of stars of the Broadway theatre and the radio.

Motion picture critics from 43 key cities throughout the East, West and South will be brought to New York by 20th Century-Fox for the world premiere. In this group will be 75 of the leading chroniclers of motion picture news from the following cities: Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Pittsburgh, Boston, Providence, Buffalo, Rochester, Baltimore, Washington, D. C., Richmond, Va., Atlanta, New Orleans, Birmingham, Charlotte, Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, Memphis, Chicago, Milwaukee, Detroit, Cincinnati, Dayton, Columbus, Indianapolis, Louisville, Des Moines, Omaha, Minneapolis, St. Paul, Cleveland, Toledo, Akron, Youngstown, Kansas City, St. Louis, Toronto, New Haven, Bridgeport, Hartford, Albany, Waterbury and Worcester, Mass.

Distinguished Guests

Leaders in the motion picture industry and prominent exhibitors from all parts of the country, many of whom will be in New York for the annual Picture Pioneers' dinner to be held Nov. 20, also will be a part of this brilliant audience that will view for the first time the picture that 20th Century-Fox officials believe will set new standards in cinema entertainment.

Careful preparations are being made by Roxy officials to handle this unprecedented crowd of celebrities in the theatre and the throngs outside the theatre with a minimum of confusion. In addition to the New York police on duty that night the theatre will have 100 Pinkerton police to facilitate the movement of the first nighters to their seats. The premiere performance will start at 8:30 p.m., and ticket holders are urged to arrive as early as possible so they will not miss the beginning of the picture, which will be shown promptly on schedule.

The Roxy's red carpet will be unrolled for the occasion and the theatre will be brilliantly illuminated to accommodate the newsreel, radio and television crews who will record the activities.

Social events attendant upon the premiere, in addition to the number of private dinner parties to be given by society groups, will include a press reception to be given by Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity, at the Hampshire House on Monday afternoon for local and visiting newspaper people, with Zanuck, Power, Miss Tierney and Goulding as guests, and a reception and supper party which Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will give following the premiere at the Hotel Pierre for Zanuck and the visiting stars.

The public's supply of tickets for the premiere has long since been sold out. Roxy officials report that never in the history of the theatre has there been such a demand for seats to a world premiere. Continuous performances of "The Razor's Edge" will start on Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, an hour earlier than usual.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

(*Continued from page* 1)

of eight to ten million dollars in the United States and Canada and another four millions from foreign distribution. Anticipation rides so high at the studios that serious consideration is being given to a roadshow policy if the green light is given by the New York court in the formulation of the decree in the government case. The decision on the part of 20th-Fox, stemming from the decision of the court, will not be long delayed now.

■

In a way, however, Zanuck does not intend waiting on the dollar outcome of "The Razor's Edge." The fact is that it probably would be more accurate to suspect he has put this one behind him, at least as it bears on his future planning.

Perhaps the best marker of what he contemplates is indicated by the extent of his blueprints on two others which loom large on the 20th-Fox horizon. One is "Forever Amber," now proceeding steadily in production, on a budget of five and one-half millions. The other is "The Captain from Castile," which will take a company to Mexico for four months at a final cost of $4,700,000.

"That's over ten millions in only two pictures," says Zanuck without further embroidery.

■

Thus, the system of elasticity in costs which Zanuck detailed some weeks ago in New York is now in effect. It is his firm opinion that changes in the long-prevailing method of selling, now confidently anticipated when the decree finally jells, presage an upsurge in production quality from which there can be no escape even if he were looking for an out, which he is not.

If it is to be a case of marketing pictures one by each and theatre by theatre, the answer seems obvious. The choice playing time will go to the attraction which really has it on the ball. Zanuck knows this.

■

This accents the race. Always a highly competitive affair anyway, and conveys to the important creator of pictures the increasing need to make what he makes better, but necessarily bigger, although the drift in the latter direction is plainly evident on all sides here, too.

There can be little doubt, moreover, that, provided individual selling is ordered by the statutory court in New York and thereafter sustained by the Supreme Court, the theatre market will undergo a major revision.

Unsupported by the strong members of any given block, the in-betweeners will establish the level to which they are entitled at a price generally determined by merit. The unqualified success in turn, may soar to ceilings not hitherto known, which is saying a great deal, or to ceilings not even believed possible, unless the economic situation at large becomes depressed to a point where resistance becomes futile.

If this forecast fortunately is supported by events to come, and if no outside factors sour the overall pattern, such a revision will be of industry-wide benefit. No longer will weak attractions be hypoed into something which they are not or hoped. Each picture will survive or fall on merit.

The measuring rod, finally, will assume its proper perspective.

The values will be correct and the industry will assume a keel long discussed but ever more found an illusory thing.

O'Donnell

(*Continued from page* 1)

months ago was to level off to meet tax raises or to ge an even figure, he said.

R. I. Payne, who represents R. E. Griffith Theatres in this territory, thinks business has reached its peak and will level off somewhat in view of the higher costs of living.

He expects prices to remain about the same, barring no raise in taxes. The small increase in admissions at Griffith theatres was due to taxes, Payne asserts.

"New product looks good and will be needed because the public will be shopping for the best values for the money," is Payne's view.

Sees Market Changes Due

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 13.—A buyer's market in 1947 is forecast by L. C. Montgomery, president, Ritz Theatres, Inc. This is how he views the situation:

"In the final analysis, exhibitors are no more than merchants of a particular article and, therefore, can look forward as all other merchants to 1947, using the same barometers and rules of thumb that apply to trade in general. To prophesy the coming events and their effect on our 1947 picture we must weigh not only our picture here at home, but the international picture as well, which without question determines today not only the economic situation of our country, but of all nations. The international situation continues to be confused in our line of business as well as other businesses.

"The national picture is much the same, what with the price of labor having not as yet reached its peak but should do so early in 1947; processed articles which take in the motion picture, will continue to rise in price during the remainder of 1946 and money will be spent accordingly. Early 1947 should see a change in this cycle and with increased production, with slight decreases in labor costs the market in motion pictures, like everything else, should gradually change from a seller's market to a buyer's market.

More Competition

"This, in truth and in fact, marks the beginning of the change in cycle which means greater competition in the selling of processed articles, a slight decrease in buying power, and a general and gradual leveling off of all business. At this time strikes will be reduced in number, merchandise will begin to flow freely, and the end should be in sight to the chaotic and restless condition in which we have been living during the past several years. Blood pressures will be lower and our business should be healthy because more relaxation will be pursued and enjoyed; all of which adds up to good business and a decrease in heart attacks and jumpy nerves.

"Admission prices will for the most part stay about the same, but the tendency will be to reductions. The tax situation will be 'nip and tuck,' mostly 'nip,' however, unless theatre organizations forget petty jealousies and differences and align themselves together to fight against discriminatory legislation and taxation," Montgomery said.

New Denver House

DENVER, Nov. 13.—The Denham Theatre Co. has bought lots at 15th and Welton, two blocks from three present first runs, and intends building another first run as soon as possible.

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Set Record Campaign For 'Razor'

WHEN Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. Somerset Maugham's "The Razor's Edge" goes into general release Christmas Week, exhibitors throughout the nation may expect to benefit from a record national advertising, exploitation and publicity campaign in full blast for months. Never before has a 20th Century-Fox picture been more thoroughly pre-sold to the public than "The Razor's Edge," in the company's opinion.

Starting as a serial story in *Redbook* Magazine in 1943 and with subsequent appearance in book form, the title of Maugham's story, perhaps, has been the most widely publicized of any book in recent years.

The campaign devised under the direction of Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity, and Harry Brand, studio publicity director, covers virtually every possible promotional angle and embraces national and local advertising, radio, commercial tie-ups, newspaper and magazine publicity and billboard advertising. In each of these categories the Zanuck production already has garnered large-scale attention.

National Advertising

The national advertising campaign was started three months in advance of national release. It will supplement the regular and cooperative ads used locally by exhibitors, and is planned to carry the momentum of the film's previous publicity up to the day the exhibitor opens his doors for the initial showing of the picture. The newspaper advertising campaign has been prepared so that showmen can use it for their phase of the engagement, advance, current, and the extended run.

In the national magazines the advertising has run, or will, in advance and concurrently with the release of the picture, full-page copy appearing in the following publications: *This Week* (Oct. 20); *Redbook* (October); *Liberty* (Oct. 26); *Saturday Evening Post* (Nov. 6); *Collier's* (Nov. 15); *Woman's Home Companion* (Nov. 19); *American* Magazine (Dec. 6); *Life* (Dec. 20); *Look* (Jan. 7); *Ladies Home Journal* (January); *Redbook* (January); *Time* (Jan. 10); *Liberty* (Dec. 20); *Cosmopolitan* (January); and *Cue* (Dec. 24). The combined circulation of these magazines is well over 50,000,000 readers.

Magazine Campaign

This campaign is being supplemented by a special national advertising barrage in the fan magazines as follows: *Screen Romances, Modern Screen, Silver Screen, Screenland, Movie Show, Photoplay-Movie Mirror, Motion Picture, Movie Story, Movieland, Movie Life, Movies, Movie Stars Parade, Screen Guide* and *Screen Stars.* This part of the extensive advance campaign will reach a net-paid circulation of over 10,000,000 readers and appears in this month's issues of each of the publications.

A series of outstanding commercial tie-ups has been made, all backed with ads, displays and general merchant cooperation both nationally and for local engagements. Following their national promotion, in advance of release, each tie-up will be available for local tie-ins and promotions in each situation.

Already breaking throughout the country are a number of 800-line ads in important newspapers featuring Gene Tierney in connection with Raleigh cigarettes. Tyrone Power has already been featured in a similar campaign by the tobacco company, with special displays for use in windows and on counters of drug and cigar stores, highlighting both stars and their roles in "The Razor's Edge." Distributors will have the promotional pieces ready for extra exploitation in each city current with the picture's showing.

Numerous Tieups

Keyed to the box-office, and the important feminine interest, is the tie-up made with Foreman Fabrics, who, with the aid of Kalman-Levens, manufacturers, have created four different gowns based on the costumes worn by Miss Tierney. These have already received a big send-off in New York with publicity and art layouts breaking in the metropolitan newspapers. The department store, Arnold Constable and Co., is devoting six of its largest windows to display both the gowns and tie-in material from the picture. This national fashion promotion has been timed to break in 15 to 20 key cities with release of the film. Stores already lined up are in San Francisco, Miami, Cleveland and Boston, with others to be announced ranging from Portland, Ore., to Washington, D. C. The complete list of stores will be available to exhibitors in sufficient time for maximum local promotion.

Extra boxoffice impetus is forecast via the large number of book tie-ups arranged. Doubleday-Doran, original publishers of the Maugham novel, are running special full-page ads in the book sections of New York papers, which have general distribution to subscribers and libraries throughout the country. In addition, Doubleday is running tie-in ads in leading newspapers in key situations, as well as making special display material available. The Literary Guild, Triangle Books, Sun Dial, the Dollar Book Club, and Blakiston are also using full-page copy for their special editions of the novel. Pocket Books, which have entree to newsstands, drug stores and many unusual outlets, will publicize their edition of the novel with displays and ads for wide promotional coverage.

One of the most important tie-ups of the campaign is with Simmons Beauty-Rest Mattresses, which are taking national consumer ads in the November issues of leading magazines. All will carry prominent mention of the picture and may be used for mounted displays with furniture and department stores when the film opens.

A. Sulka, Fifth Avenue haberdashers, who figure in the film's story, also will take special newspaper ads and give window-space to material and displays promoting the picture.

Jewelry stores in key cities will have a special counter-display easel promoting Orange Blossom Wedding Rings in connection with the wedding sequence in the picture. Nearly 3,000 national outlets will be represented in this tie-up, which will also be nationally advertised. Exhibitors will find jewelry stores available for extra cooperation in virtually every situation.

Another important tie-up is with Stratford Pens, which are taking space in leading newspapers and magazines featuring Miss Tierney as she appears in "The Razor's Edge."

Radio Coverage

Everyone within listening distance of the radio has been hearing an unusual airwave build-up for "The Razor's Edge," with scores of plugs accenting the story, its stars and the production. One of the highlights of the national radio campaign was the "We, the People," show last Sunday, which devoted its full 30 minutes to the picture. The program was based on the nine-page layout which appeared in *Life* Magazine in September, which described the many facets entering into the production of the film.

Another major network hook-up will be the Prudential Hour on Nov. 17, when the score of the picture, written by Alfred Newman, will be heard for the first time by the public.

In connection with the world premiere at the Roxy Nov. 19, there will be wide radio coverage of the event with direct broadcasts from the lobby describing the gala affair.

Other radio shows are set to follow the Roxy opening with guest shots by the stars and shows in general, building to the Christmas Day climax. Special radio material will be available for tie-ins with local stations during key-city runs.

Stories, features and art on "The Razor's Edge" have been covering the nation during the past few months, with such important publications as *Life, Saturday Evening Post, Good Housekeeping, McCall's* and *Redbook* carrying material on the stars, the production, and its makers.

Following the New York opening, there will be even greater intensification of the over-all national campaign, designed to get maximum attention from the film's national release.

Campaigns Honor Them



DARRYL F. ZANUCK



SPYROS P. SKOURAS

20th Drive In Honor Of Skouras

THE "Spyros P. Skouras Sales Drive" currently in progress has developed into the most successful campaign in the history of 20th Century-Fox' domestic department of distribution, according to Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution. The 1,483 employees in the company's 31 exchanges in the United States and six in Canada have been active in the drive which, in the past 11 weeks, has seen practically every company record for sales and revenue relegated into oblivion, he adds.

The drive was designed by the employees of the domestic department of distribution as a testimonial to the company president and the field organization has dedicated its efforts to the attainment of certain goals which would make this the outstanding quarter in the annals of the company. To date an average of 15,000 theatres in the two countries have backed up this effort with playing time for 20th Century-Fox releases that enhance the par of any prior three-month period.

Expect New Records

Currently the sales force is concentrating on the observance of the first annual "20th Century-Fox Film Anniversary Week." That this week will see every existing record for a single week drop is already a foregone conclusion, according to Connors. Indications are that the old record for a week's business will be exceeded during the forthcoming week by at least 30 per cent.

In recognition of the field's team work and the application of an unprecedented individual effort to the "Spyros Skouras Drive," which will not conclude until Dec. 28, the company itself is offering a record number of cash and other prizes. Eligible for these rewards are all employees of the field sales organization, from general sales manager right down the line to the porter at each of the 37 exchanges.

Ty Power's Portrait Keys 'Razor' Ads

NORMAN ROCKWELL'S special full-color painting of Tyrone Power and the cast of Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge," which is being used extensively in the advertising for the picture, has again served to highlight 20th Century-Fox's highly touted practice of utilizing the creative efforts of the nation's top artists, cartoonists and illustrators as a means of giving individual treatment to its campaigns.

Rockwell, famed for his Four Freedom paintings and *Saturday Evening Post* covers, is the sixth prominent artist whose talent has been employed by the 20th Century-Fox advertising department for campaigns on its pictures within recent months. But Rockwell is far from last.

New Paintings Due

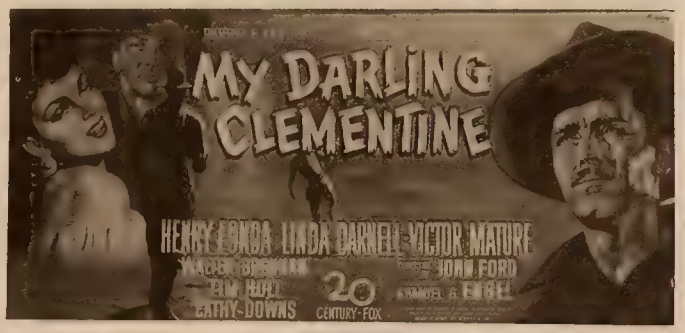
Others have already contracted to contribute paintings for use in the company's advertising plans on forthcoming pictures. Four top-flight artists, for instance, now are at work on separate drawings for "The Late George Apley," which stars Ronald Colman, with Peggy Cummins and Vanessa Brown. They are Robert Benney, magazine and portrait artist who has painted such personalities as Franklin D. Roosevelt, Madame Chiang and John Barrymore; Dean Cornwell, magazine illustrator and widely acclaimed mural painter; John Falter, illustrator for leading magazines, book publishers and other organizations, and Douglass Crockwell, magazine cover artist who has executed numerous advertising illustrations for the nation's top concerns.

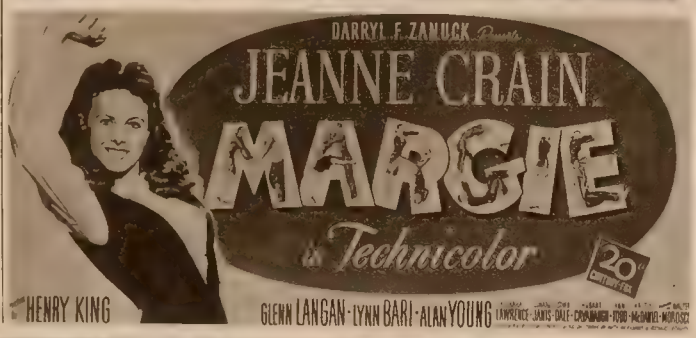
Gladys Emerson Cook, another outstanding artist, recently completed a painting of the dog in "Bob, Son of Battle," starring Lon McCallister and Peggy Ann Garner, in her first ingenue role, in Technicolor. Russian-born Constantin Alajalov, magazine cover artist and portrait painter, now

(*Continued on page 21*)

You'll Be Seeing These On Nation's Billboards







Best Sellers Added to 20-Fox List

WITH the recent purchases of "The Snake Pit," "Nightmare Alley," "Britannia Mews," "Lydia Blakely," and "Moss Rose," 20th Century-Fox is continuing its boxoffice-tested policy of adapting the nation's top best-sellers to production. The company reports it has the largest stockpile of unproduced story properties in its history, with 14 producers readying 55 scripts for future production.

This backlog contains many recent best-sellers, two of which, "Forever Amber" and "The Captain from Castile," are now in production. Among others undergoing advance preparation for future production are:

"The Foxes of Harrow," based on the novel by Frank Yerby, which has sold a 1,000,000 copies to date.

"Green Grass of Wyoming," by Mary O'Hara, author of "My Friend Flicka" and "Thunderhead."

"The Black Rose," from the adventure novel by Thomas Costain, to star Cornel Wilde.

"Daisy Kenyon," based on the novel by Elizabeth Janeway, in which Gene Tierney will play the title role.

"Chicken Every Sunday," by Rosemary Taylor, to star Jeanne Crain, Henry Fonda and Maureen O'Hara.

"The Dark Wood," by Christine Weston, one of the season's most widely read novels.

"The Turn of the Screw," by Henry James, based on the horror classic.

"Escape," from the theatrical success by John Galsworthy.

"The Walls of Jericho," based on Paul Wellman's new novel, which is the Literary Guild selection for February.

"Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!", from the novel by George Agnew Chamberlain, author of "In Old Indiana."

"The Gay Illiterate," from the book by

(*Continued on page 21*)



AUGMENTING the intensive advertising that 20th Century-Fox is putting behind its releases for the final weeks of the "Spyros Skouras Sales Drive" will be the most extensive billboard campaign in the history of the company. From now until the first of the year 24 sheets on "The Razor's Edge," "Margie," "My Darling Clementine" and "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" will herald the coming of these pictures in key cities from Boston to Los Angeles. This unprecedented outdoor showing will utilize a total of 24,319 sheets of varying sizes.

For "The Razor's Edge," the company is initiating the use of a giant 48-sheet which will key the posting campaign in New York for the world premiere at the Roxy Nov. 19 and for the day-and-date showings that will follow throughout the country during Christmas week. This 48-sheet has been so designed that it can be posted either horizontally or vertically to give a powerful effect.

The heaviest concentration of paper will be used just prior to "20th Century-Fox Week, Nov. 28, and in advance of "The Razor's Edge" openings. In New York for the production, for example, the company will use more billboard space than it has ever used before on one picture. A total of 18,600 sheets of outdoor paper will be used covering subways, suburban railroads as well as regular outdoor boards, snipe locations, six, three and one-sheet stands and window displays. Local date sheets will be stripped on the paper, thus giving exhibitors in each city an added advertising penetration for the pictures he will be playing during "20th Century-Fox Week" or in the final four weeks of the Skouras drive.



TYRONE POWER · GENE TIERNEY · JOHN PAYNE

Anne BAXTER · Clifton WEBB · Herbert MARSHALL

Darryl F. Zanuck's

PRODUCTION OF

W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S

The Razor's Edge

Lucile Watson · Frank Latimore · Elsa Lanchester · Fritz Kortner · John Wengraf · Cecil Humphreys · Harry Pilcer · Cobina Wright, Sr.

Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK · Directed by EDMUND GOULDING · Screen Play by LAMAR TROTTI

From the Novel by W. Somerset Maugham

20th CENTURY-FOX



Tyrone Power

"The hunger that was Larry Darrell's...no earthly love could satisfy..."



Gene Tierney

"Such was Isabel's beauty...yet it could not hide the evil in her heart..."



John Payne

"The love Gray Maturin thought he had was nothing but a sham..."



Anne Baxter

"Noble Sophie... met her destiny in the gutters of Paris..."



Clifton Webb



Herbert Marshall

New Booking Records Seen During Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

pushed its production schedule far ahead and is ready not only with its group of current pictures for the closing weeks of the campaign, but also with an important line-up for 1947. These productions are expected to keep the schedule of big pictures to come from 20th Century-Fox up to full strength and provide exhibitors with a steady flow of high budget product.

Currently receiving final laboratory touches are:

"13 Rue Madeleine," starring James Cagney, with Annabella, Richard Conte, Frank Latimore and Walter Abel, Melville Cooper and Sam Jaffe. This behind-the-scenes story of Allied espionage was produced by Louis De Rochemont and directed by Henry Hathaway.

"Carnival in Costa Rica," a musical in the Latin-American tempo, starring Dick Haymes, Vera-Ellen, Cesar Romero and Celeste Holm. Ernesto Lecuona, Cuban composer, wrote the score of the film, which was produced by William Bacher and directed by Gregory Ratoff.

Mystery Story

"The Brasher Doubloon," based on Raymond Chandler's mystery, "The High Window," starring George Montgomery and Nancy Guild, produced by Robert Bassler and directed by John Brahm.

"The Homestretch" in Technicolor, a racing story, starring Cornel Wilde and Maureen O'Hara, with Glenn Langan and Helen Walker, produced by Bassler and directed by Bruce Humberstone.

Also nearing completion are:

"I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now," musical in Technicolor, starring June Haver and Mark Stevens, with Martha Stewart, Reginald Gardiner and Lenore Aubert. George Jessel produced the film, which was directed by Lloyd Bacon.

"Bob, Son of Battle," story of a sheepdog, from the novel by Alfred Ollivant, and featuring Lon McCallister, Peggy Ann Garner, Edmund Gwenn and Reginald Owen. The film was produced in Technicolor by Bassler and directed by Louis King.

Colman as 'Apley'

"The Late George Apley," starring Ronald Colman, and based on the Pulitzer Prize winner written by John P. Marquand. Peggy Cummins heads the featured cast, which includes Vanessa Brown, Richard Haydn, Charles Russell, Richard Ney, Percy Waram, Mildred Natwick, Edna Best and Nydia Westman. Fred Kohlmar produced the picture, and Joseph L. Mankiewicz directed.

"The Enchanted Voyage," based on the novel by Robert Nathan, and starring John Payne and June Haver with Charlotte Greenwood, Connie Marshall and John Ireland featured. Lloyd Bacon directed in Technicolor, and Walter Morosco produced.

In production at present, or about scheduled to go before the cameras are:

"Boomerang," starring Dana Andrews and Jane Wyatt, with Lee J. Cobb and Sam Levene, which producer De Rochemont and director Elia Kazan are now filming on location in the East.

"Forever Amber" in Technicolor, with Linda Darnell and Cornel Wilde in the leading roles, and a supporting cast headed by Richard Greene and Glenn Langan, produced by Perlberg and directed by Otto Preminger.

"The Captain From Castile," starring Tyrone Power, with Cesar Romero and Jean Peters in principal supporting roles, which will go on location in Mexico for many of the scenes, with Lamar Trotti producing and Henry King as director.

"The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," starring Gene Tierney and Rex Harrison, with Kohlmar producing. The story is from the R. A. Dick novel, and the screen play is being written by Philip Dunne.

Being readied for filming in the near future are:

"Chicken Every Sunday," starring Jeanne Crain, Henry Fonda, and Maureen O'Hara, with Alan Young, based on the Rosemary Taylor best-seller and to be produced by Perlberg; "Mother Wore Tights" in Technicolor, starring Miss Grable, which Trotti will produce; "Moss Rose," from the Joseph Shearing novel, which Gene Markey will produce with Peggy Cummins in the lead and Gregory Ratoff directing; "The Walls of Jericho," from the Paul Wellman Literary Guild novel, on the production schedule of William Bacher; "The Snake Pit," from the Book-of-the-Month Club best-seller by Mary Jane Ward, to be produced by Bassler; and "Scudda Hoo! Scudda Hay!", from the novel by George Agnew Chamberlain.



A NATION-WIDE billboard campaign will be a highlight of the special merchandising of new 20th Century-Fox product current during the company's observance of "20th Century-Fox Week," starting Nov. 28. The above on "The Brasher Doubloon" is typical of the use to which billboards across the nation will be put by the company.

TY POWER'S

(*Continued from page* 4)

is nearing completion of colorful drawings for another of the studio's Technicolor films, "Carnival in Costa Rica," starring Dick Haymes, Vera-Ellen, Cesar Romero and Celeste Holm.

Artists who have contributed their works for campaigns on productions already released include portrait painter Sol Tepper, whose full-color paintings for "Anna and the King of Siam" were widely reproduced; cartoonist Richard Taylor who created an unusual set of black-and-white teasers for the "Home Sweet Homicide" campaign; artist Gilbert Bundy, who executed a unique logotype of teen-age dancing figures, and other drawings, for the studio's Technicolor comedy-drama "Margie"; artist Arthur William Brown, who created a series of drawings for "Claudia and David," and Russell Patterson, cover artist and creator of stage decor, who contributed paintings for "Cluny Brown."

20th's Sales Officials to 'Razor' Debut

The world premiere of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy on November 19 will serve a two-fold purpose for 20th Century-Fox division and district managers as well as 11 branch managers. It will give them an opportunity to see the picture for the first time and also permit Tom J. Connors, vice president in charge of distribution, and William Kupper, general sales manager, to hold important sales meetings while they are in New York.

Herman Wobber, Western division sales manager, and Harry Ballance, Southern division manager, will come from San Francisco and Atlanta respectively to join William Gehring, Central division manager, and Andrew W. Smith, sales manager of the Eastern division, for the premiere and the sales conferences. The company's district managers coming to New York for the two events include: C. E. Peppiatt, Philadelphia; E. X. Callahan, Boston; Paul S. Wilson, Atlanta; Philip Longdon, Dallas; J. H. Lorentz, Chicago; J. P. Grady, Cincinnati; M. A. Levy, Minneapolis; W. E. Scott, Kansas City; Sidney Samson, Toronto; Charles L. Walker, Salt Lake City; and Bryan D. Stoner, San Francisco.

Best Sellers

(*Continued from page* 4)

Louella Parsons.

"Honeyfogling Time," based on the novel by Virginia Dale.

The producers who have been assigned to handle this story line-up are William A. Bacher, Robert Bassler, Sam Engel, George Jessel, Fred Kohlmar, Louis D. Lighton, Ernst Lubitsch, Joseph L. Mankiewicz, Gene Markey, Walter Morosco, William Perlberg, Otto Preminger, Louis De Rochemont, and Lamar Trotti.

Connors Sets Nov. 28 As '20-Fox Week'

THE week of Nov. 28 has been set by Tom J. Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th Century-Fox, as "20th Century-Fox Week" and, in the future, Thanksgiving Week each year will be so designated. The company's sales executives felt that the initiation of a "20th Century-Fox Week" during the "Spyros Skouras Sales Drive" is particularly appropriate and will give exhibitors throughout the country an added opportunity to honor the 20th Century-Fox president.

The goal set by the sales department for "20th Century-Fox Week is to have the company's trade mark on every screen in the nation. Bookings already received at the home office are declared to indicate achievement of that goal.

Exhibitors' Manual

A special manual has been prepared by the company's advertising and publicity staff to aid exhibitors in getting maximum box-office results during "20th Century-Fox Week." Also, the company is stepping up its overall advertising campaign, which will include special advertising accessories, intensified local ad campaigns and a nation-wide billboard showing on the pictures current during the seven-day celebration.

In release during "20th Century-Fox Week" the company will have many of its top productions that already have proved their box-office potential in pre-release engagements. Among these are "My Darling Clementine," which broke an 18-year record for the Fox in San Francisco at its world premiere there recently, and "Margie," which established a new week-end record at the Roxy in New York following its premiere there. "Three Little Girls in Blue," starring June Haver, George Montgomery, Vivian Blaine, Celeste Holm, Vera-Ellen and Frank Latimore, also will be current in first runs, and in New York Darryl F. Zanuck's production of "The Razor's Edge" will be in full swing at the Roxy during the coming "20th Century-Fox Week."

Tried and Proven

Hitting the subsequent runs during this week will be a group of pictures that already have established their box-office draw, including "Anna and the King of Siam," starring Irene Dunne, Rex Harrison and Linda Darnell; "Smoky" in Technicolor, starring Fred MacMurray with Anne Baxter, and "Centennial Summer," the Technicolor musical starring Linda Darnell, Jeanne Crain, Cornell Wilde, Constance Bennett, Walter Brennan and Dorothy Gish.

Augmenting the features that will be available during the week, the company also will have a long list of Terrytoons, Movietone News shorts, March of Time subjects and Movietone News ready for release.

RISING STARS IN 20th-FOX FIRMAMENT



CELESTE HOLM



MARK STEVENS



NANCY GUILD



GLENN LANGAN



PEGGY CUMMINS



FRANK LATIMORE



VANESSA BROWN



CHARLES RUSSELL



CATHY DOWNS



ALAN YOUNG



HELEN WALKER



LON McALLISTER

TWENTIETH CENTURY-FOX this year has the greatest array of young players with star potentialities in its entire history and the company plans to continue for its new star aspirants the same vigorous advertising and publicity build-up it has given to its other top stars. The newcomers, all promising young players, include Nancy Guild, Peggy Cummins, Vanessa Brown, Celeste Holm, Mark Stevens, Frank Latimore, Glenn Langan, Cathy Downs, Helen Walker, Lon McAllister, Charles Russell and Alan Young.

These new personalities now being groomed for stardom at Twentieth Century-Fox, complete a lengthy roster of talent from which star-maker Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president in charge of production for the company, may well be able to again choose the "stars of tomorrow."

Nancy Guild, introduced to American film audiences in "Somewhere In The Night," enjoys a prominent role in "The Brasher Doubloon." Vanessa Brown and Peggy Cummins, in her first American role, will be seen in the Ronald Colman starrer, "The Late George Apley." Celeste Holm, formerly of the Broadway stage, who made her initial screen appearance in "Three Little Girls In Blue," will be starred in the studio's forthcoming Technicolor musical "Carnival In Costa Rica" and Frank Latimore, also featured in "Three Little Kirls In Blue," is in "The Razor's Edge" and "13 Rue Madeleine."

The others, too, have been given important screen assignments and likewise will be the center of attention in the company's projected advertising and publicity

They are Mark Stevens, last seen in the smash success, "The Dark Corner," who will be starred in "I Wonder Who's Kissing Her Now"; Glenn Langan, prominently featured in "Margie," who won an important part in "Homestretch"; Cathy Downs, who appeared in the recently released box-office hit, "My Darling Clementine," in which Henry Fonda and Victor Mature were starred; Helen Walker, who was highly acclaimed for her role in "Cluny Brown," and who will be featured in the Cornel Wilde, Maureen O'Hara starrer, "Homestretch," Lon McAllister, recently returned from the wars, who is being starred in "Bob, Son of Battle"; Charles Russell, who will appear in "The Late George Apley" and youthful comic Alan Young, who was introduced to the public in "Margie," which starred Jeanne Crain.

Exhibitors In Maryland Optimistic

BALTIMORE, Nov. 13.—Speaking as president of MPTO of Maryland, Inc., Frank Hornig, Sr., who is also owner of the Ch in here, believes exhibitors are headed for a prosperous fall and winter in the neighborhoods as well as first-runs. He bases his prediction on substantial product theatreward, and on the fact that people have money and ample employment.

"Of course, there are strikes and plenty of them," says Hornig, "but they're not the sort of thing that affects attendance. To the contrary, the strikers probably have more time to take in a show.

"In looking over the lists of pictures for the 1946-47 season, the outlook is excellent for substantial attractions and that's one of the best methods through which to draw large audiences.

Asked whether there were any widespread complaint regarding the increase in admission prices now in effect in nearly all sections, Hornig replied in the negative.

Rappaport's View

There's nothing wrong with the exhibitor's business and, even if there were, it is not likely to be anything that good films could not cure, declares Isador M. Rappaport, owner of the Hippodrome.

"There's no doubt," says Rappaport, "that business, as far as exhibitors are concerned, has reached its peak. That was attained during the war period. From this point, there is a tapering-off. Whether that tapering process will remain as it is or whether it will continue, remains a question. No one can foretell that part of the readustment.

"Looking ahead, product looks particularly pleasing and good pictures always bring outstanding business. I believe the public is shopping today more than ever before where pictures are concerned."

Bookings—careful bookings—play an important part in the operation of any circuit operation, declares Frank H. Durkee, sr., owner of the F. H. Durkee Enterprises, which operate 24 neighborhood theatres in Baltimore and surrounding territory. It is the largest chain operation in Maryland.

Durkee Bullish

With careful booking, contends Durkee, business is more than likely to click. He views the outlook for the 1946-47 season as extremely promising. The product is excellent, he says, and people are "movie-minded"—they feel the want of entertainment to offset the tension under which they live today.

Reverting to booking, Durkee observes he is not using any more war themes in any of his theatres. "War stories have had their day. People had enough of them quite awhile ago. I don't consider them box office today—so they're definitely ruled out."

Quality, not quantity, is the outlook for the new season, according to J. Lawrence Schanberger, owner of Keith's.

The only cloud that looms on the horizon is labor, he believes.

Ohio Circuit Operators Foresee New Problems

CINCINNATI, Nov. 13.—"From recent experience I am rather inclined to feel we are headed for a definite slowing up in business," declares F. W. Huss, Jr., who is president of Associated Theatres, operating large suburbans here and in nearby northern Kentucky and who also is president of the Greater Cincinnati Independent Exhibitors Association. "Our business has been off since right after Labor Day," he explains, "and at the moment there appears to be little, if any, prospect of improvement.

Huss points out a five-cent increase in top admission prices had been inaugurated by all independent subsequent run exhibitors in the Greater Cincinnati area to help defray the rising overhead. "As far as we are concerned, and I am sure it is the same with other houses here, this increase, small as it is, has gone a long way, at least, to partially compensate for the lack of business over the past several weeks. We do not expect to make any further price increases, unless some condition, not now apparent, compels us to do so.

Maurice White, executive head of a chain operating some 17 theatres here, in Dayton, Columbus and other Ohio cities, as well as Louisville, Ashland and Newport, Ky., is not particularly optimistic about future business. He bases his outlook on general conditions in other lines of endeavor and conditions within the film industry in the recent past. "In fact," he says, "I look for a definite drop in attendance, which conceivably could, and might, reach sizeable proportions. All barometers seem to point to surface indications of a leveling off in industry all along the line, and theatres are not exempt from the trend." He feels that the slump, if it develops, will be national, rather than local.

Harry David Wary

Harry David, general manager of Northio Theatres, a Paramount subsidiary, operating 18 houses throughout Ohio and in Kentucky, thinks this:

"Naturally, in these abnormal times, with so many variables confusing the economic picture, it is impossible to see what lies ahead. However, from superficial indications, and taking as a criterion the fluctuating commercial and industrial curves, which now so frequently point downward because of scarcities of commodities and materials, and the stiffening of prices in practically all categories, one is led to the obvious conclusion that a decline in theatre business is in the offing."

Additionally, David feels the public's money is being diverted from the box office at an accelerating rate. "There are many patrons whose purchasing power is apparently waning through reduction or depletion of resources, as evidenced by the reported growing tendency to redeem war and savings bonds and the withdrawal of savings accounts. Another factor noticeable in our situations is the fact that those still financially qualified are given to frequent visits to metropolitan centers where they liberally patronize night clubs and other entertainment spots where the tariffs are in the highest brackets. This works a hardships on the theatres 'back home.'"

CLEVELAND, Nov. 13.—"With butter, eggs and milk sharply up in price, where are the masses who support films going to get money for shows?" asks P. E. Essick of the Scoville, Essick and Reif Circuit, which operates seven theatres in the Cleveland exchange area, with another one to open late in October and two more ready to be built as soon as materials are available.

"We are not worried right now about product," Essick adds. "There will always be pictures as long as there are screens. Our worry will be to keep the people coming to our theatres in the face of rising living costs and in the face of anticipated unemployment due to strikes."

Paul Gusdanovic, veteran exhibitor who started here some 30 years ago and now owns and operates a chain of four widely scattered neighborhood houses, is pessimistic. "I look for a drop in attendance after the first of the year," Gusdanovic says. "It will be a slow drop at first, but what it lacks in momentum it will make up for in length of endurance. As I see it, the Cleveland area is in for a series of strikes involving the city's largest industries such as steel, automobiles and automobile parts and affecting many thousands of people."

This is the view of M. B. Horwitz, general manager of the Washington circuit with four neighborhood theatres here and a major house at Cuyahoga Falls:

Horwitz's Slant

"Attendance at our theatres drops in direct proportion as living costs rise. Money is getting tighter. We notice it most especially with our children patrons. Our admission prices were hiked during the summer to take care, in some measure, of our higher operating costs. This is the peak, as far as my theatres are concerned. If there is to be any price revision at all, it will have to be a revision downward, regardless of operating costs, if we want to stay in business."

"In recent weeks there has been 25 per cent drop in business from what we have considered our average," Meyer Fine, vice-president of the Associated Circuit, largest independent theatre circuit in Cleveland says. "This, in my opinion, is not just a temporary shift in the wind, but indicates a tapering off of the lush years. "Why do I think this to be the case? Because people can't afford to spend as much on entertainment as they have been doing during the war years."

William N. Skirball, head of the Skirball Bros. Circuit sees the future through rose-colored glasses. He thinks prosperity is here to stay, at least a couple of more years, and admission prices will keep pace with operating costs.

Theatre business at present is at its peak, but after the first of the year it will begin to slide off in the opinion of Harry Schreiber, RKO city manager in charge of the RKO Palace, 3,300-seat downtown first run and Keith's East 105th St.

Nat Wolf, Warner Theatre zone manager, spends most of his time visiting the 27 houses under his wing and, thus, speaks for large and small towns in Ohio when he says caution must be the keynote of operations in the months to come.

Corn Belt Owners See Harvest In

OMAHA, Nov. 13.—Defeat of a two-time tax scare, and bumper corn and wheat crops are several of the factors which tinge the business outlook with cheery hues, in the opinion of William Miskell, district manager for Tri-States Theatres here.

"We can't expect ever to get back to war boom times in this territory," he believes, "especially at out-state towns such as Grand Island and Hastings. But we can hope that business will hold to a level of that above the war."

Bumper crops, he stated, should give the Omaha territory an advantage over others. Also, increased work on irrigation projects outstate and the Missouri River Valley program point toward greater prosperity than in years past when drouth was common.

Miskell points out that declining meat production, which had 5,000 out of work in Omaha alone, should not carry too far into 1947. In other respects, the employment outlook is good.

Meat Shortage Hurt

United States Employment Service officials in the state have predicted that if the meat shortage had not come along, so-called "full employment" already would be at hand in Nebraska. Late reports from the service here show that, even at present, fewer are accepting job compensation in this area—on a population basis—than in most other areas of the country.

As for increased admissions, Miskell said it is unlikely there will be any more. Omaha exhibitors hiked the price five cents during the war and five cents since. Road shows have enjoyed a tremendous rebound here. Whether this condition will continue is anybody's guess, Miskell thinks.

Theatre industry passed the crisis on two tax scares within the past 12 months, but the fight should not let up because of that, in his opinion.

Tax Threat Beaten

The first came late last year when city council was all set to pass an ordinance requiring exhibitors to turn in 10 per cent of the gross. The industry turned out a record delegation in council chambers and successfully battled the proposal down. Most of the money was to go for firemen and policemen raises of $20 monthly. Through other measures the boosts were granted, then stopped after two months due to revenue lack.

Since then has come growing pressure from both groups until the point was reached where they threatened to haul their apparatus up before City Hall and say: "Run it yourselves." That brought the second scare in the form of a proposal for a one per cent tax on all business. Said Miskell regarding this:

"Once you have a one per cent tax, then it would be upped to two per cent, three, etc. That's the real danger."

Miskell, in co-operation with leaders of other industries, again stepped into the fray. They raised $160,000 locally to meet the fire and police raises until mid-1947.

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Northwest Seen Holding For a Big Business Era

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Berger, whose company operates 10 theatres in Minnesota, Iowa and Wisconsin, believes the present policies of the companies toward the independent operators "have brought about strained relations."

"Unless a more intelligent sales policy is adopted by the producers, whereby they stop discriminatory and unfair percentage policies, the independents will, in self-defense, be compelled to introduce retaliatory measures," Berger states.

Such a situation, he adds, undoubtedly would prove harmful to the entire industry and certainly is not one to be desired by the independents, but it is a matter of self preservation.

Berger based his views on his belief that entertainment has been established as a necessity for Americans, and present-day films offer the most inexpensive type of entertainment.

Enhancing the favorable outlook, Berger pointed out, are the amiable relations existing between the operators and the unions in this area. "There has been no strife for a long time, nor is there prospect of any."

But he sees one disturbing sign on the horizon in the coming session of the Minnesota state legislature, in January. A proposal will be placed before the legislature, Berger says, that would permit levying of a municipal tax on motion picture houses.

"The measure," he avers, "is being promoted by communities in need of additional funds for municipal operations. Theatre owners of the state already are well organized to fight the proposal, but it is still too early to predict that we will be successful."

Another thorn in the side of exhibitors in this area is the matter of taxation by Ascap in his view. "We regard it as a form of extortion," Berger states, and we now are waging a court battle against it with the hope of eventually getting relief. It is just an additional operating cost for which there is no excuse."

Berger declines to predict the future of admission prices, other than to say they probably "will fluctuate in line with general business conditions." He points out the average admission price increase in this territory has been only about 25 per cent in the last five years.

He also has a word of praise for the film producers as far as the current run of pictures is concerned. "While we can always stand improvement, it is a fact pictures now are generally superior to those of the past and also are smarter from a business standpoint."

Along the line of improvement, he declares theatres of this area now are undergoing considerable remodelling and several new ones are being built, or at least are on the planning boards. Many of these are replacements for antiquated houses, but others are new ones in the field.

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SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 13.—"Admission scales must remain at the present level and it is essential to keep them so until [illegible] other costs lessen," declares Roy Cooper the Golden State Circuit. He also thinks this:

"Attendance which has taken an almost radical decline in recent months probably will continue to decline for an indefinite period. It is an inevitable condition resulting from a number of things, chiefly the increased cost of living. Business in neighborhood houses has held up far better than in the downtown theatre. This, however, may be due to traffic congestion in the downtown area.

"One thing is certain. Boom times are gone for good. The bubble has burst. The reaction inevitably will result in writing 'finis' to grind houses which sprang up virtually overnight to cash in on the lush box-office receipts. It will mean the survival of theatre business operated by intelligent theatremen who look towards the future in building their business and who have catered to the public by endeavoring to adhere to good taste in their programs. Double billing will also continue, at least for the present."

Adverse Statutes Nil

George Nasser, of Nasser Bros. Theatres and president of California Theatres and Affiliated Industries, Inc., finds Northern California houses fortunate in averting enactment of regulatory legislation sought by labor and government.

"Although labor has been both active and vigilant in the furtherance of its legislative programs—with very, very few exceptions the theatres here have enjoyed constructively pleasant relations with labor," he states.

"But national extravagance is blunting the public's sense of the red and black sides of the ledger. Mounting costs of state and local government, together with a Federal indebtedness in California, which is three times the assessed valuation of property, is forcing politicans to frantically survey all fields for added revenue. Theatres loom as fertile fields to plow."

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Silverman thinks "runaway" production costs are causing trepidation among exhibitors throughout the country. "While we (exhibitors) can understand what is causing increased costs that does not mean the exhibitors can absorb them. Producers must justify these increases by better product. On the other hand, any thinking exhibitor realizes he has to support production of good pictures and give their producers the proper encouragement.

While Silverman advocates longer runs in first runs he does not view them as feasible for neighborhood runs unless "the horse and buggy set-up which has been in

Finds Scale Tilts Are Modest

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 13.—"No other industry has held prices down as the motion picture theatre has." So states Saul J. Ullman, who supervises 12 Fabian theatres in the Albany area. Recent increases in admissions were small when compared with the rising costs of house operation, in his opinion.

Ullman also believes theatre business will continue strong "because of the fine product the studios are turning out" and thinks the new season should compare favorably with last.

He is opposed to auction selling as proposed originally by the New York statutory court sitting in the Government case on the ground this portion of the decision "seeks to accomplish, without legislation, a legislative function."

Independent subsequent runs have not yet drawn any patronage away from the A houses, but if the current liquidation of

Oregon Attendance Expected to Hold

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 13. — M. M. Mesher, assistant manager of Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres in the Oregon trade, foresees no appreciable drop in attendance. However, many of the current features do not show the strength of releases of former

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 97 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1946 TEN CENTS

Strikes Need Congressional Action: Price

Cites Jurisdictional Dispute on the Coast

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 14.—Legislation outlawing jurisdictional strikes should be one of the first acts of the new Congress, Byron Price, board chairman of the Association of Motion Picture Producers, and spokesman for Hollywood producers, today told a luncheon meeting of the American Automobile Association holding its national convention here.



Byron Price

Price pointed to the current jurisdictional strike in Hollywood, where

(*Continued on page* 18)

Clark to Address Steelman Meeting

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—Three top Government officials will keynote the industry-wide conference to be held at the White House on Nov. 19. Attorney General Tom Clark will discuss the value of educational films, General Omar Bradley, veterans' administrator, will talk on the value of film messages to the veterans. Under Secretary of State William Clayton is expected to outline the importance of

(*Continued on page* 18)

City Files Today in Bid for 'Outlaw' Ban

Affidavits in behalf of New York City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding's motion for revocation of the state's license on "The Outlaw" will be filed this afternoon by the city corporation counsel. According to the schedule fixed by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the motion picture division of the state Education Department, counsel for

(*Continued on page* 17)

46 Already Accept Bid to Establish A Film Foundation

Some 46 theatre and film executives, to date, have formally pledged themselves to take active part in the industry meeting in New Orleans, Dec. 3-4, for the purpose of laying the groundwork for development of the proposed film foundation for those in need, according to Walter Vincent, member of the organizing committee.

Industry leaders queried here yesterday said they envision a huge benevolent institution that would be without parallel in this or any other industry, and predicted it will be a "proposition involving millions of dollars."

One executive asserted that the New Orleans meeting will bring to a head "an accumulation of ideas over a period of years."

The projected foundation does have at least a good part of its roots in the Motion Picture Charities Fund, estab-

(*Continued on page* 20)

Fear Increase in Studio Violence

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—The studio strike threatened to develop more violence this weekend, with a settlement apparently more remote than ever following the CSU mass meeting at which sterner pressure measures were advocated by all speakers. CSU's president, Herbert K. Sorrell, publicly denying CSU members were connected in any way with the recent home bombings, declared the "strike must be won on the picket lines." He

(*Continued on page* 20)

Many Accept White House Meeting Call

Representatives of most film companies, as well as numerous exhibitor leaders, have accepted the invitation to attend the conference at the White House in Washington called for next Tuesday afternoon by John Steelman, director of the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion, with a view to bolstering the Government's film information program by forming a permanent group to function in much the same manner as did the War Activities Committee.

The companies will be represented, for the most part, by their distribution chiefs. Among those who have already accepted are William F. Rodgers of M-G-M and Charles M. Reagan of Paramount, while Ned E. Depinet, RKO executive vice-president, will appoint a delegate—probably either Robert Mochrie, domestic

(*Continued on page* 20)

SOPEG Accepts New Wage Offer

Front office employes of 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, M-G-M and United Artists at a meeting last night at the Malin Studio of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, UOPWA, voted

(*Continued on page* 18)

"Magnificent Doll"

[*Universal*]

Hollywood, Nov. 14

CHAMPIONSHIP caliber is the phrase for this impeccable Skirball-Manning production starring Ginger Rogers as magnificent Dolly Madison. Its grosses are likely to be in kind. Slick as ribbon and strong as steel in its championing of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness fought for in all this nation's wars, the attraction entertains steadily while building, with fastidious attention to detail, to the final sequence in which Miss Rogers, stilling a mob intent on lynching Aaron Burr, utters in eloquent lines the practical principles of American justice. It's a stirring scene and picture, proceeding stride and stride with Miss Rogers.

And persuasively present for marquee purposes, are David Niven as the traitorous Burr and Burgess Meredith as James Madison. To these superb leading performers are added strong supporting portrayals by Horace McNally, Peggy Wood, Robert Barrat, Grandon Rhodes and many others. Between them they make the Philadelphia of the period between the Revolution and the War of 1812 seem as near and intimate

(*Continued on page* 18)

Selznick Bids $10,000,000 For UA Shares

Or Would Sell His, in Partnership Squabble

By RED KANN

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—David O. Selznick stands willing to buy the two-thirds interest in United Artists held by Charles Chaplin and Mary Pickford for $10,000,000, on the line, thereby acquiring complete ownership, or he is prepared to sell his interest for $5,000,000 and immediately launch his own distribution company with "Duel in the Sun" as its first attraction, on a roadshow basis.



David O. Selznick

On the other hand, if the Chaplin and Pickford groups proceed with one legal action seeking to break Selznick's contract on the grounds he

(*Continued on page* 20)

MPA Support For the UN

An all-embracing United Nations 16mm. production program, backed by the Motion Picture Association, the five newsreels, and non-theatrical distributors, and designed to effect widespread dissemination of information about UN activities, was announced here yesterday by Jean Benoit-Levy, director of UN's film and visual information division of its department of public information.

Slated to commence in about a

(*Continued on page* 18)

Technicolor Names Shattuck, Harrison

David Shattuck, treasurer of Technicolor, and Kay Harrison, managing director of Technicolor, Ltd., Great Britain, have been elected di-

(*Continued on page* 18)

Rocky M't'n Area: All's Right Here

SALT LAKE CITY, Nov. 13.—Hall Baetz, district manager for National Theatres, states that in Utah, Idaho and Montana attendance is good because most of the territory, once depleted by the movement to larger centers during the war, is experiencing a reverse movement.

For example, Montana, prior to the war, had a population of 500,000. It was estimated, unofficially during the war, that there was a civilian population loss that approximated 20 per cent, most of it to coastal war areas. With the shutdown of war industries on the coast, this population is returning. This is largely a mining and agricultural area, except for larger cities like Salt Lake City, Provo and Ogden in Utah and Butte in Montana.

Prospects for additional taxation do not appear too dark at present. Montana has, and has had, for some years a gross tax, but at the forthcoming session of the legislature it may be eliminated.

Warns Against Taxes

Baetz further states most smaller communities have been faced with rising costs in their own governmental departments and points out this frequently leads to attempts to raise funds by imposing amusement taxes. In this district, however, there frequently has been found a more equitable manner of raising such funds by installation of downtown parking meters.

"We see no prospect of any further increase in admission levels," says Baetz. His company plans no increases in the near future but is introducing "junior admission prices" for children between the ages of 12 and 16 in some places.

The new season's product looks like the greatest, Baetz declares. He also looks forward to comprehensive improvements in theatre remodeling, as soon as government restrictions permit. Blueprints are already completed, as well as many plans for alteration and remodeling of existing theatres. But the whole problem, he states, is held in check by restrictions necessary to further facilitate the veteran's housing program.

Sees Attendance Holding

Tracy Barham, vice-president and general manager of Intermountain Theatres, Inc., expects theatre attendance will be maintained at present levels at least for some time to come. Business in this locality, he explains, has been rather fortunate in getting the Geneva Steel Corp plant reopened, the Government having sold the plant to United States Steel.

Barham, who is on the board of governors of the local Chamber of Commerce, was present at a meeting of United States Steel executives when they promised great things for the future of this area. This should bring in many more skilled workers and better attendance for theatres.

No labor troubles to speak of are anticipated here, nor any unusual legislation on theatre taxes is anticipated and prices are expected to remain at their present level here, according to Barham.

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While Silverman advocates longer runs in first runs he does not view them as feasible for neighborhood runs unless "the horse and buggy set-up which has been in effect so many years is accorded intelligent reorientation."

He also hits at "bargain prices" that some exhibitors are still featuring. "Because of the increased cost of film, overhead, payroll expenses and general all-around increased costs of doing business today I don't see how any exhibitor today can survive by charging former prices."

Finds Scale Tilts Are Modest

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 13.—"No other industry has held prices down as the motion picture theatre has." So states Saul J. Ullman, who supervises 12 Fabian theatres in the Albany area. Recent increases in admissions were small when compared with the rising costs of house operation, in his opinion.

Ullman also believes theatre business will continue strong "because of the fine product the studios are turning out" and thinks the new season should compare favorably with last.

He is opposed to auction selling as proposed originally by the New York statutory court sitting in the Government case on the ground this portion of the decision "seeks to accomplish, without legislation, a legislative function."

Independent subsequent runs have not yet drawn any patronage away from the A houses, but if the current liquidation of war bonds runs its course, this trend should become noticeable. That's the view of Samuel E. Rosenblatt, who operates three theatres in Watervlet and another in Lake George.

"There still is plenty of money around, although take-home pay has decreased from the high level of a year or more ago," states Rosenblatt.

Oregon Attendance Expected to Hold

PORTLAND, Ore., Nov. 13. — M. M. Mesher, assistant manager of Hamrick-Evergreen Theatres in the Oregon trade, foresees no appreciable drop in attendance. However, many of the current features do not show the strength of releases of former years, to admit of holding for second or third week, he thinks. However, as a whole distributors are to be commended for their current product in his opinion.

It is believed present war-time admissions will hold. This optimistic report is based upon the continued heavy lumber and agricultural production and lack of strikes in this area.

(Continued on page 17)

(Continued on page 18)

(Continued on page 18)

Personal Mention

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ and HOWARD DIETZ of M-G-M, left here yesterday for the Coast.

•

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production head, and RUSSELL HOLMAN, Eastern production liaison, are due in New York from Hollywood this weekend.

•

DARRYL F. ZANUCK and MRS. ZANUCK will be flown from the Coast to New York by TYRONE POWER for the premiere of "The Razor's Edge."

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner vice-president and general sales manager, and JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, hav returned to New York from Boston. SAM LEFKOWITZ will return here from Boston today.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO sales promotion manager, will address the North Central Allied convention in Minneapolis on Monday and then proceed to Indianapolis for the meeting of the ATOI.

•

ALBERT S. HOWSON, scenario editor and director of censorship for Warner Bros., will deliver an address on "The Motion Picture as the Eighth Art," on Monday at the Museum of Modern Art.

•

L. C. GRIFFITH, who has been in St. Vincent's Hospital, Oklahoma City, for the past two months following a stroke, is reported by his doctors to be slightly improved.

•

JOHN S. ALLEN, M-G-M district manager headquartering in Washington, returned to the Capital yesterday from New York.

•

RED SKELTON and EDNA BORZAGE arrived in Chicago from the Coast on Wednsday for an Army transportation show.

•

FRANCIS S. HARMON, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, is expected back in New York from the Coast on Monday.

•

TESS MICHAELS, UA magazine contact, returned to her desk yesterday following a three-week Hollywood visit.

•

LELAND HAYWARD, MCA vice-president, was a Chicago visitor this week, from Hollywood.

•

EDWARD M. SCHNITZER, UA Eastern sales manager, will arrive in Cleveland today from New York.

•

MICHAEL POWELL, British producer and director, left here by plane yesterday for Mexico City.

•

ARTHUR LUBIN will arrive here from Hollywood on Monday.

Johnston Ready to Protest New Quota

Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, now in London from New York, is prepared to contest further British quota law penalties against U. S. films, which penalties are scheduled to be recommended to the new Parliament, the *New York Times* reported here yesterday in a dispatch from Britain.

The *Times* also stated that Johnston plans to return to England in April, when discussions of the new law will be on "in earnest."

Disney To Produce Films on Irish Lore

Walt Disney and Perce Pearce, associate producer of "Song of the South," are bound for Ireland today where they will do research and gather background material for a feature production, due in 1947, on Irish folklore. Disney, accompanied also by Mrs. Disney, left here yesterday on the *Queen Elizabeth*.

Entitled "The Little People," the projected film will employ the new technique used by Disney in "Song of the South," in synchronizing cartoon and "live-action" processes. A skeleton crew is now in Ireland accumulating material on tales of banshees, leprechauns, and folk legends. Disney is expected back in New York Dec. 14.

Others who departed on the liner are: Joseph H. Moscowitz of 20th Century-Fox; Mrs. Natalie Kalmus, Technicolor; Jack Hylton and Lee Ephraim, British theatrical managers; Sir Ernest Fisk, managing director of Electric and Musical Industries, Ltd., and Leslie Boosey, British music publisher.

File Jackson Park Appeal Tomorrow

CHICAGO, Nov. 14.—Notice of appeal in the Jackson Park decree case will be filed by the distributor defendants in the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals, here, on Saturday, and at the same time an appeal bond of at least $100,000 will also be filed.

Thereafter, the defendants have 90 days in which to file briefs for submission to Federal Appeals Court in Chicago.

Laverty Is Reelected Writers' Guild Head

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—The Screen Writers Guild last night re-elected Emmet Lavery president by a two-to-one majority over Talbot Jennings. Mary McCall, Jr., was elected first vice-president; Howard Estabrook, second, and Hugo Butler, third; F. H. Herbert, secretary, and Harold Buchman, treasurer.

Germany Finishes Its 1st Post-War Film

By Hubertus Zu Lowenstein

BERLIN, Nov. 8 (By Airmail)—Germany's first post-war picture, "Murderers Among Us," has just been released. A production of Deutsche Film A. G., at Babelsberg, near Berlin, in the Russian zone, it has a screenplay written by Wolfgang Staudte, who also directed. Herbert Uhlich was in charge of production.

"In spite of all difficulties," Uhlich told the press, "we have been able to complete our work without much delay. We cannot take up matters where we left off. Nor is this our intention. We have to make an entirely new start."

And of difficulties there were plenty. There were no telephones, no automobiles, no sound-proof equipment, few nails and little glass or wood. And all this was aside from the problem of getting hold of cameras, lights and other mechanical equipment from the other three zones of occupation.

Despite these difficulties, Deutsche Film now has another picture in preparation—a German-Swiss production—and will soon open studios in Berlin-Johannistal.

"Murderers Among Us" has a strong anti-Nazi and post-war theme. It tells the story of the efforts of small craftsmen to rebuild their businesses in bombed-out Berlin. One man succeeds in establishing a small factory. Then one of his employes recognizes him as a man who, under the Nazi Regime, was a mass murderer. The employee first wants to take personal revenge, but then realizes that he has no right to judge and execute, that crimes against the community are the community's business.

The new German-Swiss film in preparation is a biography of the Swiss educator and philanthropist, Pestalozzi.

Wallis to Coast; Para. Deal Not Yet Settled

Although renewal of his distribution contract with Paramount has not yet been finalized, Hal Wallis plans to leave New York for the Coast tomorrow, Joseph Hazen, president of Hal Wallis Productions, stated here yesterday.

Wallis and Hazen held a number of conferences with Paramount executives this week. The pending renewal of the contract is said to provide for the release of 12 additional pictures over a period of probably three years.

JEANNE CRAIN as
"MARGIE"
A 20th Century-Fox Picture in Technicolor
Plus on Stage — Frances Langford - Jon Hall
Carl Ravazza - Harmonica Rascals
Extra! AL BERNIE
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

THE THUNDERING SAGA OF THE PONY EXPRESS!
"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY"
starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT - VERA RALSTON
GAIL PATRICK - JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
Associate Producer and Director
JOSEPH KANE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
2ND WEEK • GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
GEORGE RAFT · LYNN BARI
in
NOCTURNE
with
VIRGINIA HUSTON · JOSEPH PEVNEY · MYRNA DELL

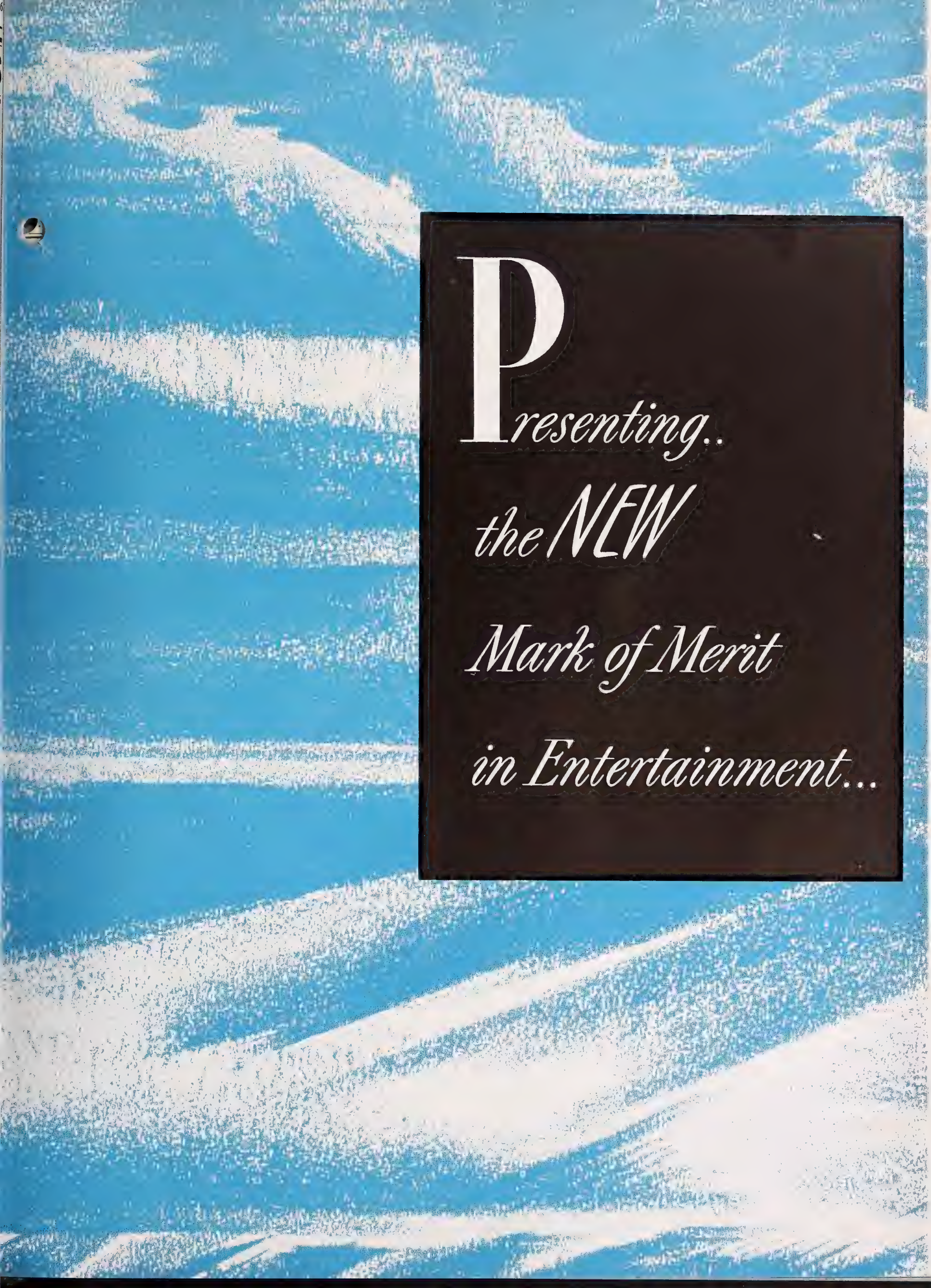
PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN '3 WISE FOOLS' MARGARET O'BRIEN
IN PERSON DAVE APOLLON
Extra! HARRY BABBITT

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

NOW!
WINTER GARDEN
B'way at 50th
Doors Open
9 a.m.-3 a.m.
J. ARTHUR RANK Presents
REX HARRISON
LILLI PALMER
TOGETHER IN
"NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN"

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Mark of Merit
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INTERNATIONAL

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November 15, 1946
Printed in U. S. A.

• MONTEREY • IVY

E DOOR • MAGNIFICENT DOLL

UCK PRIVATES COME HOME

ANCE • THE ART OF MU

D I • GREAT SON • SMASH-UP

• IVY • UP IN CENTRAL PARK

ME OUT OF MIND • THE EXILE

E DOOR • ASSIGNED TO SYRIA

MERMAID • WINDS OF CHANCE

• I'LL BE YOURS • SUNNY RIVER

ME HOME • THE EGG AND I

Announcing with pride...

THE MOTION PICTURES

OF THE COMING YEAR

FROM

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL

THE *Magnificent Stars*

APPEARING IN INTERNATIONAL ··· AND UNIVERSAL PICTURES

MERGE THEIR *Great Talents!*

- ✯ LEW AYRES
- ✯ GEORGE BRENT
- ✯ CHARLES COBURN
- ✯ CLAUDETTE COLBERT
- ✯ OLIVIA de HAVILLAND
- ✯ DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS JR.
- ✯ JOAN FONTAINE
- ✯ PETER LIND HAYES
- ✯ ROBERT HUTTON
- ✯ RICHARD LONG
- ✯ PAUL LUKAS
- ✯ MARJORIE MAIN
- ✯ THOMAS MITCHELL
- ✯ FRED MacMURRAY
- ✯ Bud ABBOTT – Lou COSTELLO
- ✯ LOUISE ALLBRITTON
- ✯ DON AMECHE
- ✯ WILLIAM BENDIX
- ✯ JOAN BENNETT
- ✯ TURHAN BEY
- ✯ ANN BLYTH
- ✯ PHYLLIS CALVERT
- ✯ ROD CAMERON
- ✯ JOAN CRAWFORD
- ✯ YVONNE DE CARLO
- ✯ TOM DRAKE
- ✯ DEANNA DURBIN
- ✯ DAN DURYEA
- ✯ HENRY FONDA
- ✯ SUSAN HAYWARD
- ✯ CHARLES KORVIN
- ✯ BURT LANCASTER
- ✯ ADOLPHE MENJOU
- ✯ BURGESS MEREDITH
- ✯ MARIA MONTEZ
- ✯ DAVID NIVEN
- ✯ EDMOND O'BRIEN
- ✯ DONALD O'CONNOR
- ✯ ELLA RAINES
- ✯ MICHAEL REDGRAVE
- ✯ GINGER ROGERS
- ✯ PEGGY RYAN
- ✯ ANN TODD
- ✯ SONNY TUFTS

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL

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THE MOTION PICTURES

OF THE COMING YEAR

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UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL



CLAUDETTE COLBERT • FRED MacMURRAY

The Egg and I

From the Novel by BETTY MacDONALD

with MARJORIE MAIN • LOUISE ALLBRITTON
PERCY KILBRIDE • BILLY HOUSE • RICHARD LONG

Screenplay by Chester Erskine and Fred F. Finklehoffe
Directed by CHESTER ERSKINE
Produced by FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE



JOAN FONTAINE

Winds of Chance

Screenplay by KARL TUNBERG

Produced by JOSEPH SISTROM



RONALD COLMAN

Assigned to Syria

Based on W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S "Ashenden"

Screenplay by JAMES HILTON
Directed by COMPTON BENNETT
Produced by JOSEPH SISTROM



JACK H. SKIRBALL and BRUCE MANNING
Present

GINGER ROGERS • DAVID NIVEN

Magnificent Doll

and BURGESS MEREDITH

with PEGGY WOOD • HORACE McNALLY
ROBERT H. BARRAT

Copyright by Hallmark Productions, Inc.
Original Story and Screenplay by Irving Stone
Director of Photography: Joseph Valentine, A.S.C.
Directed by FRANK BORZAGE
Produced by JACK H. SKIRBALL



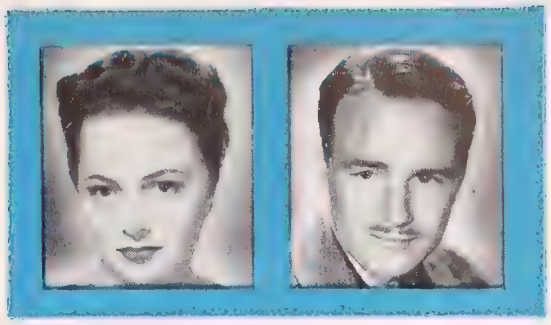
JACK H. SKIRBALL and BRUCE MANNING
Present

JOAN CRAWFORD

Portrait in Black

From a Play by Ben Roberts and Ivan Goff

Directed by CAROL REED • Produced by JACK H. SKIRBALL



OLIVIA de HAVILLAND • LEW AYRES

In NUNNALLY JOHNSON'S

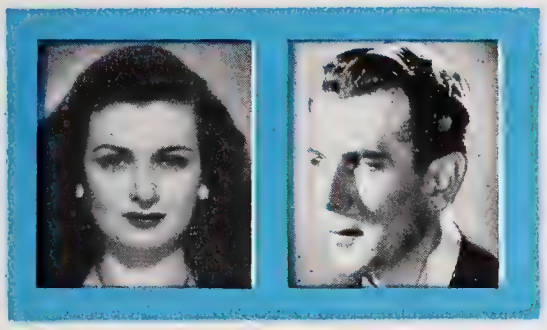
The Dark Mirror

with THOMAS MITCHELL

RICHARD LONG

Produced and Written for the Screen by NUNNALLY JOHNSON
Original Story by VLADIMIR POZNER

Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK



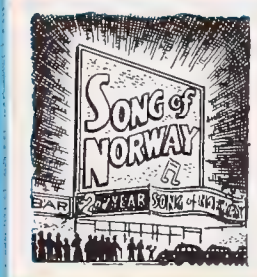
WALTER WANGER Presents
A FRITZ LANG Production

JOAN BENNETT • MICHAEL REDGRAVE

Secret Behind the Door

Screenplay by Silvia Richards • From the Novel by Rufus King
Produced and Directed by FRITZ LANG
A DIANA PRODUCTION

Based on the Broadway Stage Success



EDVARD GRIEG'S

Song of Norway

in TECHNICOLOR

Original story idea by Homer Curran and Edwin Lester
Libretto by Milton Lazarus
Lyrics and Musical Adaptation by Robert Wright and George Forrest

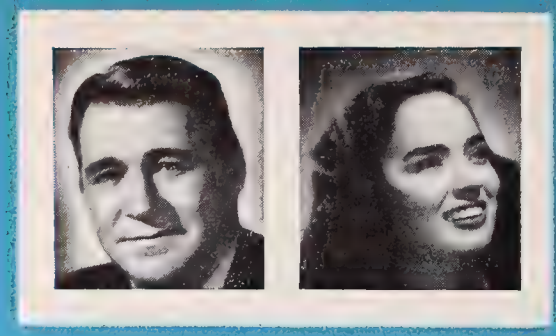


OLIVIA de HAVILLAND

The SAM WOOD Production

The Story of Ivy

Screenplay by Charles Bennett • From a Novel by Marie Belloc-Lowndes
Produced by WILLIAM CAMERON MENZIES
Directed by SAM WOOD



MARK HELLINGER Presents

SONNY TUFTS • ANN BLYTH

Swell Guy

WITH RUTH WARRICK

WILLIAM GARGAN • THOMAS GOMEZ • MARY NASH

Screenplay by Richard Brooks • Based on a Play by Gilbert Emery
Director of Photography: Tony Gaudio, A.S.C.
Directed by FRANK TUTTLE
A MARK HELLINGER PRODUCTION



YVONNE DE CARLO • BRIAN DONLEVY

JEAN PIERRE AUMONT

Song of Scheherazade

in TECHNICOLOR

EVE ARDEN • PHILIP REED • JOHN QUALEN
and CHARLES KULLMAN
Star of the Metropolitan Opera Company

Written and Directed by WALTER REISCH
Director of Photography: Hal Mohr, A.S.C.
Produced by EDWARD KAUFMAN
Associate Producer: Edward Dodds



WALTER WANGER Presents

SUSAN HAYWARD • LEE BOWMAN

MARSHA HUNT • EDDIE ALBERT

Smash-Up

with CARL ESMOND • CARLETON YOUNG

Screenplay by John Howard Lawson • Additional Dialogue by Lionel Wiggam
Original Story by Dorothy Parker and Frank Cavett
Directed by STUART HEISLER
Produced by WALTER WANGER



MERLE OBERON • GEORGE BRENT

CHARLES KORVIN • PAUL LUKAS

Temptation

with

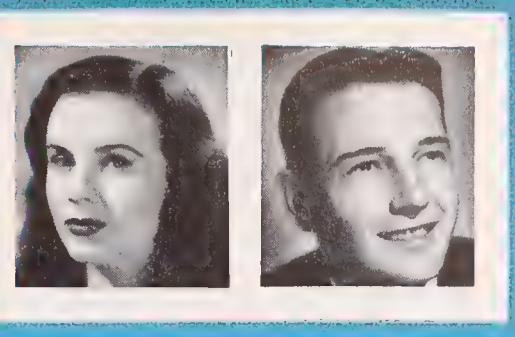
LENORE ULRIC • ARNOLD MOSS • LUDWIG STOSSEL

Screenplay by Robert Thoeren

From the Novel "Bella Donna" by Robert Hichens and the Play by James Bernard Fagan

Directed by IRVING PICHEL

Produced by EDWARD SMALL



DEANNA DURBIN • TOM DRAKE

WILLIAM BENDIX

I'll Be Yours

with

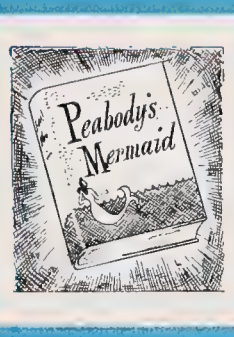
ADOLPHE MENJOU

Director of Photography, Hal Mohr, A.S.C.

Directed by WILLIAM A. SEITER

Produced by FELIX JACKSON

Associate Producer: Howard Christie



A NUNNALLY JOHNSON Production

Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid

From the Novel "Peabody's Mermaid"
by Guy and Constance Jones
Produced and Written for the Screen
by NUNNALLY JOHNSON



Mexican Hayride

Based on Michael Todd's Broadway Stage success by Herbert and Dorothy Fields

with A Galaxy of Stars headed by

BUD ABBOTT • LOU COSTELLO

Music and Lyrics by Cole Porter



BUD ABBOTT • LOU COSTELLO

Buck Privates Come Home

in TECHNICOLOR



MARIA MONTEZ • ROD CAMERON

Pirates of Monterey

with **MIKHAIL RASUMNY • PHILIP REED • GILBERT ROLAND**
TAMARA SHAYNE • GALE SONDERGAARD

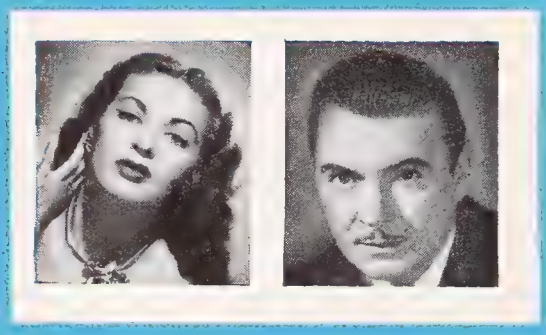
Screenplay by Sam Hellman and Margaret Buell Wilder
Original Story by Edward T. Lowe and Bradford Ropes • Director of Photography: Hal Mohr, A.S.C.
Directed by ALFRED WERKER • Produced by PAUL MALVERN



EDNA FERBER'S

Great Son

A MICHAEL TODD Production



YVONNE DE CARLO • GEORGE BRENT

Slave Girl *in* TECHNICOLOR

with **CARL ESMOND • ALBERT DEKKER • LOIS COLLIER**
ANDY DEVINE • BRODERICK CRAWFORD • ARTHUR TREACHER

Original Screenplay Written and Produced by MICHAEL FESSIER and ERNEST PAGANO
Directed by CHARLES LAMONT



WALTER WANGER Presents

A FRITZ LANG Production

Winchester 73

in TECHNICOLOR

From a story by Stuart Lake

Produced and Directed by FRITZ LANG

A DIANA PRODUCTION

in TECHNICOLOR



DEANNA DURBIN

Up in Central Park

Based on the Broadway Play by Herbert and Dorothy Fields

Music by SIGMUND ROMBERG • Lyrics by DOROTHY FIELDS

Produced by FELIX JACKSON



DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS JR.

In His Production Of

The Exile

in TECHNICOLOR

From the story "His Majesty, The King" by Cosmo Hamilton



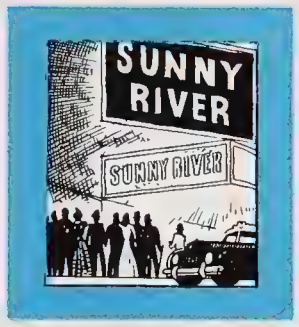
PHYLLIS CALVERT • ROBERT HUTTON

In RACHEL FIELD'S

Time Out of Mind

ELLA RAINES • EDDIE ALBERT

Directed by ROBERT SIODMAK • Produced by JANE MURFIN



JACK H. SKIRBALL and BRUCE MANNING

Present

Sunny River

in TECHNICOLOR

Based on the Broadway Play by Oscar Hammerstein II and Sigmund Romberg

Produced by JACK H. SKIRBALL



The Art of Murder

Written for the Screen by

RUTH GORDON and GARSON KANIN

author of "Over 21" ***author of "Born Yesterday"***

From these great ...the promise.

DANIELE AMFITHEATROF
CHARLES BENNETT
COMPTON BENNETT
HOWARD BAY
FRANK BORZAGE
S. P. EAGLE
GILBERT EMERY
CHARLES ERSKINE
DOUGLAS FAIRBANKS Jr.
EDNA FERBER
MICHEAL FESSIER
RACHEL FIELD
HERBERT & DOROTHY FIELDS
FRED F. FINKLEHOFFE
MARTIN GABEL
RUTH GORDON
FERDE GROFE
OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN II
STUART HEISLER
MARK HELLINGER
SAM HELLMAN
JAMES HILTON
ROBERT HICHENS
FELIX JACKSON
NUNNALLY JOHNSON
GARSON KANIN
RUFUS KING
STUART LAKE

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Creative Names

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FRITZ LANG
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BETTY MacDONALD
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W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM
WILLIAM CAMERON MENZIES
JANE MURFIN
ERNEST PAGANO
DOROTHY PARKER
IRVING PICHEL
WALTER REISCH
MIKLOS ROZSA

SIGMUND ROMBERG
WILLIAM SEITER
ROBERT SIODMAK
JOSEPH SISTROM
JACK H. SKIRBALL
EDWARD SMALL
IRVING STONE
ROBERT THOEREN
MICHAEL TODD
KARL TUNBERG
ANTHONY VEILLER
WALTER WANGER
MARGARET BUELL WILDER
SAM WOOD

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THE *NEW*

MARK OF MERIT

IN MOTION PICTURE ENTERTAINMENT...

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Europe Hungry for US Films: Begg

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14.—European nations are willing and eager to exhibit American documentary pictures produced as part of the U. S. State Department's cultural relations program, John M. Begg, Department film consultant, said here today upon [illegible] return from a four-month tour [illegible]h took him into seven countries. Begg said there is a great opening market in Europe for projection equipment, especially 16mm. types.

Commenting on what he called "extraordinary interest in American films," Begg said that it will be a difficult task for the State Department to furnish sufficient pictures to meet the growing demand. He added that the Government cannot accomplish the 16mm. documentary program alone, and urged that the industry "pitch in" and help out in the program.

Documentary Field

Begg warned that if the United States fails to send in documentary films, other nations will. People throughout Europe throng to American pictures, Begg added. He said that there is now a shortage of both projectors and pictures in Europe. The Government film consultant visited England, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, Sweden, Holland, France and Germany.

Begg stated that U. S. cultural films will "absolutely not" interfere with commercial exhibition abroad. Distribution is being handled by American missions and there is no charge for the films which are exhibited to civic groups, at Embassy parties and in schools, he said.

72 Critics Coming To 'Razor' Premiere

Some 72 motion picture critics of newspapers from the East, Midwest and South will arrive in New York this weekend to attend the world premiere of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre on Nov. 19, and 19 others from the West will travel to the 20th Century-Fox studio in Hollywood for a simultaneous showing, of the Darryl F. Zanuck production.

The visiting critics will be guests of 20th Century-Fox while they are in New York, and will be given a press reception on Monday afternoon in the Terrace Room of the Plaza Hotel to meet Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney and Clifton Webb, stars of the picture, Zanuck, the producer, and Edmund Goulding, the director. New York newspaper people, magazine editors and trade paper representatives also will attend the reception.

Deny Conspiracy In Dipson Suit

BUFFALO, Nov. 14.—Three defendants in a $2,500,000 suit brought by Dipson Theatres, Inc., denied, in answers filed in Federal Court today, the existence of a conspiracy to prevent the plaintiff from exhibiting first-run pictures. They are Buffalo Theatres, Inc., Bison Theatres Corp., and Vincent R. McFaul, president of Buffalo Theatres, Inc. Other defendants are the film distributing companies.

Goldwyn Victor in Fight for Astor

The battle between Samuel Goldwyn and David O. Selznick for Christmas-time possession of the local Astor Theatre screen apparently ended yesterday in favor of Goldwyn, when New York Supreme Court Judge Aaron J. Levy denied United Artists' motion to get back the "Caesar and Cleopatra" print now showing in the house, thus thwarting UA's effort to bring in Hunt Stromberg's "Strange Woman" to fill the playing time until Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" could be made ready to open there. Accordingly, Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" is expected to have its premiere at the Astor on Nov. 21, as advertised.

Judge Levy ruled that Sheriff John J. McClosky acted properly when he placed a custodian in the Astor projection booth and allowed the "Caesar" run to continue after UA obtained a writ of replevin to get possession of the print on Nov. 6. The judge also held that Goldwyn was entitled to post a $50,000 bond for the film, as he did on Nov. 7, thus giving its possession back to the Astor under a writ of re-replevin.

UA had contended that the Sheriff should have seized the property and that Goldwyn had no right to enter the case since he was not a party to the suit and since his connection with the Astor consists only of a booking arrangement. Judge Levy, ruled, however, that lifting the property would have caused "irreparable damage" and noted that its gross for the week ended Nov. 9 fell only $122 below the $20,000 specified in the contract as the minimum gross set to determine the conclusion of the run. He also held that Goldwyn had a right to put up the bond, inasmuch as he probably was intended as the "John Doe" mentioned in the suit and since he was one of the parties notified by Joseph J. Unger, UA general sales manager, on Nov. 5 in an affidavit declaring termination of the Astor's right to exhibit "Caesar."

Selznick and Goldwyn have an agreement to take turns showing their films at the Astor. Selznick's turn, normally, would be next, but since "Best Years" is nearly ready and the completion of "Duel" is indefinite, Goldwyn reasoned that he had a right to come in at the end of the run of "Caesar," upon which both had settled as a substitute for their own product when neither had a picture for the house several months ago. Holding "Caesar" on the screen until next Thursday was Goldwyn's problem; placing, temporarily, a film released by his own company was Selznick's.

A spokesman for UA's counsel indicated yesterday that the company probably would make no further legal moves in the case, although the decision was received too late for a final decision on that point.

City Files Today

(*Continued from page* 1)

United Artists, distributors of the Howard Hughes production, and for the city have to file final briefs next week.

The basis of Fielding's motion was the advertising and exploitation campaign for the film is "obscene." Dr. Bowen's decision is not expected before the end of next week.

Industry to Set Role Today in FJP Drive

Film executives will attend a luncheon-meeting today at the Essex House to plan for the industrys' role in the 1946 drive by the Federation of Jewish Philanthrophies for $12,000,000. Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, will preside at the luncheon in his capacity as chairman of the amusement division.

Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation, will be the principal speaker. He is expected to stress the importance of the Federation's work in maintaining 116 hospitals and welfare institutions serving more than 350,000 annually.

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount; Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia, and Albert Warner, vice-president of Warner Bros., are co-chairmen of the amusement division. Martin Quigley, publisher of Quigley Publications, and Jack Alicoate, of Film Daily and Radio Daily, are co-chairmen of the division's publications section. Other groups participating in the amusement division, in addition to motion picture companies and publications, are: independent exhibitors and producers, stage producers, music publishers, bandleaders, radio and recording artists and artists' representatives.

W.B. Dec. 9 Showing

"The Time, the Place and the Girl," Technicolor musical, will be nationally tradeshown by Warners on Dec. 9.

WB Sales Meeting Here Next Week

Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warner Brothers, has called a meeting of district managers for Nov. 21-22 at the home office to discuss forthcoming product, sales policies and other subjects.

Home office executives who will participate include Samuel Schneider, vice-president; Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity; Roy Haines, Western division sales manager; Jules Lapidus, Eastern division sales manager; Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager; I. F. Dolid, assistant to Kalmenson; Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager; Ed Hinchy, head of the playdate department; Bernard R. Goodman, supervisor of exchanges, and others.

District managers will include Henry Herbel, West Coast; Robert Smeltzer, Mic-Atlantic; Sam Lefkowitz, Eastern; Charles Rich, Central; Harry A. Seed, Midwest, Hall Walsh, Prairie; Haskell Masters, Canadian; Doak Roberts, Southwest; John Kirby, Southwest.

Warner Signs Ayres

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14. — Jack L. Warner, Warner production chief, today signed Lew Ayres to co-star with Ann Sheridan and Zachary Scott in Warners' "The Unfaithful," which will go into production late this month.



UN Film Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

month, when a production unit consisting of British and French cameramen is due to arrive here from abroad for the purpose, the program was described by Benoit-Levy as a means of establishing more complete film coverage of UN operations, and represents, he said, a mobilization of "all motion picture facilities to try to win the peace." The film industries of all the main producing countries have been recruited in support of the program, Benoit-Levy said.

Coordination

Benoit-Levy announced also that a temporary provisional film and visual information committee has been set up by the UN to coordinate the film and visual media of member organizations with a view toward establishing a UN Film Board. Meanwhile, he said, plans are now in work for establishing in the film producing nations national film committees to implement the UN's program. It is possible, he said, that in the U. S. the Motion Picture Association will be representative of such committee.

Currently, Benoit-Levy disclosed, the budget committee of the UN general assembly is reviewing a request for an "adequate" appropriation to finance the program. Although the program will be operated solely on a non-profit basis, nominal charges will be made for the documentary films, which will be distributed through regular distributor companies in the U. S. and elsewhere through non-theatrical distributors' organizations throughout the world, and through any other channels it may be possible to set up.

Newsreel's Role

The role of the newsreels, he said, will be to supply the UN with films they will make. Meanwhile, should the reels require footage from UN, they will be so supplied, he added. Glendon Allvine, who represents the MPA in the program, reports that the newsreels have available now for UN use negative and positive films which may be obtained upon request.

Benoit-Levy said he will leave here Saturday for Paris, where he will be a delegate at the meeting there of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. UNESCO, he disclosed, will work in cooperation with the UN on the new film program.

The UN program does not have any connection with MPA president Eric Johnston's recent London statement urging a world film council, Benoit-Levy said, adding that his interpretation of Johnston's suggestion is that it applies principally to entertainment productions of major U. S. film companies.

Invite UN Delegates to "Betrayal" Screening

Screencraft Pictures, which will present on Broadway, here, Idea Films' production of "The Great Betrayal," first full-length picture made in Palestine, has invited members of the delegations of the United Nations Assembly to attend a special showing on Nov. 30. The Broadway showing is slated for mid-December.

"Magnificent Doll"

[***Universal***]

(*Continued from page* 1)

as the present, and the political issues then at stake to apply directly to those prevailing in some areas of the world today. Although strictly a period picture, and accurately dated in its historical aspect, the story is as fresh as if transpiring in 1946.

Irving Stone's original story and screenplay opens with the forced marriage of Dolly Payne to a man chosen by her father, who, with the baby born to them, dies in the plague. It moves then to Philadelphia and the courting of the widow Payne by Burr and Madison, with the latter winning her hand and her help in the affairs of politics and state which are down in the history books.

Burr's attempted rebellion is graphically shown, and his rescue by Dolly from the mob which would lynch him after his acquittal are high points to be remembered. Production by Skirball is of the highest quality throughout and Frank Borzage's direction is possibly his best work.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

RED KANN

Strikes Need Action

(*Continued from page* 1)

American Federation of Labor unions, feuding for the eighth week over some 300 jobs, have caused repeated work stoppages and strikes and are placing in jeopardy the livelihood of all 30,000 employes in film studios.

"Many of us have lived in hope that union leadership would itself be wise enough to remove the jurisdictional strike from the cogs of industrial recovery," Price said, noting that "honest and courageous union members" had urged the recent American Federation of Labor convention in Chicago to settle the Hollywood inter-union controversy.

On Congress's Doorstep

"The convention booted away the last, best hope that stern legislative action would be unnecessary," Price commented. "The only remaining hope of a nationwide solution affecting all industries now lies on the doorstep of Congress and the administration."

"To avoid involvment with other explosive labor issues, where the public interest may be more in doubt, the (Congressional) legislational should deal with the jurisdictional strike and nothing else," said Price.

"If other amendments to basic labor law are to be considered, they can be taken up separately and at greater leisure. The need for action on jurisdictional squabbling is urgent."

Terming jurisdictional strikes "a national disgrace," Price declared he saw no moral or economic justification for a strike "to determine who collects dues from whom and who does what work."

Effective action in Washington, Price continued, will be a long step toward fulfilling the nation's "vital need" for greater production, as well as increasing the productivity of each worker.

Cooperation

"Unions are here to stay," Price said. "The enlightened employer does not spend his time trying vainly to get rid of unionism. Instead he ponders over the practical problem of lifting production through union-management cooperation."

Labor, too, must bear a heavy responsibility for production, he said, a responsibility that "cannot be talked away by fancy platitudes about social injustices and exploitation of the worker."

"Labor should know that it can have more only if it helps to produce more," Price stated.

SOPEG Accepts

(*Continued from page* 1)

unanimously to accept the latest wage offered to them by executives of the four companies concerned. The union previously had rejected two offers of wage increases made by the companies, one for five per cent proposed in September, and 10 per cent flat increase proposed in October.

The new wage scale, affecting the 130 office employes of the four exchanges, accepted last night by the union are as follows: 15 per cent to employes earning up to $35; 12½ per cent to employes earning from $35 to $50 weekly; and 10 per cent to those earning over $50. New scales are retroactive to Aug. 3, 1946.

Only a new wage scale was in dispute, threatening a strike. The rest of Local 109's contract runs to July 31, 1947.

Representing the union in the negotiations were Sidney Young, national representative of UOPWA, Pat Delasi of the 20th Century-Fox exchange, and John Cuniff of Loew's. Negotiators for the companies were Charles O'Brien of Loew's, Robert O. Goldfarb of United Artists and Hank Kaufman of Columbia.

Technicolor Names

(*Continued from page* 1)

rectors of Technicolor, Inc., according to a statement issued today.

The announcement was made here by Dr. Herbert T. Kalmus, president and general manager, after a special board meeting held here yesterday. At the same time, Charles Grover was elected to fill the place vacated by Robert Cushman, deceased, on the board of directors of Technicolor Motion Picture Corp.

Other appointments on that board at the meeting were Louis Sallet, as comptroller; John Clark, as assistant to the president, and George Cave as vice-president in charge of Hollywood sales. Plans were also announced for the appointment of Harrison to be vice-president in charge of foreign relations for Technicolor.

'Betrayal' to Broadway

Screencraft's "The Great Betrayal," full-length feature depicting the present-day rebuilding of Palestine by Jews and Arabs, will have its world premiere in mid-December at a Broadway theatre to be announced shortly, it was reported here yesterday by Idea Films, producer of the picture.

Clark to Speak

(*Continued from page* 1)

pictures in the Government's cultural relations and information program.

Twenty-six industry representatives have accepted the White House invitation to date, the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion said. Anthony Hyde, OWMR information chief, asserted that between 45 and 50 industry people are expected to attend the meeting.

Those responding to the Government's invitation, are: Charles Reagan, William F. Rodgers, Donald M. Nelson, Francis S. Harmon, Leonard Goldenson, Frederick Pride, Jack Alicoate, Ben Schlyn, Abel Green, Herbert Yates, Lee W. Newbury, Meyer Schine, Fred Wehrenberg, Lewin Pizor, Herman Levy, R. B. Wilby, R. V. Richards, Ted R. Gamble, S. H. Fabian, Arthur Tourtellot, A. J. Richard, Harry Brandt, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jesse L. Stern, Mack Jackson, and Harry W. Kalmine.

Other acceptances are coming in at OWMR daily, it was said. Purpose of the meeting is to establish a permanent industry-government film committee, with elected officers. Present facilities for the production, distribution and exhibition of Government film messages are said to be inadequate and not well organized.

The meeting was called by Dr. Steelman, OWMR director. President Truman is expected to shake hands with the industry representatives sometime during the White House meeting.

Clark has also called a meeting of industry executives for Dec. 12 in Washington, presumably to discuss production and distribution of juvenile films.

Exhibit Extended

The Press Photographers Association of New York, whose membership embraces many film industry photographers, is extending its current 11th annual still exhibit to Dec. 1, at the request of the Museum of Science and Industry, here.

20th - Fox Film Ad Is Record - Breaker

The largest half-tone advertisement plate ever produced for a motion picture publication, was used to illustrate *Motion Picture Daily's* second section of yesterday, which was devoted to heralding 20th Century-Fox's film program in general and the company's "The Razor's Edge," in particular. Some 20,000 copies of the special were distributed; 5,000 of these will be mailed to far corners of the world.

Reproducing a Norman Rockwell painting of Tyrone Power (with a montage backdrop comprised of portraits of the other players in "The Razor's Edge"), the half-tone, in color, measured 18 inches by 48 inches.

Charles Schlaifer is 20th-Fox's director of advertising-publicity, and Christy W. Wilbert is advertising manager. C. J. O'Brien, Inc., printers of Quigley publications, handled the press work.

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"The Best Years of Our Lives"

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TERESA WRIGHT • VIRGINIA MAYO

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Selznick Bids

(*Continued from page* 1)

has breached it, and another to set aside the arrangement under which he was to acquire his full one-third interest in UA, Selznick is prepared to embark upon "fight-fire-with-fire" tactics and do considerable suing of his own.

It is understood he has tentatively drawn up six different actions, generally charging UA with failure to live up to its distribution contract. However, it is said on Selznick's behalf that while he prefers to make an amicable settlement of the issues at hand, he has no intention whatsoever of retreating from what he regards as the infallibility of his contractual position.

Pickford and Chaplin's position is that Selznick breached his contract in several "package" deals which he made with RKO Radio, including deals involving "The Spiral Staircase" and "Till the End of Time," which were produced with Selznick principals, under the producership of Dore Schary, a Selznick producer.

The allegation is that these deals were made for Selznick's benefit and not for the benefit of UA under the contract which the distributor holds with the producer.

Selznick's position is he has breached nothing and that any reading of his contract with UA will demonstrate clearly that his position is correct.

Before UA Board

This question first came before the UA board of directors approximately one year ago when it was agreed by UA owners, including Selznick himself, that the deal with RKO Radio be probed. The assignment fell to Isaac Pennypacker, Philadelphia attorney, who not only is Pickford's lawyer but is also one of her three directors on the UA board. It is understood Pennypacker's report, which came before lawyers representing UA's member-owners at a meeting here earlier this week, deals at length with definitions and interpretations of what comprises the involved job of making motion pictures and whether or not the "packages" sold to RKO Radio in any wise might be construed as indicating Selznick was their producer. In essence, Selznick's position is he was not, since he served in no direct or supervisory capacity.

Because he maintains Pickford and Chaplin know he will not agree to new distribution terms, Selznick feels this phase of the situation is in the nature of a "red herring" deliberately thrown across the trail, and credits as the ultimate objective an intention on the part of his present partners to force him out of the company by the purchase of his stock on the basis of the six film units which he has thus far delivered under his 10-unit deal.

It is believed that Pickford and Chaplin are prepared to make a deal on this basis, whereas Selznick evidently will not settle on any other but a completion basis. He assumes the stand that he is prepared to deliver "Duel," which would count for two more units, and and one other picture, probably "The Paradine Case," as a final two-unit film and that any purchase of his holdings—in which he made an original investment of $300,000 — consequently should be predicated on fulfillment of his contract. In other words, it is Selznick's position that he is forcing no issues and is prepared to meet his obligation if the other partners in UA will let him.

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Fear Violence

(*Continued from page* 1)

ordered resumption of mass picketing at the Columbia studio Friday morning despite court orders.

Meanwhile Joseph Keenan, Chicago laborite here to consider a post as chairman of the permanent arbitration board, met privately with executives of several locals preliminary to resumption of a conference with the arbitration committee tomorrow. Although Keenan and others are determined to persist in working out the arbitration plans, previously agreed to in principle by all the parties concerned, informed quarters were pessimistic about the success of this undertaking, some expecting abandonment of it would come over the weekend.

Monogram, not previously picketed, faced the prospect of becoming indirectly involved, due to IATSE executives' insistence that the laboratory workers there, who do not recognize the international's authority, take out new membership cards in Local 683, whose officers are under suspension. Monogram executives said the studio would fly its negatives to New York for processing if its premises are picketed by either faction.

The major studios and Technicolor tonight offered $5,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrators of the bombings.

WB's Howson To Talk At Monday MPA Meet

"The Motion Picture as the Eighth Art" will be the subject of an address to be delivered Monday by Albert Howson, Warners scenario director, before an audience of civic groups and students of the motion picture at the Museum of Modern Art, here, in a program sponsored by the Motion Picture Association. Marjorie Dawson, MPA community relations department director, will preside at the meeting.

UA Executives Coming For Board Meeting

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 14.—Edward C. Raftery, president of United Artists, and Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, will leave here for New York Saturday to attend the Nov. 21 UA board meeting which, expectedly, will be highlighted by the Selznick - Pickford - Chaplin controversy. Neil Agnew, vice-president and general sales manager of Vanguard Films, will leave either tomorrow or Saturday by plane while Milton Kramer, attorney for Selznick, has already left.

White House Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

distribution vice-president, or Maj. L. E. Thompson, Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Brothers Theatres, will be present on behalf of Warners.

As of last night, it appeared doubtful that 20th Century-Fox would be represented directly at the meeting because the world premiere of "The Razor's Edge" is scheduled to be held at the Roxy Theatre here on the same date. However, Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will attend, along with Kenneth Clark, public relations chief, and it is indicated that the MPA delegates may act on behalf of any member companies not otherwise represented. Gradwell Sears of United Artists, now on the Coast, and William Scully of Universal will be unable to attend, spokesmen for those companies said yesterday.

On the exhibitor side, invitations have been accepted by top officials of the American Theatres Association and the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, with indications that national Allied and other groups will be strongly represented.

ATA's delegation will be headed by president S. H. Fabian and board chairman Ted Gamble, as well as Robert Coyne, executive director, and Ned Shugrue, public relations director. ATA board members planning to go to Washington include: Gil Nathanson of Minneapolis; Nat Williams, Thomasville, Ga.; E. V. Richards, New Orleans; Herman H. Hunt, Cincinnati; and William F. Crockett, Virginia Beach, Va., with the possibilities also of Harry Arthur, St. Louis; Joseph Rosenfeld, Spokane; Ralph Treachen, Salt Lake City, and Ben L. Strozier, Rock Hill, S. C.

MPTOA president Fred Wehrenberg of St. Louis will attend, along with Herman Levy, general counsel, and J. J. O'Leary, treasurer, with indications that other officials of the organization also will be present.

Although a full list of delegates has not yet been reported by Allied's national headquarters in Washington, Edward Lachman and Lee Newbury are planning to attend, and regional units also are expected to send representatives.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 6, industry executives here have been baffled by the Government's indicated criticism as to a lack of machinery to facilitate the handling of U. S. films. While it is felt generally that additional organization is not needed, the response to Steelman's invitation to the meeting is seen by observers here as evidence of continued willingness to cooperate.

President Truman, who designated the OWMR some months ago as a clearing house for the Government's film program, is expected to meet the representatives at Tuesday's conference.

Philadelphia Group Honors Sam Goldwyn

PHILADEIPHIA, Nov. 14. — Samuel Goldwyn has been awarded an illuminated scroll by the Philadelphia Club of Advertising Women, in recognition of his contributions to "the cause of international understanding" and to "wholesome standards in motion picture entertainment."

Film Foundation

(*Continued from page* 1)

lished in 1944 and headed by Vincent. Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, and Vincent, of late have been particularly active in the new plan, which, the sponsors predict will develop into an organization considerably greater in scope and would be established on a permanent foundation with branches throughout the country.

Also actively concerned were the following named executives, who, along with Balaban and Vincent, comprise the organizing committee: Karl Hoblitzelle, Interstate Circuit; Harold Field, Pioneer Theatres; Jack Kirsch, Allied States Theaters; Eddie Silverman, Essaness Theaters; Mitchell Wolfson, Wometco Theatres; Ted Gamble, American Theatres Association; Loe Wolcott, Allied ITO of Iowa-Nebraska; Sam Gillette, Intermountain Theatres; Herman Robbins, National Screen Service; Fred Wehrenberg, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America; William F. Rodgers, Loew's.

Acceptances Received

The list of those who have said they will attend the meeting is as follows: Barney Balaban, Spyros Skouras, Ned E. Depinet, Fred Wehrenberg, Charles M. Reagan, Leo Wolcott, Tom Connors, Jack Kirsch, Leonard Goldenson, William Crockett, Tom Edwards, Arthur Lehman, Ben Kalmenson, L. E. Thompson, William German.

Also, Ted Gamble, Harry Brandt, Herman Robbins, John Balaban, Irving Lesser, A. H. Blank, Carl Buermele, Joseph De Fiore, Si Fabian, Karl Hoblitzelle, Milas Hurley, Chick Lewis, Sidney Lust, Irving Mack, Sam Pinanski, M. J. Mullin, E. V. Richards.

Also, Fred Schwartz, Mitchell Wolfson, Max Yellen, R. B. Wilby, H. F. Kincey, O. C. Lam, Charles Klein, Guthrie Crowe, James W. Cooke, G. L. Carrington, Sam Shain, Ben Shlyen, Jay Emanuel and Leo Friedman.

Only a generalized program has been set to guide the New Orleans meeting. It is understood that Vincent will open the session and thereupon open discussions will take place. In all likelihood committees and temporary officers will be appointed, all to study the numerous aspects of the matter, particularly financing.

Pioneering Movement

Spokesmen here yesterday said they look upon the planned foundation as a pioneering movement that will represent a country-wide and diversified effort on the part of all phases of the industry. It will have its leadership from the "field," they say, and not in any case from the producing-distributing companies.

Need for such an organization, it was said, is evidenced daily in the numerous requests for financial assistance received by theatres and film companies from persons formerly connected with the industry.

A total of 200 invitations to the meeting were sent to theatremen, presidents and sales managers of the companies, publishers of trade publications, and to the heads of film and equipment manufacturing companies.

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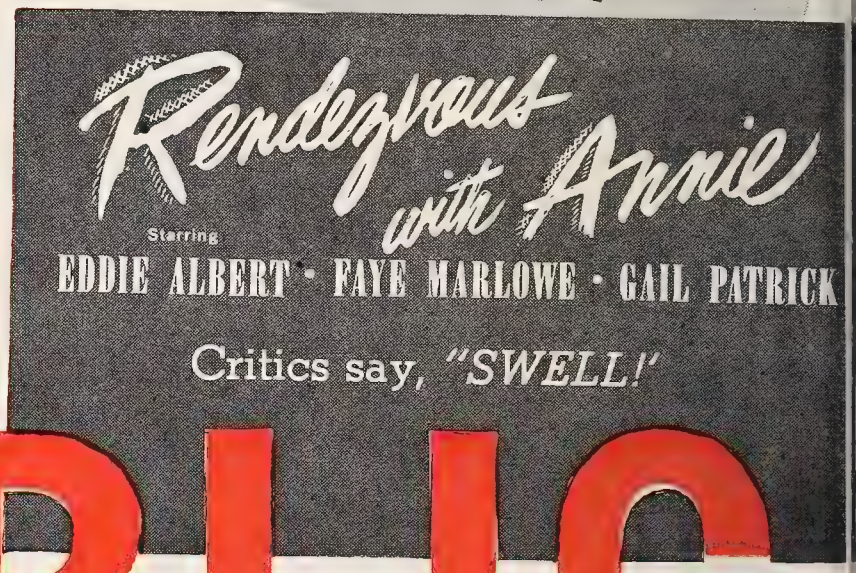
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VOL. 60. NO. 98 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . in Today's News

DAVID LEWIS, producer of "Arch of Triumph" for Enterprise, has been elected a vice-president of the company.



David Lewis

Lewis, a member of the organization since David Loew and Charles Einfeld made their first announcement concerning it, is also the producer of Erich Maria Remarque's "The Other Love," now in production under the direction of Andre de Toth. He also is credited with producing "Camille," "All This and Heaven Too," "Dark Victory," "King's Row," and "Frenchman's Creek."

Miller and Five Others in New MGM Sales Posts

Major Harry W. Miller, Lafayette B. Butler, John L. Kelley, Sam S. Davis, Emanuel M. Woronov and Louis Marks have been named special sales representatives in the field for M-G-M's newly-created reprints and importation division, headed by William B. Zoellner. All appointees are veterans of the organization. Prior to undertaking their new assignments the six will convene today and tomorrow at the Astor Hotel, here, where Zoellner will outline their respective duties and discuss sales policies on reprints and importations.

Robert Weitman Is Named Pioneers' Scroll Winner

Robert J. Weitman, managing director of the Paramount Theatre, here, has been selected as the recipient of the Picture Pioneers' "Scroll of Honor" for this year, by the Pioneers' executive committee. The award will be made during the organization's annual "Harvest Dinner," at the Waldorf-Astoria, on Wednesday evening. The award will be made because of his outstanding activities on behalf of the U. S. during the war years.



Robert Weitman

Hope for a Strike Arbitration Setup Grows Dimmer

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17. — Widely held hopes for the establishment of an arbitration setup to prevent work stoppages over the jurisdictional disputes faded Friday as Joseph Keenan, Chicago AFL executive who had been offered the permanent chairmanship of the arbitration board, left after 10 days of conferences with a cross-union committee pledged in advance to cooperate in the project.

The effort to establish arbitration machinery was launched originally by SAG at the Chicago convention the AFL, and both CSU and IATSE factions had agreed on the selection of Keenan as chairman.

On his departure Friday, Keenan said: "The leaders of the AFL unions

(*Continued on page 4*)

NCA Weighs Allied Bid at Meet Today

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 17.—Foremost on the agenda of the North Central Allied mid-year meeting, here, tomorrow, will be discussions revolving around whether the unit should join national Allied or remain unaffiliated, with discussions pertaining to increasing trade abuses slated to run a close second in terms of importance. The meeting's entire morning session will

(*Continued on page 4*)

36 Video Applications Granted Since Spring

Washington, Nov. 17.—Television service, currently available in four states, will be expanded considerably during the next 18 months as a result of additional commercial construction permits being issued by the Federal Communications Commission. Latest figures show that 36 applications have been granted since last spring, to as many applicants for new television stations in 19 states, extending from Rhode Island, Southward to Kentucky and Westward to San Francisco.

Cagney Takes Over General Service

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Cagney Productions today will officially begin its 25-year tenancy at General Service Studios. William Cagney became a vice-president of the studio last August, after purchasing an interest in it. The moveover, originally set for next January, was accelerated by the postponement of production on "The Stray Lamb," which was unable to start on Sept. 18, and it could not have been completed in the shooting period allotted to it at the plant.

Chances now are that "The Stray Lamb," instead of "A Lion in the Street," will be the first Cagney picture to go before the cameras at General Service.

230 Theatre Building Permits Denied by US

WASHINGTON, Nov 17.—More than 230 theatre construction permits have been denied by the Civilian Production Administration since March 26, when drastic commercial building barriers were imposed for the sake of veterans housing.

There is no indication here that any letup in present restrictions will come for another eight months. While the housing program is going full swing, it is still not providing sufficient homes for veterans to merit any laxity in present regulations over building, the CPA says.

A survey conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY correspondents throughout the country shows that theatres

(*Continued on page 12*)

Universal's Deal for Keith's in Cincinnati

Culmination of a deal whereby Universal will lease the Keith Theatre, Cincinnati, as a first-run "showcase," was said on Friday to be expected momentarily, by a spokesman for City Investing Co., which owns the house, the investment firm having purchased the entire Keith building from RKO six months ago.

This brings to two the number of first-run situations acquired by "U" for the purpose of showing its own product exclusively. The first was New York's Winter Garden.

Further advancement of Universal's theatre program is known to be under

(*Continued on page 4*)

GOP Will Cut Admissions Tax by 10%

Reduction to Pre-War Level Definite: Martin

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. — House Speaker-to-be Joseph Martin of Massachusetts said Friday that the Republicans will "definitely" cut theatre admission taxes to their pre-war 10 per cent level. The excise tax for admissions is now 20 per cent.

Representative Martin's statement came at a time when other Republican Congressmen were expressing themselves in favor of postponing action on tax reduction until Federal economy, which would balance the budget, had been effected.

Martin said that there has been some discussion about leaving luxury taxes at the war time high. However, he discounted any possibility that they will be maintained at present levels.

The Massachusetts representative asserted that by cutting down Federal

(*Continued on page 4*)

Sedalia Exhibitors Win Fight on Tax

KANSAS CITY, Nov. 17.—Exhibitors at Sedalia, Mo., who closed their theatres 14 weeks ago in protest against a municipal five per cent tax on gross receipts as a license fee, have won their point and reopened on Saturday.

The city council on Nov. 14 revoked the gross receipts tax ordi-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Committees Set for Industry FJP Drive

With less than a month set as the duration of the amusement industry's participation in the $12,000,000 fund campaign being conducted by the Fed-

(*Continued on page 22*)

In This Issue

Reviews of "The Perfect Marriage" and "Cross My Heart" will be found on page 22, of "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball," "That Brennan Girl" and "Boston Blackie and the Law" on page 23.

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, president of Republic Picture; JAMES R. GRAINGER, vice-president and general sales manager, and WILLIAM SAAL, executive assistant to YATES, left New York yesterday for the company's Hollywood studio. GRAINGER will return to New York next Monday.

•

JACK COHN, Columbia vice-president, and ABE SCHNEIDER, vice-president and treasurer, are expected to return today to New York from Hollywood studio conferences with HARRY COHN, president. NATE B. SPINGOLD, vice-president, is remaining on the coast for another week.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount distribution vice-president, left Hollywood by plane for Washington yesterday. He will return to New York following the industry conference at the White House of Tuesday.

•

KENNETH HALLMAN, writer and publicist, formerly of RKO Radio, and BARBARA DAGMAR ROBERTS, USO-Camp Shows publicity writer, were married here on Nov. 9.

•

DAVE LIPTON, executive coordinator of advertising-publicity at Universal's Coast studio, and MRS. LLPTON are the parents of a son, born at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital, Hollywood.

•

EDWARD C. RAFTERY, United Artists president, and GRADWELL L. SEARS, distribution vice-president, were scheduled to arrive here yesterday from the Coast.

•

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Universal's Southern and Canadian sales manager, will leave New York today for Memphis, returning at the end of the week.

•

JOHN S. ALLEN, M-G-M district manager, has returned to his Washington headquarters, following a visit at the New York home office.

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WILLIAM F. RODGERS, vice-president and general sales manager of M-G-M, left New York Friday night for Washington.

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NEIL AGNEW, Vanguard vice-president and general sales manager, is due in New York today from the Coast.

•

H. M. RICHEY, head of M-G-M's exhibitor relations, will leave New York for Milwaukee on Sunday.

•

ARTHUR LUBIN left Hollywood Saturday via American Airlines Mercury for New York.

•

L. J. KAUFMAN, Warner theatre executive, is in Cleveland from New York for a few days.

•

SIR ARTHUR JARRATT will leave the Coast by train today for New York.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

LAST week at the convention of Allied Theatre Owners of Michigan in Detroit, Abram F. Myers, chairman and general counsel of Allied States Association, was quoted as having said, in a prepared address, that "exhibitors and all leaders who have had experience in legislative work must be genuinely disturbed by the announced purpose of an exhibitor organization composed of and financed by the great chains to seek repeal of the admission tax by direct action."

"The activity of such a group," Myers was quoted further as saying, "will drive from the Congressmen's minds the recollection of the modest, home-owned neighborhod and small town theatres with which he is familiar and supplant it with visions of the great, chain-operated metropolitan first-runs which, on the basis of their financial statements, have small claim to the sympathy of the tax collectors."

•

To begin with, a very large part of the American Theatres Association membership consists of "modest, home-owned neighborhood and small town theatres." The most enthusiastic supporters of ATA are to be found in the South and West, where just such theatres predominate.

In the second place, it has been duly recorded in the trade press that Loew's and Warners' never joined ATA, and RKO recently resigned. Paramount has not joined as a company, although many of its partners in theatre operation are members of ATA. We can name quite a few who aren't and some who have openly opposed it.

Since there are only five national circuits and three and one-half of them are not present but accounted for, it would seem that Mr. Myers' statement took in considerably more territory than the facts warrant.

•

However, it is not so much that with which exception may be taken, as it is Mr. Myers' premise that because a theatre is a big tax payer instead of a small tax payer it should surrender its right to be heard in protest against emergency taxation when the emergency is past. Either that or its protest is likely to embarrass its smaller contemporary.

If Mr. Myers is sincere about this, it may be asked if he knows what goes on in some of the Allied States regional units around the country which solicit both the voices and the finances of the affiliated theatres when they engage in campaigns to oppose adverse taxation and legislation in their territories?

If that has been found to be a good policy by "exhibitors and all leaders who have had experience in legislative work" regionally, why not nationally?

It would seem that the Federal admission tax or any other measure inimical to exhibition should be fought in the open on the basis of what it has done or could do to injure the conduct of an exhibitor's business. If the cause is sound, it would seem that legislators would be the more impressed that a tax adversely affects all elements of an industry on which it is imposed and that all levels of that industry, not just a part of it, appear in opposition to it.

•

The most effective campaigns are those prepared cooperatively and executed in unison.

No campaign of that kind by exhibition against the Federal admission tax can be or should be devised without ATA's participation. Its important and diversified membership entitles it to an equal place with other organizations in any endeavor for the common good of all exhibitors; yet entitles it to no more than an equal voice with others.

Insofar as Mr. Myers' address censured ATA for its apparent intention of proceeding *alone* in opposition to the Federal admission tax, we agree with him wholeheartedly. It is not the job of one exhibitor organization, but of all.

It is a job for all of exhibition and exhibition has not delegated ATA to do the job for it. Rather than embark alone on a project of so great import to all exhibitors, ATA might better have counseled with other national and regional exhibitor organizations. It may be assumed that Mr. Myers had something of the kind in mind when his remarks were uttered in Detroit.

It is none too early for *all* exhibitor organizations to get together to map their campaign against the wartime admission tax.

Newsreel Parade

SPOTLIGHTED in current newsreels are a hunt for captured airmen in China, the launching of the airship Constitution. *the* S. S. America's *maiden voyage, Britain's Armistice Day, and President Truman's political-cooperation appeal. Sports featured include the Melbourne cup race a[nd] professional football; complete synop[ses] follow:*

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 33—President Truman asks cooperation of GOP Congr[ess] Hunt captured U. S. airmen among Chi[na] tribes. King leads Britain in Armistice [Day] rites. British honor American pidgeon for war fete. *S. S. America*, America's "queen of the seas." The *Constitution*, largest transport plane. Sports: Melbourne cup race; 100-year-old golfer.

NEWS OF THE DAY. No. 221—Hunt captives in China. Britain's remembrance day. Honor "GI" pidgeon. Truman asks for GOP cooperation. *S. S. America.* Melbourne cup classic.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 24—Biggest Navy sky ship. Florida divers take fish census. Truman offers to cooperate with the GOP. Oklahoma moving day for houses. Mercy mission aid flown to Colorado snow captives. *S. S. America* in post-war maiden voyage.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 26—Truman, Martin pledge cooperation. Hunt U. S. fliers in China. Navy's *Constitution*, biggest air transport. Take 1,250 refugees off listing ship. Hindus, Moslems form government for self-rule. Melbourne cup race.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 555—Search wilds of China for air crew. Athenian patriots celebrate. Post-war progress: *S. S. America*; Diagonal diner; *Constitution* takeoff. Mid-winter millinery. "Pro" grid highlights; Bears vs. Rams; Giants vs. Eagles.

City Files in Move To Bar 'The Outlaw'

New York City on Friday filed its exchange affidavits with the motion picture division of the State Education Department in License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding's attempt to have the state censor revoke the exhibition license of "The Outlaw" and prohibit its showing in the entire state.

In the schedule set three weeks ago by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the motion picture division, United Artists, distributor of the Howard Hughes production, have the rest of this week in which to file its answer to Fielding's charges that the film should be banned because of "objectionable advertising."

At the same time it was learned that UA is drawing up its briefs for the hearing on Friday on the motion for appeal from state Supreme Court Justice Walters' decision refusing to compel three Broadway theatres to exhibit "The Outlaw."

Reception for Wyler

RKO Radio will be host to press representatives tomorrow at the "21 Club," here, to welcome William Wyler, who has just completed direction of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

all the
BIGGEST
best sellers
are
made by
20th
Century-Fox ....

Arbitration

(*Continued from page* 1)

in Hollywood have been unable to come to an agreement on a firm basis for the establishment of permanent arbitration machinery for the settlement of jurisdictional disputes without work stoppages. The stumbling block at this time is the inability of the AFL unions involved to agree on the application of the Dec. 26, 1945, AFL arbitration award. For the best interests of all workers in the studios, of AFL, and most important, for the best interests of our nation, it is essential that a sound, constructive program be adopted to insure jurisdictional peace in the studios. I will be glad at any time to do anything within my power to help the Hollywood unions set up such a program."

Arrest 1,094 Pickets

The strike worsened on Friday, with police arresting 1,094 pickets outside the Columbia studio, where 2,500 appeared in consequence of CSU's mass meeting on Thursday, and with major producers telegraphing CSU their formal refusal to enter into negotiations for new contracts as demanded.

In a long telegram addressed to CSU president, Herbert K. Sorrell, Pat Casey, chairman of the producers labor committee, reviewed CSU acts in last year's strike and this, saying "The producers do not believe that your request for bargaining is made in good faith with the intention either of arriving at contracts or achieving industrial peace in the motion picture industry."

Demand Assurances

The telegram said the producers do not believe "any negotiations with you can produce industrial peace until we have received effective and adequate assurances that you will cease your acts of violence and flouting court orders, unequalifiedly accept the Dec. 26, 1945, decision of the AFL executive council, recognize the July 2, 1946, wage agreement, and furnish us with adequate assurances that your unions will not engage in further work stoppages or otherwise repudiate their agreements."

CSU, which has declared the strike will continue until signed contracts are received, scheduled a mass meeting for Sunday night to decide on a course of action.

UA Owners' Counsel To Board Meet Here

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17. — Arnold Grant, counsel for Mary Pickford, and Charles Schwartz, attorney for Charles Chaplain, have left here for New York to attend the United Artists board meeting on Thursday. Milton Kramer, counsel for David O. Selznick, also is en route to New York.

'Hardy' Tradeshow Set

M-G-M has set tradeshowings of "Love Laughs at Andy Hardy," for all exchange territories on Dec. 2 with the exception of Washington, where the screening will take place on Dec. 3.

New NBC Affiliate

Station WORZ, Orlando, Fla., will join National Broadcasting around Christmas, becoming the network's 163rd affiliate, it is announced by Sheldon B. Hicks, Jr., manager of station relations.

NCA Convention

(*Continued from page* 1)

be devoted to an outline of National Allied's aims, by its president, Jack Kirsch.

Advance reservations for hotel accommodations and luncheon tickets indicates that some 200 independent theatre owners will attend the conference, which will also feature an address by Sidney Samuelson of Allied of Eastern Pennsylvania, who will present the history and benefits of Allied's Caravan product reporting system, and an affiliation appeal by president Ben Berger of North Central Allied. "Inside observers" here declare that affiliation of NCA with National Allied is practically a certainty, with only Berger's position in the National Allied scheme of things remaining to be pledged by Kirsch in return for an affiliation.

Lee Loevinger, formerly of the U. S. Justice Departments' anti-trust division, has accepted Berger's invitation to outline for the convention the legal aspects of the New York equity suit.

Among those who have more recently accepted invitations to attend the meeting as speakers or observers is John Friedl, Minnesota Amusement Co. president, who will be making his first public appearance since he was stricken by illness last June.

Neil Hellman Elected Albany Variety Head

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 17.—At a meeting in the Variety clubrooms here, a new "crew" of 11 was elected for the coming year. They are: Saul Ullman, Neil Hellman, Welden Waters, Harry Lamont, Nate Winig, Dr. Samuel J. Kalison, Eugene Lowe, Joseph Saperstein, Leo Rosen, Ray Smith, and Edward Susse of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

The crew then elected the following officers: Hellman, chief barker; Waters, first assistant; Lamont, second assistant; Joseph Saperstein, treasurer, Eugene Lowe, secretary. Chas. A. Smakwitz of Warner Bros. Theatres was elected national canvassman.

Frank Fowler Named To Head St. Cloud

WASHINGTON, N. J., Nov. 17.—The St. Cloud Amusement Corp. has appointed Frank L. Fowler as general manager of the circuit. Fowler was former general manager for the Lyon and Wilder circuits, in Southeastern Virginia. He entered the amusement field in 1934 as head auditor for Wilmer and Vincent and served that company in various executive capacities until they merged with Fabian Theatres, in 1944. St. Cloud has northwest New Jersey theatres in Sussex, Newton, Blairstown, Belvidere, Hackettstown, Washington, Clinton, Flemington, Frenchtown and Lambertville, with headquarters in Washington.

John McInerny, Sr.

Funeral services for John E. McInerney, Sr., father of John E. McInerney, Jr., who is publicity-advertising director of the Paramount Theatre, will be held today at St. Jean Baptiste Church, here. He died last Wednesday night. Surviving are another son and a daughter.

Clark Conferences Open on Wednesday

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—William Powers of 20th Century-Fox and Arthur H. DeBra and Theodore Smith of the Motion Picture Association will represent the industry Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at conferences with U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark, who seeks the assistance of all media of communication in a fight to combat juvenile delinquency.

Other members of the motion picture panel of the committee set up to explore the subject, and likewise scheduled to be present, are: Mrs. Jesse Bader, chairman of the Protestant Motion Picture Council; Mrs. Catherine Edwards, motion picture editor of *Parents' Magazine;* Judge Stephen S. Jackson, formerly justice of the Domestic Relations Court in New York; Dr. Bruce E. Mahan, motion picture chairman of the National Congress of Parents and Teachers; Edwin J. Lucas, director of the Society for the Prevention of Crime; Mrs. James F. Looram, chairman of the motion picture bureau of the International Federation of Catholic Alumnae, and Eric H. Haight, president of Films, Inc.

This week's meeting will be preliminary to a larger gathering scheduled by the Attorney General for Dec. 12, when industry production executives have been invited to be present.

Bergman Radio Talk On Films' Influence

Maurice A. Bergman, Universal's Eastern advertising-publicity director, will appear in a radio forum on the subject "Do the Movies Have a General Constructive Influence on Public Tastes?", to be broadcast over radio station WOR, in New York, tomorrow night, from 10:15 to 11:00 P.M., with Bessie Beatty, WOR commentator, as moderator. In addition to Bergman, participants will be John Gassner, playwright, critic and anthologer who teaches at the New School of Social Research; Dr. Sam Parker, chief psychiatrist of the medical department of New York, and Edward Linderman, professor of social philosophy at Columbia University.

Postpone Picket Hearing

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Hearing on injunction filed by Golden States Theatres and its Uptown Theatre, against picketing Negroes, has been continued over until tomorrow. Pickeeters who want 50 per cent colored usherettes, plus a colored head usherette had their demands refused by R. A. McNeil, circuit head and his San Francisco theatre manager, Rex Stevenson.

Loew Parties Resume

After a lapse of four years, Loew's Theatres will renew their annual pre-Thanksgiving parties for Loew theatre managers and assistant managers. Over 400 managers and assistants, along with their wives, will be guests of Nicholas M. Schenck, president of Loew's, at a party to be held in the Hotel Plaza, New York, on Tuesday, Nov. 26. The Loew holiday parties were abandoned during the war years.

Admissions Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

spending, there will be little impact upon the Government operation, as a result of the amusement tax cut. The theatre patron will save millions if the new law is finally adopted.

If the admission tax take continues at its present high, the Government would loose from $175,000,000 to $20[illegible] 000,000 annually if the admissi[illegible] revenue is sliced in half.

Irrespective of the loss, both excis[illegible] and income taxes will be cut by th[illegible] GOP next January. As to corporation taxes, which are of interest to industry companies, there has been no definite decision.

It is believed here that the Republicans will continue business taxes at their present high. Representative Martin declined to comment on corporation or excess profits taxes.

Win Fight on Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

nance, and passed two new ordinances. One ordinance provides for an annual license fee of $500 on each motion picture theatre, an increase of $400 over the $100 license fee required prior to August 5 this year when the gross receipts tax ordinance was passed.

The second new ordinance provides for a ticket tax of one cent on each admission to be collected by the theatre and turned over to the city.

One Cent Ticket Tax

Thus the first enactment for a gross receipts tax on theatres by a municipality in the state has been rescinded. It is particularly noted that the ticket tax is on each admission without reference to the admission charge, and is paid by the patrons.

Fox-Midwest with the Fox and the Liberty Theatres in Sedalia and J. T. Ghosen, an independent with the Uptown in Sedalia, resisted the gross receipts tax by their closing of the theatres; and brought about by conference, with the support of public sentiment, the compromise and change in its position by the municipality. The theatre owners had charged that the five per cent tax on gross receipts was exhorbitant and discriminatory since no similar rate existed in the country, and because of the gross receipts tax applied only to motion picture theatres.

Universal Deal

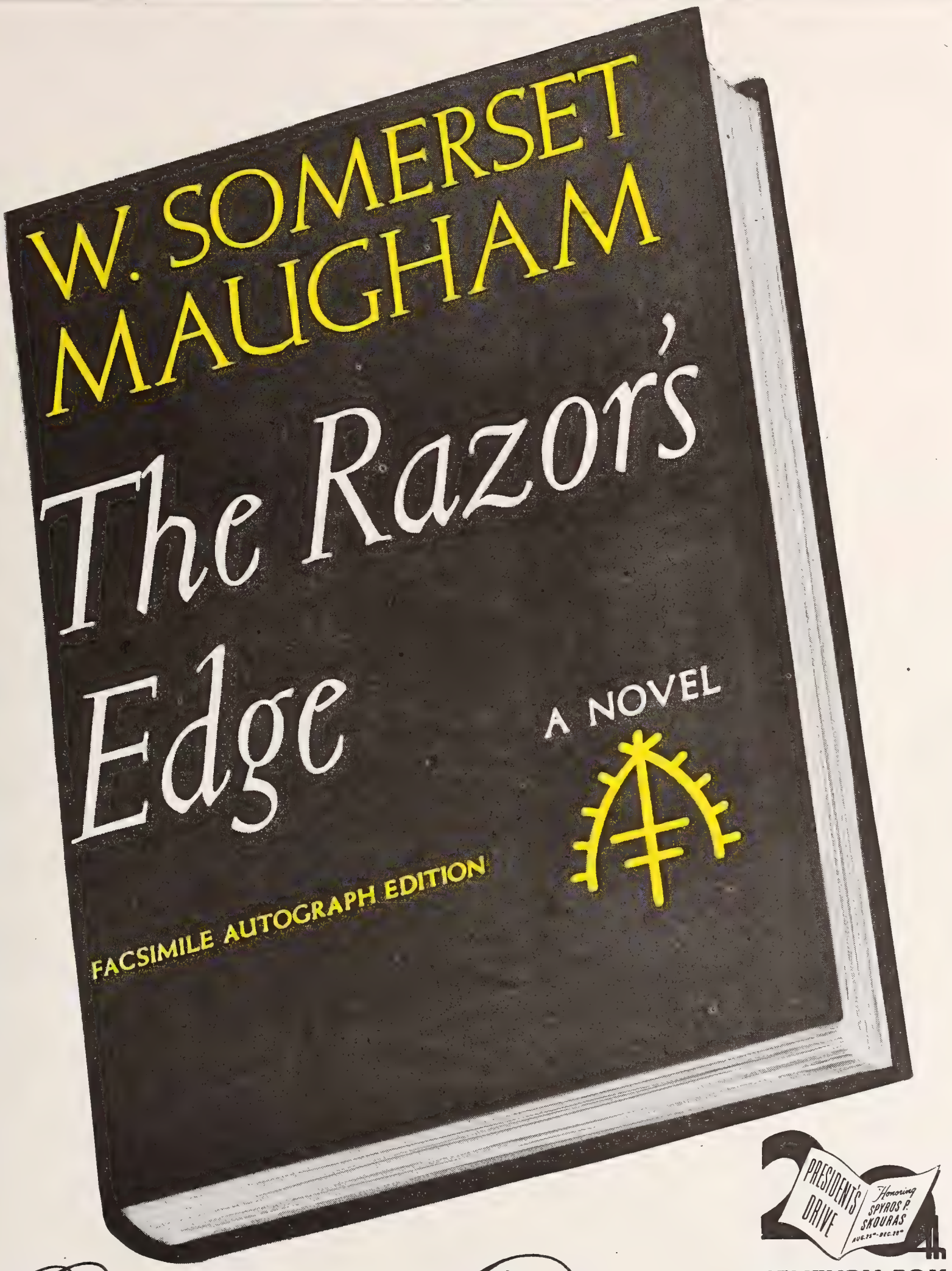
(*Continued from page* 1)

active consideration. For the most part the company is interested in acquiring only "showcases" on a rental basis but would also consider outright purchases where seen favorable.

City Investment's theatre holdings also include the Astor and Victoria, on Broadway, here, as well as a few legitimate houses.

Injunction Protects Name of Universal

LONDON, Nov. 17.—Universal has obtained an injunction in Chancery Court, here, restraining a recently-formed company, Universal Star Productions, Ltd., from trading under that name or any other "colorable imitation" of Universal.



PRESIDENT'S DRIVE Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS AUG. 25TH - DEC. 25TH

CENTURY-FOX

World Premiere

ROXY THEATRE · NEW YORK CITY · TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1946

Mexicans Ask Aid of Their Government

By LUIS BECERRA CELIS

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17. — Plans which they consider will make the industry stronger have been presented by leading producers and exhibitors to President-elect Miguel Aleman, who will assume office on Dec. 1 for the next six-year presidential term. Shortly before election, on July 7, Aleman assured leaders of the film industry who interviewed him that he intends to do all he can for the trade when he is president.

The producers ask the government to establish a bank to finance and control production, and only the making of worthwhile films will be allowed. The bank would have more capital and a wider scope than the industry's own bank, the Banco Cinematographico, founded here in 1938. The producers offer to help capitalize the proposed bank. They say they can easily do that because there are more than 60 recognized producers in Mexico.

Producers admit that the private and official banks' refusal to finance them has hit hard. The banks say refusing producers more money is due to slow repayment of large loans, reported to be between $4,000,000 and $5,000,000.

Fifty Mexican Films Delayed

Foreign pictures, the producers complain, are keeping 50 Mexican productions from exhibition in Mexico. They say some of these pictures are good, but admit that others are indifferent and some are bad.

Both producers and exhibitors ask that a law be enacted that makes obligatory 26 weeks a year of exhibition time in Mexico's theatres for Mexican pictures. They seem convinced that forced exhibition will enable Mexican pictures to meet American and some other foreign competition, which is becoming keener. Some, though, think that it would be better business in the long run for Mexican pictures to set their own exhibition time.

Exhibitors ask that their taxes be cut by 50 per cent during the time they exhibit Mexican pictures and request federalization of theatre taxation, now about 15 per cent of grosses, contending that triple taxation—national, state and municipal—burdens them too much.

See Big Investment In Australian Films

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Nov. 12 (By Airmail).— There is considerable evidence here that powerful film interests are prepared to stop their dabbling and invest big money in Australian production.

One fact which draws attention to encouraging local production is the deal by which Universal-International, Greater Union Theatres and the J. Arthur Rank group have jointly backed the Australian producer, Charles Chauvel, to make "Sons of Matthew" as the first of several features.

Mobile Film Units Start Big Operation in England

LONDON, Nov. 17. — Mobile substandard 16mm. operations on this side receives a considerable fillip with the news that Sidney L. Bernstein, creator and controller of the Granada Circuit, has gone into that field. Bernstein has formed a subsidiary company, called Century Mobile Cinemas and has plans for seven travelling units covering circuits of village halls in the counties of Surrey and Sussex.

Bernstein and his staff have spent months on the organization and surveying the area of his new activities. He states that he is ready to put 50 circuits at work as soon as the present seven get under way.

The units are completely self-contained. Each van maintains double equipment. Projectors carry 750-watt lamps with 12-watt sound output. A manager-operator is in charge of the van. Local assistants and usherettes have been hired and stand by for the arrival of the van on a given night.

One Night Stands

One night stands generally will be the practice with a common admission price of 42 cents, children being admitted to special morning performances at 24 cents. Average seating capacity of the halls booked by the circuit runs between 200 and 250. A new type of portable screen with loud speakers on either side has been devised specially for the new enterprise.

Manager-operators have been recruited from Granada's existing projection staff or from ex-service men who worked Army 16mm. equipment during the war.

Bernstein, it is understood, has made extensive booking arrangements with Gaumont-British and M-G-M whereby the latest 16mm. releases of both companies will be available. It is generally assumed that the dimensions of the Bernstein enterprise will put a spur into the Kinematograph Renters' Society's plan for the formation within the Society of a special sub-standard section. Talks to that end have been proceeding for the past three months. Operators of 35mm. foresee all kinds of trouble over barring clauses and the like unless the KRS takes a strong stand in the matter. The new mobile organizations likewise look for protection against unscrupulous pirates.

Using New-Type Equipment

Meanwhile and with complete lack of ostentation, a new type of 16mm. projector and film which, their maker claims, will revolutionize sub-standard operation, have been demonstrated to an audience in the Yorkshire town of Barnsley. The occasion was an Educational Visual Aids Exhibition organized by the British Science Masters Association and opened by Ellen Wilkinson, the country's Education Minister.

Inventor of the new system has contrived to include a 35mm. sound track on 16mm. film, thereby—as he maintains—overcoming the distortion which at present characterizes sub-standard sound tracks optically reduced from 35mm. negative.

Brussels Festival To Have US Films

By LOUIS QUIEVREUX

BRUSSELS, Nov. 14 (By Airmail).— American producers have cabled Brussels from New York agreeing to participate in a film festival to be held here in June, 1947. Monaco, which was to have staged a film festival of its own next year, has cancelled its plan in favor of the Brussels project.

Giving the festival added focus, the International Committee for Literary and Artistic Diffusion Through the Film, a group incorporating 52 nations, has announced it will hold its Congress in Brussels concurrently with the festival.

In official circles, however, slackness still prevails concerning the festival. Brussels newspapers are reproaching the Minister of Public Education and Fine Arts for not having found, in four months, 15 minutes to have the Cabinet sanction the scheme.

Leon Duwaerts, president of the Belgian Association of Film Journalists, recently back in Brussels from visiting the Cannes festival, expressed his views regarding the stumbling blocks which marred the French competition and which he wishes to avoid in the Brussels festival.

"We must draft regulations," he said, "which will be strictly adhered to."

20th-Fox Acquires S. Africa Circuit

By R. N. BARRETT

JOHANNESBURG, Nov. 11 (By Airmail).—Twentieth Century-Fox has established a new branch office in Nairobi, South Africa, and has acquired 24 theatres throughout that territory. Negotiations were carried out by Edward F. Lomba, managing director of 20th-Fox Films, Ltd.

M-G-M's "The Green Years" broke box office records at the Metro theatre, Johannesburg, with a run of five weeks.

Increased admission prices have gone into effect in the Transvaal Province of South Africa.

Gainsborough Studios, England, have shelved their project of producing a feature with South Africa as a background. The film was to have been "Diggers' Republic," a story about the Kimberly diamond fields, starring Stewart Granger.

Mexicans Deny Their Industry 'Washed Up'

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17.—The Producers Association, in a special bulletin, laments common talk that the picture industry is about washed up. It calls such talk "alarmist" and avers there is "not the least foundation for it."

Yugoslav Monopoly In Regional Split

By JOSEPH B. KANTUREK

PRAGUE, Nov. 14 (By Airmail).— Yugoslavia's state-controlled film corporation is being liquidated and its authority will be split among the autonomous republics of the country. Slovenia already has formed a film corporation, Triglav, which will produce features, documentaries, shorts and newsreels. The Federal Government has given the new corporation the necessary equipment for production and a considerable subsidy to finance the projects.

Meanwhile, following the successful premiere of "Wilson" in Prague, the Motion Picture Export Association has released "The Human Comedy," "It Started With Eve" and "Air Force" in various Czech cities and plans to release "So Proudly We Hail," "Tales of Manhattan," "The Sullivans" and "Here Comes Mr. Jordan."

Czech Group Reorganized

The Czech film state production has been reorganized into five groups, each complete within its own unit. They are scheduled to produce a total of 25 features in 1947. In order to lower the cost of production, each group may lend technical staffs and other personnel to other groups.

A delegation of the British trades unions has given three short subjects to the Czech workers. Before handing over the films, Joseph Reeves, Labour member of Parliament, spoke on "Motion Pictures and the Working Class" and stressed the need for nationalizing the British industry. "Motion pictures ought to be on the list (for nationalizing) with a high priority," he said. He spoke also about forming a National Film Association in Britain and advocated the production of an international workers' newsreel.

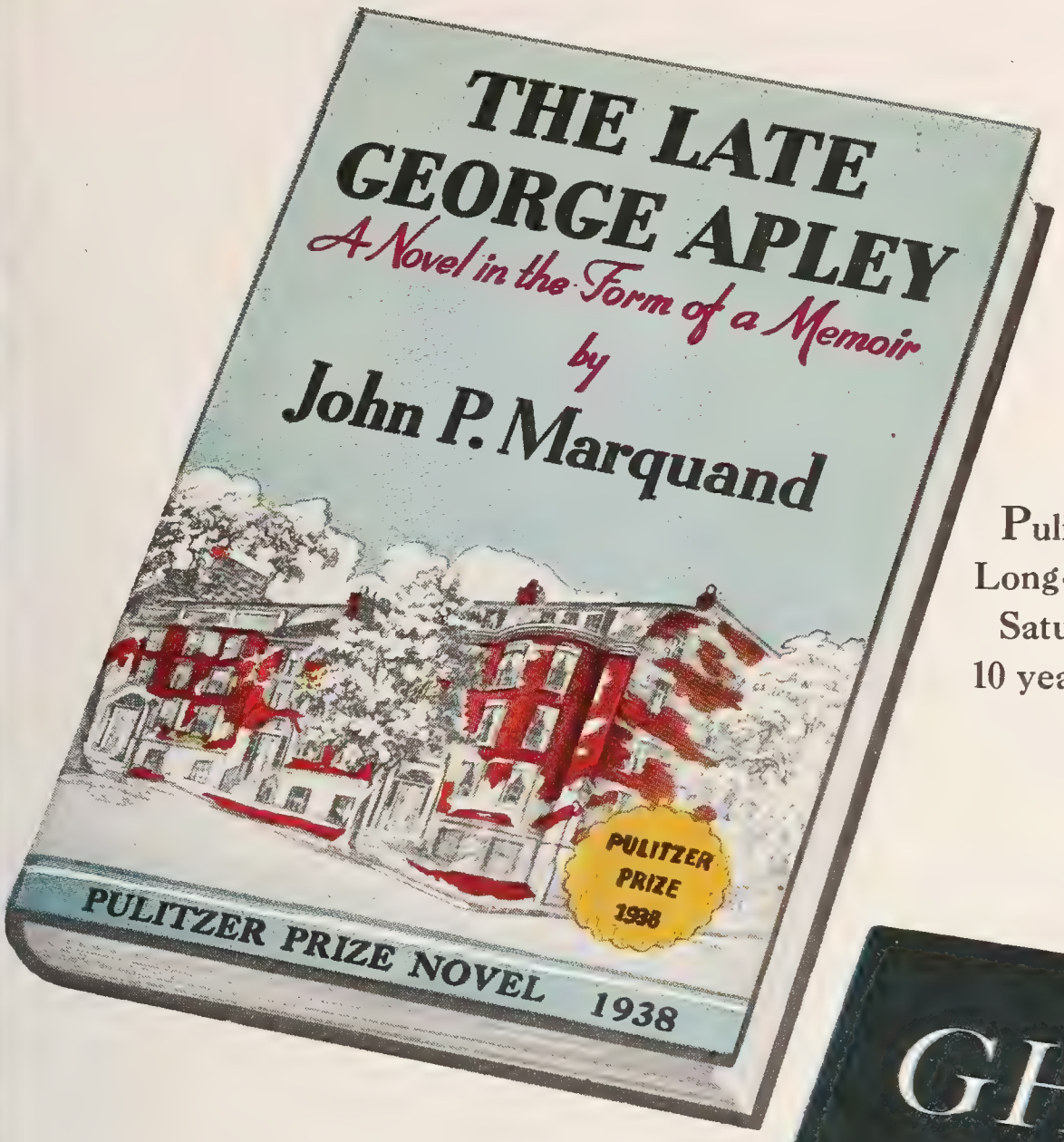
1st Arabic Talking Film in Palestine

By IBROHIM ZEIN

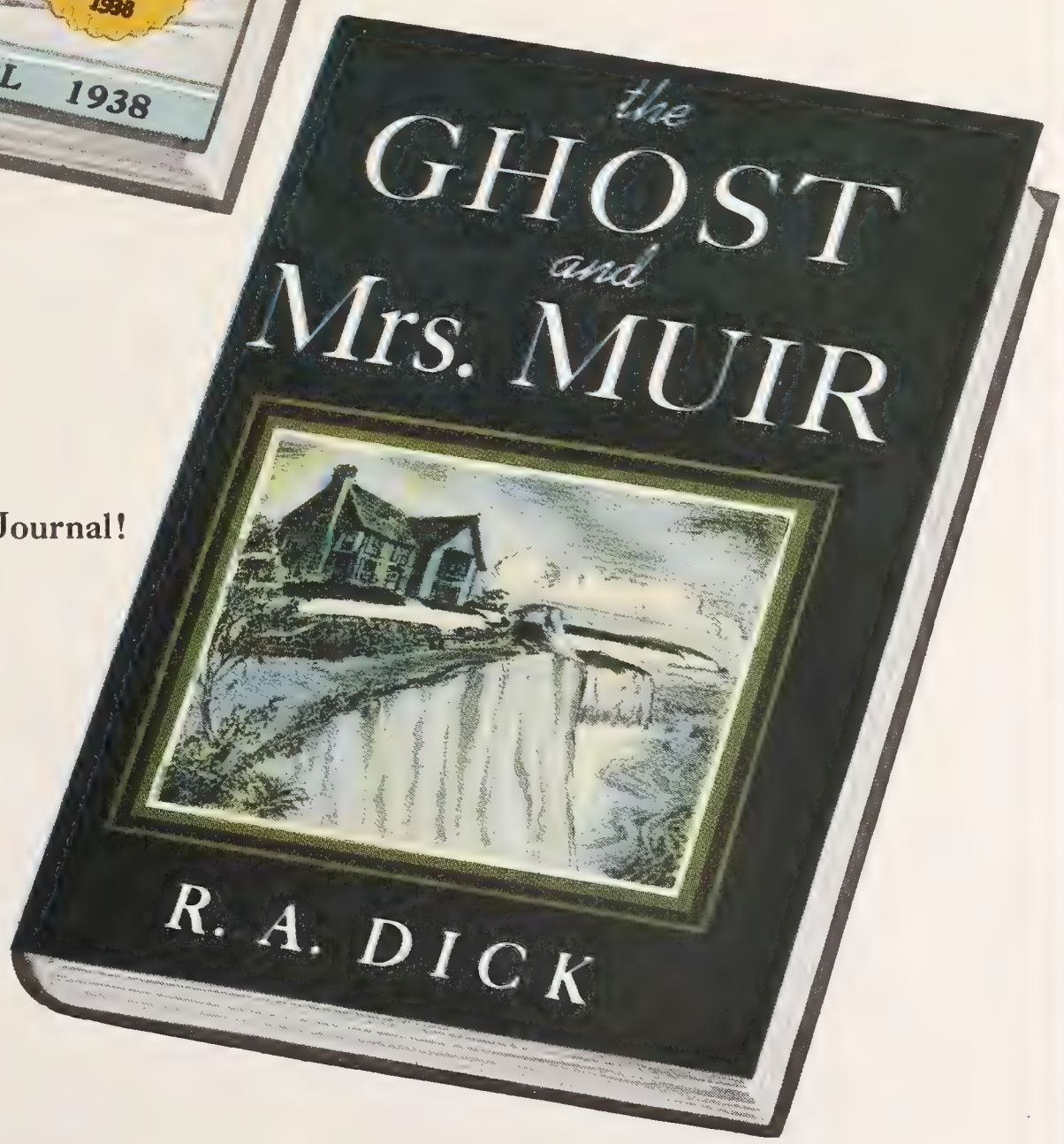
JAFFA, Nov. 11 (By Airmail).— Palestine is now producing features. The Al-Jazira Film Co., Jerusalem, has released "Oumniaty" ("My Wish"), the first Arabic talking picture to be produced in Palestine. It was produced and directed by Dr. S. Baderkhan, who used the facilities of Carmel Film Studo, a portable Jewish studio in Tel-Aviv which releases newsreels concerning Jewish activity and, from time to time, documentaries.

Jaffa has taken the place of Tel-Aviv for the screening of programs for the British armed forces. Theatres here are currently giving double-feature program: an English or an American picture first, followed by an Arabic picture. Features are changed twice a week.

The Al-Rashid Theatre in Jaffa has contracted for 42 RKO-Radio pictures and has purchased some Monogram product. The Nabil Theatre is showing M-G-M product and has entered into an agreement with Eagle-Lion. The Al-Shark is showing some Paramount product.



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CENTURY-FOX

Exhibitors In Ohio Seek Cut In State Tax

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—Aside from product, and, in the case of independents, the matter of preferred playing time and high percentage deals, the chief concern of exhibitors in this area is the possibility, if not the probability, of elimination, or, at least, a substantial reduction in the state three per cent excise tax on grosses.

Speculation on this eventuality is heightened by the fact that Thomas J. Herbert, last week elected Governor of Ohio on the Republic ticket, made a definite campaign issue of the Ohio tax situation, declaring that the "lush" condition of the State treasutry warranted a downward revision of the retail sales impost, which was construed as conceivably including the theatre admission levy.

Since his election, Herbert has committed himself to the extent of advocating a reduction of the retail sales tax to two per cent, but the current financial condition of the state exchequer, which is the highest on record, has given rise in many quarters to the belief that neither the sales nor admission taxes are any longer necessary contributing factors to maintenance of this highly liquid condition, despite the fact that both imposts were conspicuously responsible for the total now in the state's coffers.

That there will be some change in the Ohio tax structure appears to be a foregone conclusion, but to what extent exhibitors will benefit in either tax category is largely a matter of conjecture at the moment, to be determined only when the Governor-elect is installed.

Republic Closes with Four for 1946-1947

Deals with Paramount - Richards Theatres, Interstate Circuit of Texas, Griffith Oklahoma and Texas Theatres, and the Wilby-Kincey circuit, covering Republic's 1946-47 program, have been made by James R. Grainger, executive vice-president and general sales manager, who has returned to New York following a week's tour of New Orleans, Dallas, and Chicago.

New Cincinnati Group

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—A new organization, Tub No. 5, of the Tub Thumpers of America, which has headquarters in Boston, was formed at a dinner-meeting at the Hotel Gibson here recently with a charter membership of 20 local press agents. William Green, of the Chicago Tub, presided. Rudolph Benson was named treasurer by an organization committee, composed of E. C. Hanford, Joseph Kolling and Earl Winter.

2 More to Sochin Unit

CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—Irving Sochin, general manager of Theatre Owners, Inc., recently formed to buy and book product for independent houses in the Cincinnati territory, reports the addition of the Uptown and Fairview, local units of the Gerves circuit, making a total of some 30 houses already signed.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"BLUE SKIES" (Paramount)

Cheerfully diverting . . . you may depend upon being entertained.—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

A melodic treat with beauteous backgrounds for visual and listening delight . . . a nice blend of performers, melody and talent . . . light, melodious, amusing and winsome.—*Frank Quinn, New York Mirror.*

A tinted musical album, which is intermittently diverting as the leaves are thumbed over.—*Howard Barnes, New York Herald Tribune.*

Delightful entertainment.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

There's Astaire for the dancing, Berlin for the songs and Crosby for the singing. Together they make for a happy, hummable time.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

"Blue Skies" has almost everything anyone could want in a musical.—*Rose Pelswick, New York Journal-American.*

"NOBODY LIVES FOREVER" (Warners)

Tense and exciting meller-thriller. If we must have gangster pictures, I say, let Warners make 'em.—*Lee Mortimer, New York Mirror.*

"Nobody Lives Forever" is an inflated cliche and the more everybody pretends it isn't, the more stubbornly it is.—*Cecelia Ager, PM, New York.*

The production tricks in the screen underworld scuffle are tried but true. 'Nobody Lives Forever' is conventionally arresting.—*Howard Barnes, New York Herald Tribune.*

For the moment, it provides a story with tense, though not very believable moments.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

Warner Brothers have made a good underworld drama of the W. R. Burnett book, "Nobody Lives Forever."—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

A standardized story . . . since the Burbank craftsmen are accomplished at this sort of thing, especially when the script is by W. R. Burnett, they have managed a craftsmanlike job.—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

"LADY LUCK" (RKO Radio)

This is for unsophisticated fans who come to laugh, not to learn. Amusing stuff.—*Lee Mortimer, New York Mirror.*

An amiable comedy designed to discourage gambling. In reality, it gives that inherent weakness a fascinating gloss since it presents it victims as a group of interesting and colorful characters. . . . You are assured of an entertaining time.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

True, the felicities of gambling are rather richly and gaily emphasized. But if that doesn't stick in your gullet, you should find "Lady Luck" passing fun.—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

Enough laughter has been sifted into "Lady Luck" to make pretty fair entertainment of what might have been one of the silliest pictures that ever stumbled out of Hollywood.—*Alton Cook, New York World-Telegram.*

"DECOY" (Monogram)

Here's murder melodrama that may disturb even the Rialto regulars who should be by now accustomed to unscrupulous, maniacal film characters. It bears down heavily on the grim and the gruesome, for example, showing in detail the reviving of an executed corpse.—*New York Journal-American.*

One thing a good "B" picture knows—and "Decoy" is a good "B"—is how to tell its story. The secret is: go ahead and tell it. Tell it fast and simple.—*Cecelia Ager, PM.*

A better-than-average—believe-it-if-you-will melodrama which has enough murder and motive in it to keep Rialto thrill addicts content.—*Irene Thirer, New York Post.*

A gruesome piece of greed and murder; is rough stuff even for the Rialto's shock-resistant customers. The uncommon story and thoughtful direction is evidence that Monogram, heretofore makers of ordinary pictures, is aiming at a higher goal.—*Wanda Hale, New York Daily News.*

Despite the threadbare quality of its subject, "Decoy" somehow manages to come off as pretty fair minor divertissement.—*New York Times.*

Film Group, Inc., Is Formed in Mass.

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. Nov. 17.—Specializing in public relations specials and television programs on film and educational shorts, Film Group, Inc., has been established with main offices here. Sales offices will be set up shortly in New York, Chicago and St. Louis. First year operations call for production of four films. These do not include television films as yet.

Officers are: president, Edwin H. Kasper, president of Kasper-Gordon, Inc., Boston transcription and radio production studios; secretary, Atty. James P. Moriarty; treasurer, Laurent A. Angers, and assistant treasurer, Kendall Brigham. Harry Bliven is executive producer. He was associated with Bay State Film Productions, Inc., Springfield.

Eastman Now Coats Film Projectors

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 17.—"Lumenizing," a lens-coating process, is being applied to its slide and 16mm. film projectors by Eastman Kodak. Coated lenses, developed during the war, increase projection brilliance up to 33 per cent with motion picture projectors and as high as 50 per cent with 35mm. slide projectors, it was said here by Eastman.

The coating process, already applied to many Kodak camera lenses, increases light transmission through lens elements by decreasing reflection, and is effected by coating element surfaces with a microscopically thin layer of magnesium fluoride, according to Eastman officials at the company's home office here at Kodak Park.

Distributors Seen Cool to Day Auctions

The proposal of establishing independent competitive bidding facilities, as advanced in the New York anti-trust litigation by the Joseph P. Day Co., realty auctioneers, has been greeted with little, if any enthusiasm by the distributor defendants, who apparently share the opinion that the auction plan itself has little chance of materializing.

Day's proposal, as contained in the company's brief to be heard as *amicus curiae* in the case, would have a distributor offer his product to exhibitors through a local "auction" office in each city. A list of theatremen who, in the opinion of the seller, are qualified to bid would be submitted to each office.

In some cases a lack of complete knowledge of the proposal was expressed by sales executives who explained that they saw indications that the court will not recognize it.

It was further stated by some that if some sort of competitive selling plan ultimately emerges from the case, the distributors would probably prefer dealing directly with exhibitors, independent of any arrangement that would include other companies.

An executive of one non-theatre owning defendant commented that his company is "not interested in auction selling" and consequently has given no consideration to the Day proposal.

Monogram Films to Netherlands Indies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Expanding its coverage in the Far East, Monogram has completed arrangements with the Netherlands East Indies government for the importation of a number of the company's releases through the port of Batavia, in a deal completed by William E. Osborne, Monogram's Far Eastern representative, who has left for Manila via Singapore.

Tests Cartoon Shows

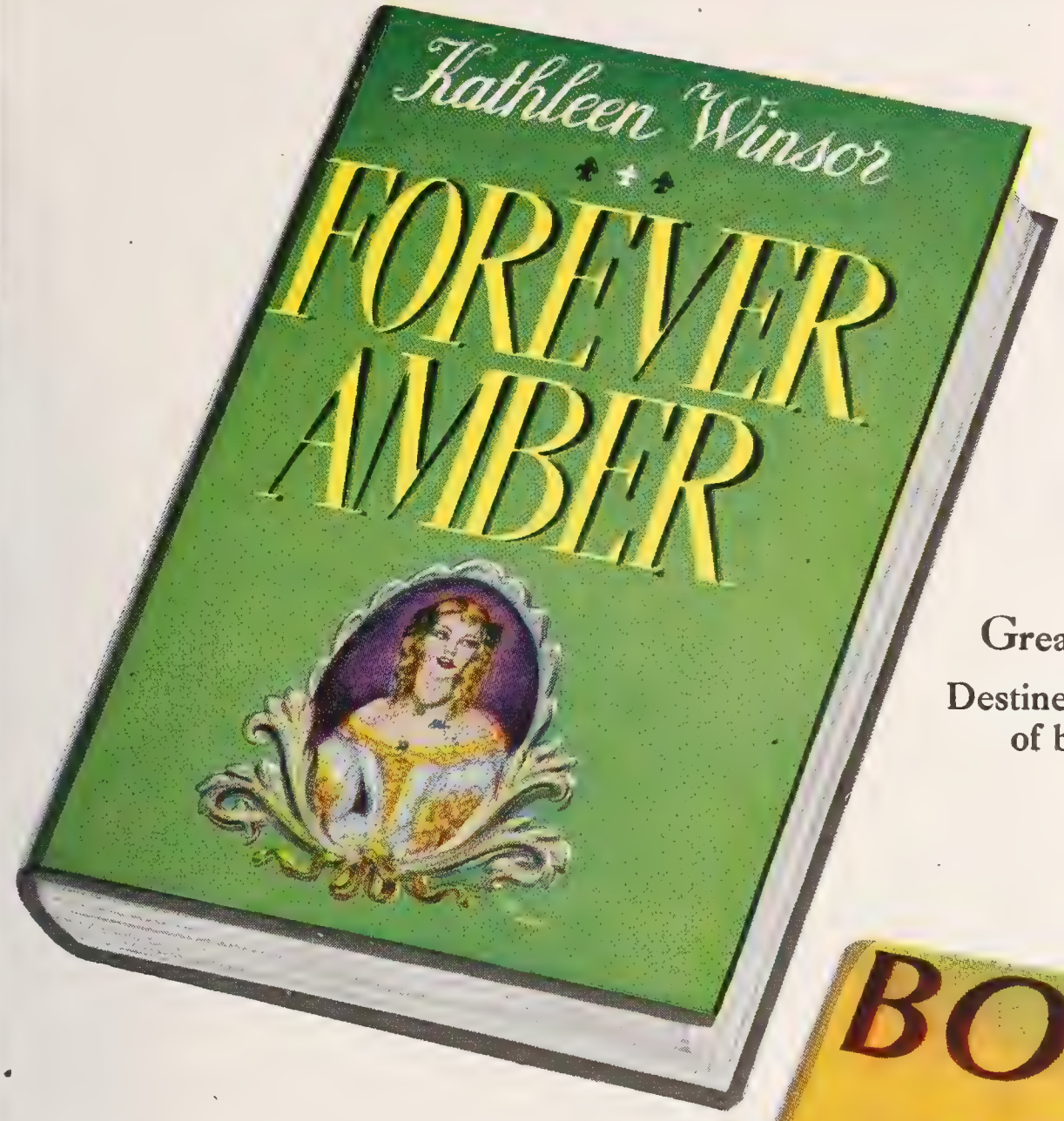
MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 17.—Box-office possibilities of an all-cartoon show in large key city houses were tested by the Mindako circuit at the Minneapolis Gopher, "B" first-run house, when 15 cartoons and a newsreel were presented as a complete show starting Nov. 14. Mindako has tried the cartoon carnival in Grand Forks, Fargo and other situations, as well as uptown houses in the Twin Cities with success.

H. Winner Promoted

Howard Winner, Pathe News cameraman and war correspondent, has been promoted to production cameraman for RKO Pathe's "This Is America" and "Sportscopes" series. Winner started with Kinograms, leaving to go with Universal Newsreel, and thence to Pathe News, the latter in Jan., 1938.

Video Permit Issued

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17.—A television construction permit has been issued to Station WCTN, American Broadcasting affiliate in Minneapolis-St. Paul, the Federal Communications Commission announces.



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CENTURY-FOX

560 Daily Shows for 'GIs' in Europe

Frankfurt, Germany, Nov. 17.—There are approximately 560 separate "GI" film showings every day in the European Theatre, and soldier audiences total approximately 86,000 daily, according to the Theatre Special Services. In a recent week, for example, audiences were estimated at 600,000 at a total of 3,900 performances. Approximately 45 per cent of the audiences attended theatres showing 35mm. pictures in the larger cities and military communities, while the remainder was reached by 16mm. showings in scores of isolated units and smaller localities.

Admission Control Sought in Brazil

RIO DE JANEIRO, Nov. 13 (By Airmail).—The local price control commission is working for control of admission prices in Rio de Janeiro, and it is understood that the commission plans to class theatres according to installations, locality, etc., and order maximum admissions proportionately.

Admission prices in Brazil are among the lowest in the world, but it is the general impression that the government is trying to force control of prices at theatres because the government knows that black market prices cannot exist at the theatres.

Up to now, the government has regulated all commodities, but has been unable to enforce its regulations. Now the government is charged with attempting to make capital of getting admission prices under control.

There have been sporadic strikes here against the high cost of living, with theatre admissions singled out for particular attention. In some instances, theatres have been forced to close in small cities in the interior.

Says Dubbed Films Triple Business

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17—M-G-M has tripled its business in Mexico with its Spanish-dubbed pictures, according to Carlos Niebla, Metro manager here. He considers this presentation past its experimental stage, claiming that while one per cent of Mexicans—those who speak and are completely conversant with English—do not like dubbed pictures, the rest of Mexicans do.

New Jersey Sales Tax Threatened

ATLANTIC CITY, Nov. 17.—Mayor Joseph Altman discloses he will go to the New Jersey state legislature early in the New Year and seek passage of an enabling act which would permit this resort, and any other city in the state, to impose a sales tax, after a local referendum.

The tax, as outlined by the mayor, would be on all amusement places, including film theatres.

Wehrenberg Is Disturbed Over Product Shortage

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—Exhibitors are faced with a double threat to their business in auction selling and the seeming shortage of product, Fred Wehrenberg, national president of the MPTOA, told a MOTION PICTURE DAILY representative.



Fred Wehrenberg

"The future for an independent, small exhibitor is anything but rosy, considering these two factors," says Wehrenberg. "Auction selling will certainly put him at a disadvantage, particularly if the product gets any thinner than it is now."

He adds that at present an exhibitor is compelled to run reissues because "they are so much better than the Class 'B' junk we're getting from Hollywood."

Wehrenberg observes he has heard reports that the companies plan to reduce their output still further "and if this happens you can kiss the double-bill program goodbye," explaining that his 25 theatres had steadfastly tried to maintain a double bill policy, but when a particularly good attraction comes along a single feature is played in order to safeguard product stockpiles.

Wehrenberg, a veteran St. Louis showman of 35 years, believes prices existing now will be stabilized. The admission scales went up here recently in first-runs from a top of 65 cents to 75 cents. In the neighborhoods, prices have gone up five and 10 cents. Wehrenberg defends these increases on the grounds that supplies and labor have gone up for the exhibitor.

Attendance generally in the St. Louis area, he says, has been good and the city has survived the labor unrest rather well. Attendance dropped 20 per cent during the summer months because of polio cases but the crowds are coming back.

Local exhibitors survived a major legislative fight last spring when a proposal was made to tax amusements five per cent to bolster the city's income. This was defeated and now a city income tax of one-quarter of one per cent is in effect. However, Wehrenberg fears the five per cent tax may be proposed again.

But his fears for the future are mostly concerned with the lack of good product. He feels that his idea of a forum for exhibitors and distributors—to enable them to discuss their problems—would produce the harmony necessary in the industry, but that such harmony will not pay off unless the companies start producing heavily again.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY" (Republic)

Tries to tell a swashbuckling story of how the Pony Express was founded, despite the usual skulduggery, but it succeeds only in being a collection of rather dull poses strung out interminably.—*Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., New York Herald Tribune.*

There are moves and counter-moves, and in the end the peculiar blend of mayhem and happiness that Westerns manage so frequently to achieve, romantic contentment achieved over a rather impressive litter of corpses.—*John Maynard, New York Journal American.*

A generous budget has been allotted to sets, costumes, cast, etc. Whatever scrimping was exercised was on the story side of the production, as the balance of the film is well above average for a routine horse opera.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

Has the personnel and production to be one of the big Western productions. Unfortunately it lacks at least two other qualifications: Its ground-covering story is written in routine fashion and directed with the efficiency of a reflex and no more invention.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

Since this is a regulation Western, the conventions are all followed, except for an embrace at the end. The scenery, at least, is striking.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

A Western which is prettier than most, but not much different.—*New York Times.*

"WHITE TIE AND TAILS" (Universal-International)

Merely a simple little social myth, but it has been made into pleasant, if unassuming, screen farce.—*Otis L. Guernsey, Jr., New York Herald Tribune.*

There is considerable pleasant talent in "White Tie and Tails" and I can't imagine what they were thinking of.—*John Maynard, New York Journal American.*

The comedy has its enchanting moments, but there are, unfortunately, not enough of them to make "White Tie and Tails" a must.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

It's no use crying over spilled Dan Duryea. He is forced to throw away a workable philosophy of living merely to illustrate the stalest of all fairy tales.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

The picture ambles along pleasantly, without a trace of excitement.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

You might say that Universal and its current fair-haired boy, Dan Duryea, are displaying theatrical pretentions which are slightly out of their class in "White Tie and Tails."—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

Fleischer To Give Video Instruction

Max Fleischer, producer of film cartoons, including the "Popeye the Sailor" series, will instruct a group of television executives on motion picture technique to be applied to video programs and commercials in a "Picture Showmanship" course at the Television Workshop, here, beginning Dec. 2.

Film Exchange Plan Fails in Germany

The agreement established by the Allied Control Council in Berlin a year ago, providing for the inter-exchange of prints among the American, British and Russian zones in Germany, has failed to operate toward the end which was planned, according to Leo J. Horster, general sales manager for Paramount in Germany before the war, who returned here from that country a few weeks ago.

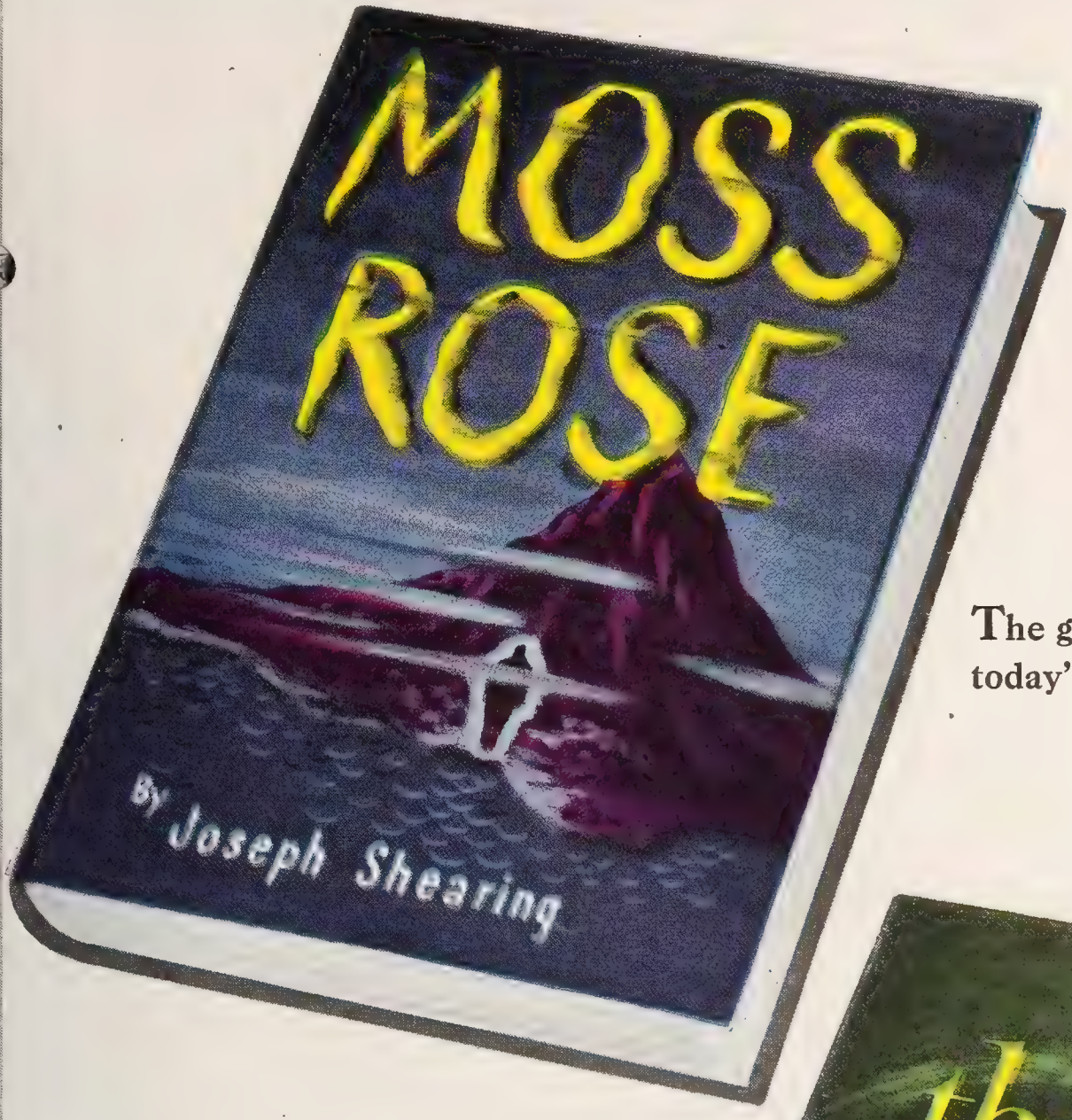
The Council's agreement, aimed at bringing about an unlimited flow of films from zone to zone, has thus far produced the appearance of but one American film for exhibition in the British zone, M-G-M's "Seven Sweethearts," Horster said. Additionally, he disclosed, but one Russian film has been shown in the British zone, and no American or British pictures have appeared in the Russian zone. He said few, if any, Russian or British pictures have been exhibited in the American zone. A shortage of raw stock for prints is said to be one cause of the agreement's failure to work, Horster said.

Russian films, dubbed in German, are playing to virtually empty houses in the Russian zone, Horster said, adding that since the occupation of Germany the Russians have exhibited 21 pictures in their zone. He said the Russians issue elaborate press books and posters with every picture, but notwithstanding all their efforts the films do not register well with the Germans. He said that the American and British pictures, however, are well received in their respective zones.

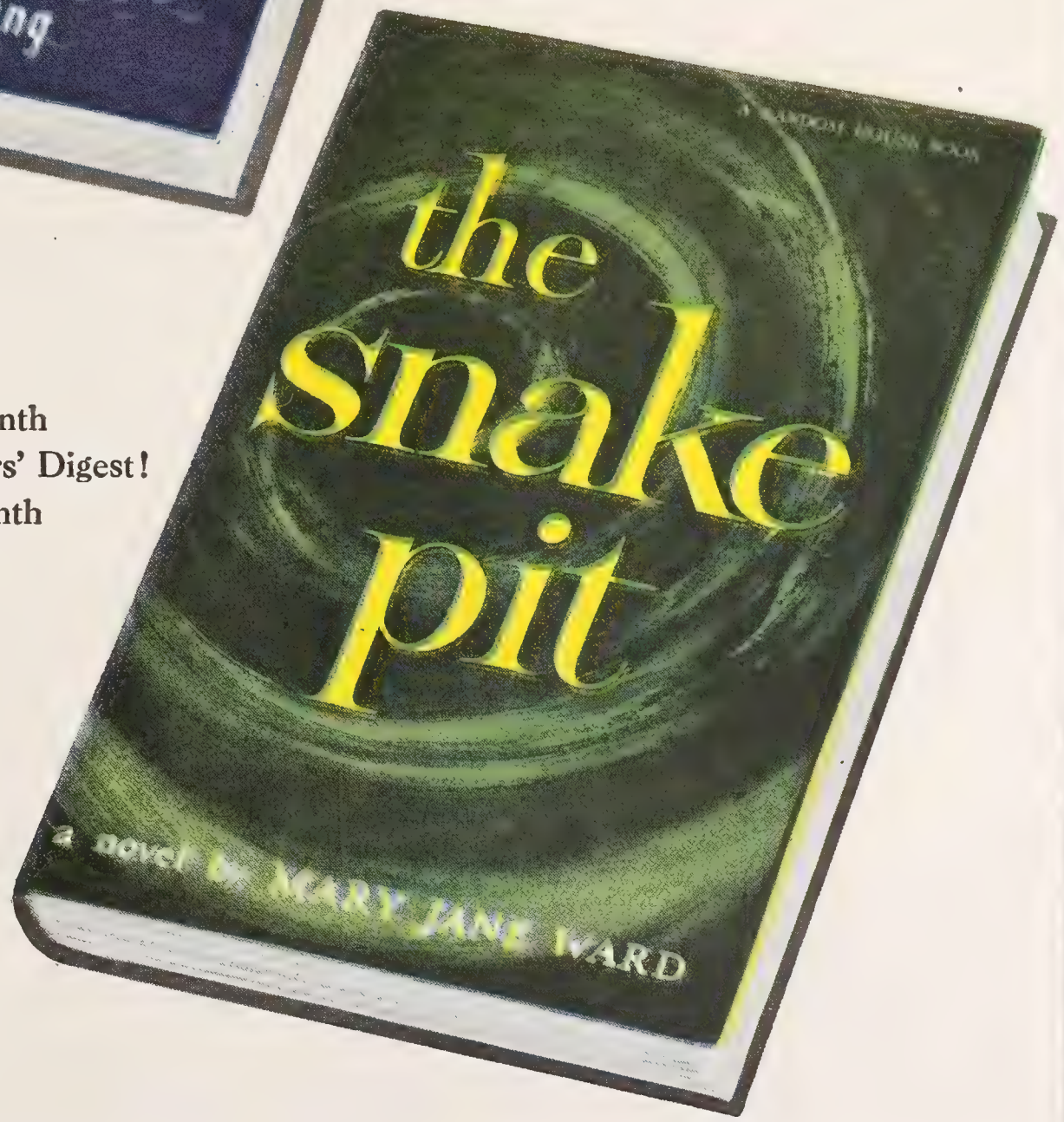
Horster, who, since the occupation of Germany, has been serving in an advisory capacity with the British Information Control Film Section in the British zone, has returned here to complete negotiations for a European assignment with an American distributor, he said.

U. S. Distributors Fined in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17.—The industry is watching the outcome of an odd case of fines of $60 each, imposed by the Ministry of Finance upon the 10 American distributors, besides distributors of other foreign pictures, because, it is explained, they had not obeyed the law that demands that all business and industrial enterprises in Mexico must belong to the chamber of commerce covering their respective field. The fining was upheld by the national supreme court. The Americans paid the fine, but under protest, and have filed a mass injunction suit, hearings on which are set for late this month.



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CENTURY-FOX

Many New Theatres Await Materials

OAKLAND, Cal., Nov. 17. — A $500,000 theatre will be erected at a downtown location here by the Golden State circuit when materials become available. F. Bruce Maiden, local real estate operator, states the theatre will be part of a $2,000,000 project which will also include an office building and stores on the street floor. Maiden is seeking capital for the other construction work.

He explains the agreement of purchase was made in Nov., 1945, between the Public Works Administration and United California Theatres, Inc., parent company of Golden State. Government red tape allegedly has been responsible for the delay in the title transfer from a former U. S. Post Office site to the theatre group. Payment of $825,000 has been made for the site.

Plan Amusement Center

YAKIMA, Wash., Nov. 17. — Plans for development of an outdoor amusement center at an estimated cost of nearly $500,000 are disclosed by Frederick Mercy, Sr., pioneer theatre operator of the Yakima Valley.

First plans are for construction of a drive-in theatre to cost $140,000. Construction of a baseball park, a swimming pool, dance hall and other attractions are planned.

Additional land was also purchased, and the real estate document showed a total of $150,000. The deed was signed by J. Von Herberg as president of the Vendor Co. and Jean Dennis Von Herberg as secretary.

Scoville Group Plans Two

CLEVELAND, Nov. 17.—The Scoville, Essick and Reif circuit plans two more theatres. In Berea, a 1,600-seat house will be erected as soon as building materials become available. In Galion, a new $200,000 theatre of 1,400 seats is expected to get under way shortly. Owners are the Galion Theatre Co., headed by P. E. Essick, Howard Reif, Meyer Fine and Abe Kramer, all of Cleveland. Paul Metzinger designed the house as well as the one in Berea.

New Pix Seats 700

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17. — Samuel Cummins says his new downtown Pix Theatre at 19th and Market will open about Dec. 1. The house will be part of the Pix Theatre Co. circuit operating in Washington and Virginia with a capacity of 700.

Award Contract for Theatre

VASHON ISLAND, Wash., Nov. 17.—Construction of the $45,000 theatre planned for Vashon Island will be carried out by A. C. Herrington, according to the Vashon Improvement Co. The 450-seat motion picture house —plans for which were drawn up by William Grant—will have equipment estimated to cost $25,000.

First in Ten Years

KANKAKEE, Ill., Nov. 17. — James Kraft has purchased a site for a theatre to seat 300, the first house this town is to have in more than 10 years.

230 Permits Denied

(Continued from page one)

have been one of the hardest hit individual enterprises by the tight building rules. CPA has denied permits for theatre construction amounting into many millions of dollars.

Average theatre construction permit requested has been for $25,000. However, some of the petition requests amounted to $240,000, the largest project denied by CPA was a request for a theatre permit from Charles Mancuso and Son, Inc., of Batavia, N. Y. First theatre building permit denied by the CPA was that of C. C. Blalock and Bros. of Jefferson City, Tenn., which placed a request for a theatre building estimated to value $22,500.

Many Large Projects Denied

Theatre building denials amounting to $100,000 or more since March 26 were: Lone Star Theatres, Corpus Christi, Texas, $150,000; W. A. Brown, Cantonment, Fla., $100,000; James P. Papayanakos, Potsdam, N. Y., $140,000; Fox West Coast Agency, Los Angeles, $125,000; Griffith Co., Costa Mesa, Calif., $120,000; Percy Dickson, Wabash, Ind., $125,000; M. Ray Landrum, Costa Mesa, Calif., $175,000; Eugene Porozynski, Garfield Hgts., Ohio, $125,000; Interstate Circuit, Inc., Ft. Worth, Tex., $110,000; Warner Bros., Dormont, Pa., $160,000; and Frank Shaheen, Phoebus, Va., $140,000.

Other building permits denied were: H. A. A. Bennett, Jr., Bowman, N. D., $25,000; W. A. Rush, Houston, Miss., $15,000; Mrs. Fritz Strassberger, Springfield, Mass., $12,000; Edward Waters College, Jacksonville, Fla., $15,000; Philip Murphy, Quitman, Miss., $3,800; C. F. Owen, Jr., Waynesville, N. C., $70,000; G. L. Bellman, Fox Lake, Wis., $7,000; D. A. Whitaker, Shellrock, Iowa, $3,000; G. A. Graf, Seattle, Wash., $75,000; Pierre Borne, Rayne, La., $4,800; L. J. Albertini, Denver, Colo., $15,000; Harlan D. Wiley, Weiser, Idaho, $53,000; Combs & Racine, Burns, Ore., $85,000; Maurice Easterling, Mexia, Texas, $35,000; David Bowers, Warrier, Ala., $5,450; Charles P. Martin, El Paso, Texas, $40,000; Jack Heffner, Pittsburg, Pa., $16,000; Park-In Theatres, Wilmington, Calif., $12,500; Rocco F. Boscardin, Dover Plain, N. Y., $80,000.

Wide Variation of Locations

Also: L. E. Simmons, Jackson, Tenn., $14,000; F. W. Aldinger, Bode, Iowa, $2,550; Wonewoc Theatres, Inc., Wonewoc, Wis., $20,000; Loring Schmidt, West Salem, Ore., $75,000; Boyd Milligan, Ft. Worth, Texas, $30,000; James D. Roe, Ontario, N. Y., $18,000; Dr. Gustav Heineke, Brenham, Tex., $14,000; Wendell L. Houston, Augusta, Ill., $10,000; Charles Lynch, Verona, N. Y., $50,000; Durwood-Dubinsky Bros., St. Joseph, Mo., $65,000; Mrs. G. F. Moller, Muleshoe, Tex., $26,000; James E. Faulkner, Coldsprings, Tex., $4,750; Paul H. Brunet, New Orleans, La., $33,000; Lloyd A. Moore, Umatilla, Ore., $40,000; Marchesi Bros., Genesco, Ill., $72,850; Clarence C. Horine, Lexington, Ky., $15,000; Lucy K. Reagan, Greenville, Mo., $18,000; Russell A. Wright, Framersville, Calif., $36,000; W. H. Terry, Victoria, Tex., $6,500; Silver City Theatre, Alexandria, La., $25,000; T. C. Riddles, San Diego, Calif., $18,000; Shea Theatre Corp., Geneva, Ohio, $15,000; Monroe Amusements, Rochester, N. Y., $59,000; East Texas Theatres, Inc., Beaumont, Tex., $75,000; East Texas Theatres, Inc., LaPorte, Tex., $50,000; Clarence Doffelmeyer, San Saba, Tex., $40,000; Theatre Enterprises, Inc., Post, Tex., $40,000; Joe Amato, Trinidad, Colo., $3,728; W. E. Lawson, Sneedville, Tenn., $8,873; Booth Theatre, Knoxville, Tenn., $5,405; Interstate Circuit, Arlington, Tex., $55,000; I. Youngberg and M. Popass, Whittenmore, Mich., $9,000; Louis Weiner, Sioux City, Iowa, $2,500.

Floral Theatres Turned Down

Also: Florida Coastal Theatres, St. Petersburg, $57,000; I. J. Harrelson, New Orleans, La., $95,000; Texas Consolidated, Albuquerque, $65,000; B. F. Johnson, Winnfield, La., $12,722; Frederick M. Miller, Conneaut Lake, Pa., $11,000; E. R. Ruben, Minneapolis, Minn., $5,600; State Drive-In Theatre, Seeonk, Mass., $14,000; Floyd Gravek, Scranton, Pa., $65,000; City Theatre, Junction City, Ark., $8,000; David A. Owens, Celina, Ohio, $14,500; Wm. Winderlich, Evansville, Ind,. $18,000; Robert J. Wilson, Kentland, Ind., $30,000; Lam Operating Co., LaGrange, Ga., $60,000; Arthur Landman, San Antonio, Tex., $22,000; Henry Everread, Columbus, Ind., $40,000; Martin Butler, Santa Fe and Albuquerque, N. Mex., $70,000; Raymond S. Mitchell, Auburn, Ill., $13,000; William Hardwick, Hereford, Tex., $60,000; W. Ewing Griffin, Vienna, Ga., $35,000; Donald Y. Kelsey, Chatham, Va., $47,000; Cole Theatres, Rosenberg, Tex., $30,000; Griffith, Inc., Pleasant Hill, Mo., $10,000; Mrs. W. T. Cain, Louisa, Ky., $31,200; J. W. Thomas, Mt. Hope, W. Va., $35,000; L. C. Dennis, Ft. Worth, Tex., $75,000; Vetnon Dupepe, Keller, La., $50,000; Everett A. Mika, Philomath, Ore., $33,000; C. L. Sikes, Summit, Ga., $6,000.

Buffalo Rejected, Too

Also: Wm. Voise, Odessa, Wash., $10,000; Buffalo Theatres, Inc., Buffalo, N. Y., $25,000; Lehigh Dev. Corp., Vinton, Va., $35,000; F. R. Smyre, Hickory, N. C., $16,000; Thomas A. Walton, Indianola, Miss., $14,000; William Ledbetter, Nashville, Mich., $25,000; John P. Adler, Wanpaca, Wisc., $26,000; William Stewart, Westley, Calif., $14,500; Arem Theatre Corp., Dover Plains, N. Y., $85,000; William Haddad, El Paso, Tex., $26,000; Wilfred Bernard, Setten, Mass., $25,000; J. C. Pletzer, Bryan, Tex., $25,000; Henry L. Weis, Dayton, Ohio, $25,200; Henry L. Weis, Dayton, Ohio, $30,000; John M. Donaducy, Richland, Pa., $15,000;

(Continued on page 14)

STILLWATER, Okla., Nov. 17. — Griffith Consolidated Theatres, Inc., and the circuit's local partner, Claude E. Leachman, plan a theatre scheduled to be "the biggest and finest" in Oklahoma. Its completion, with a seating capacity of 1,540, will double present capacity in this city, home of Oklahoma A. and M. college. Leachman and L. C. Griffith, circuit president, will start as soon as materials are available.

Leachman was one of Griffith's original partners in the exhibition field and now operates three houses here.

Center Planned for Oakland

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Featuring the first drive-in theatre in the Oakland area, a 20-acre amusement center, budgeted at $1,000,000, is planned for Oakland, with the start of construction dependent upon the availability of building materials. Excavation and grading has already been started, according to Joseph Blumenfeld, head of the Blumenfeld Theatre Circuit, who is joining F. W. Valley and W. G. Lincoln, operators of housing developments in the San Leandro area, in the project.

In addition to the theatre with a capacity of 900 cars, the center will have a roller-skating rink, a supermarket, bowling alleys, dance hall and drive-in restaurant.

Buys Site for Jersey Theatre

Property in Elizabeth, N. J., formerly the site of the Walton Playhouse, which was acquired by the late Soteros D. Cocalis in 1919 as the first of his circuit of motion picture houses, has been purchased by the Cocalis Amusement Co. of New York for construction of a new theatre with a seating capacity of 1,200.

To Construct Theatre in Somerset

SOMERSET, Mass., Nov. 17. — Plans for construction for a motion picture theatre and four adjoining stores, at a cost of about $90,000, in this city have been filed with the Civilian Production Administration by John E. F. Cusik of Hartford.

Galion, O., in Line

GALION, O., Nov. 17. — The Galion Theatre Co., operating the Ohio and State here, has purchased two local adjoining business places on the site of which it is reported a new theatre will be built.

Charter Drive-in Firm

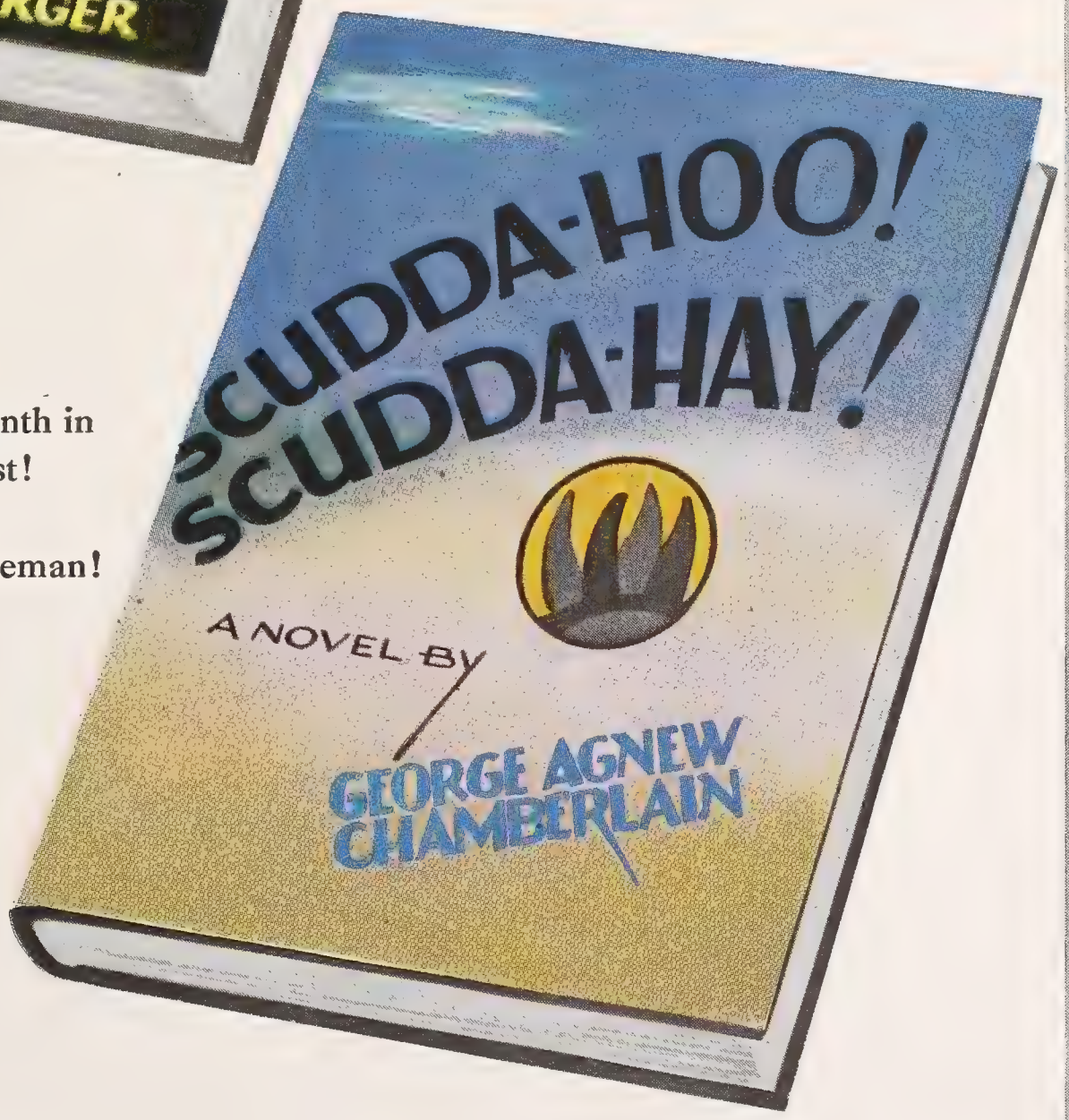
CINCINNATI, Nov. 17.—The Auto-In Theatre Co. has been incorporated here by Jerome J. Kunz, Edwin J. Moore and Harry Brown, with 1,000 no-par shares, to build and operate a 500-car drive-in theatre in a suburban location for which a seven-acre tract has been acquired.

$75,000 Theatre in Arkansas

MEMPHIS, Nov. 17.—J. J. Rhodes has announced that he will build a new $75,000 theatre in West Memphis, Ark., in partnership with his brother, Hugh D. Rhodes, St. Louis packer.



Literary Guild selection!
Dollar Book Club selection!
Best-seller sensation!



Book-of-the-Month in
Readers' Digest!
Serialized in
Country Gentleman!

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE
Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS
AUG. 25TH - DEC. 25TH

CENTURY-FOX

Theatres Planned Over Wide Area

MEMPHIS, Nov. 17.—Three new theatres have been opened in the Memphis territory. They are: the Savoy, a Negro house, opened by Bruce Westmoreland and George Crumpler at Dyersburg; Tate Teacher Theatre at Coldwater, Miss., by J. F. Adams, and the Joy Theatre at Columbus, Miss., by Ed White.

Woodbury Theatre Planned

WATERBURY, Nov. 17. — Edward Fitzpatrick, manager of Loew's Poli here has announced plans to construct a theatre in the center of Woodbury, as soon as building materials are available. His son, Neal Edward Fitzpatrick, will manage.

Convert Building to Theatre

TIERRA AMIRILLO, N. M., Nov. 17. —Adolfo Esquibel has announced that the store-building which he is having remodeled into a theatre at a cost of $10,000, is due to be ready shortly.

Opens New 'Hitching Post'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—ABC Theatres has opened its fourth theatre, the Hitching Post, at Beverly Hills. The new house, which cost $250,000, will follow the same policy as ABC's Hollywood Hitching Post.

Granite City House Reopens

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—The Washington Theatre of Granite City, which was swept by fire a year ago, has been rebuilt and reopened. St. Louis Amusement Co. owns the house.

Plans 360-Seat House

DETROIT, Nov. 17.—Plans for a 360-seat house to be erected in Grant, have been announced by R. C. Guthrie, manager and owner of the Howard City Theatre.

Plan Fabian Drive-in Staten Island

With the site for the new Fabian Drive-in Theatre on Staten Island, N. Y., selected, plans are being made to get construction started as soon as possible.

Wisconsin Vet Plans House

BRUCE, Wis., Nov. 17.—Robert F. Zielke, a veteran, son of H. E. Zielke, who operates the Hawkins of Hawkins, has begun building a 375-seat theatre here.

1,000 Seater for Fairfield

BIRMINGHAM, Ala., Nov. 17.—N. H. Waters, president of Waters Theatre Company, will build a new 1,000-seat house in Fairfield, Ala.

Open Air Theatre in Missouri

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 17.—C. H. Paden, formerly owner of a photographic studio in Jefferson City, recently opened a new open theatre on the outskirts of that city.

New Theatre in South Dakota

ARMOUR, S. D., Nov. 17.—The new Lorraine Theatre, owned by D. Schmeidt, has been opened here. The old theatre burned last winter.

New Georgia Theatre

BAINBRIDGE, GA., Nov. 17.—The Decatur, a new theatre owned by R. E. Justice, has been opened here.

230 Permits Denied

(*Continued from page* 12)

Warner Bros., Pittsburgh, Pa., $6,000; Engler Bros., Hopkins, Minn., $35,000; Tri-State Theatres, Idabel, Okla., $35,000; John A. Hanzel, David City, Neb., $22,500; C. M. Funk, Beaver Mill Site, $99,160; Rocco F. Boscardin, Dover Plains, N. Y., $30,000; L. W. Watts, Vivian, La., $30,000; Peter Camerlo, Tionesta, Pa., $7,500; Stanley Co. of America, Ridgewood, N. J., $17,000; Mrs. E. Stephens, New Albany, Miss., $35,000; J. M. Lakeman, Haleyville, Ala., $70,000; Thomas Bowers, Eugene, Ore., $25,000.

Coleman, Manning Turned Down

Also: J. T. Coleman, Memphis, Tenn., $75,000; B. P. Manning, Tarboro, N. C., $20,000; M. Ray Landrum, Costa Mesa, Calif., $25,000; Wayne Goodwin, Butler, Ind., $30,000; Holt & Allen, Owenshore, Ky., $10,000; Ralph Harris, Starksville, Miss., $22,000; Clark Hodgins, Moulton, Ala., $25,000; Juan Delgada Colon, Arecibo, P. R., $2,000; Fox Inter-Mt. Amusement, Caldwell, Idaho, $18,000; Augusta Amusements, Inc., Augusta, Ga., $51,000; Raymond Walker, Vinton, Va., $25,000; H. N. Beamer, Harley, Ida., Ed. W. College, Jacksonville, Fla., $15,000; Ivey Amusements, Inc., Roanks Rapids, Va., $8,500; Theo. Miller, Quitman, Tex., $50,000; A. T. Circuit, Lockesburg, Ark., $6,000; D. A. Whitaker, Shell Rock, Iowa, $3,000; Highland Theatres, Baton Rouge, La., $25,000; Bank of America Ntl. Trust, Hollansdale, Miss., $7,000; A. A. Bennett, Jr., Bowman, N. D., $25,000; Pastime Amusement Co., Charleston, S. C., $25,000; Nelson Borns, Rayne, La., $4,800; U. S. Theatres, Los Angeles, $38,950; Woodrow Fussell, Bladensboro, N. C., $25,000; Harry A. Nail, Goodwater, Ala., $23,000; Engler Bros., Hopkins, Minn., $23,000.

Nail, Engler Must Wait

Also: Harry A. Nail, Goodwater, Ala., $23,000; Engler Bros., Hopkins, Minn., $6,000; S. L. Gillette, Tooele, Utah, $85,000; Byron V. Hopkins, Bellevue, Neb., $18,000; Homer H. Newman, Marshall, Ill., $40,000; V. M. Graham, Ghesaning, Mich., $30,000; A. L. Besse, Rayne, La., $40,000; M. N. Besse, Rayne, La., $40,000; M. N. West, Centerville, Tenn., $35,000; Monessen Amusement Co., Latrobe, Pa., $16,000; T. J. White, Burnet, Tex., $40,000; Roy Dolan, Huntington Beach, Calif., $39,000; Pete Blackshear, Aspermont, Tex., $15,000; C. M. Funk, Guymon, Okla., $8,000; Alex Nordstrom, Drayton, N. D., $20,000; Mike Horne, Bethalto, Ill., $30,000; C. C. Blalock, Sevierville, Tenn., $22,000; Willis C. Naff, Cookesville, Tenn., $40,000; R. H. Brannon, Alpharetta, Ga., $35,000; Fred V. Cannata, Houston, Tex., $90,000; Casino Enterprises, Tampa, Fla., $20,500; Mrs. Strassberger, Springfield, Mass., $12,000; Keith A. Falcon, Zachory, La., $9,000; Fort Early Theatre, Lynchburg, Ga., $75,000; Raymond S. Mitchell, Auburn, Ill., $13,000; Richard P. Ernst, Florence, Ky., $25,000; Charles Guilbeau, Lafayette, La., $31,210; Robert H. Perkins, Woodbind, Ky., $12,000; M. B. Presley, Platte City, Mo., $15,000; Jefferson Amusement, Beaumont, Tex., $90,000.

Also: Robert Booth, Hollandal, Miss., $7,000; Don Tocchini, Sebastopol, Calif., $50,000; Dennie A. Calamas, N. Augusta, S. C., $30,000; John E. Cusick, Fall River, Mass., $90,000; Louis Abrahams, El Paso, Tex., $32,000; Harry M. Van Noy, Anderson, Ind., $16,000; Joy's Theatres, Inc., Rayville, La., $45,000; W. C. Shellinglaw, Ft. Mill, S. C., $40,000; George Farral, Kewanu, Ill., $40,000; Earle Strebe, San Fernando, Calif., $3,900; H. Potvin, Cass Lake, Minn., $50,000; Pal Amusement Co., Vidalia, Ga., $57,000; T. G. Solmon, Natches, Miss., $12,000; Fred C. Sumners, Wetmumpka, Ala, $42,000; Gilbder Fernande, Corpus Christi, Tex., $12,000; Jaun Carlos Vergne, Hatillo, P. R., $1,700; A. W. Castro, Key West, Fla., $18,000; Charles Martin, El Paso, Tex., $43,000; Chas. Lunch, Verona, N. J., $50,000; Paul H. Brunet, New Orleans, La., $33,000; Engler Bros., Hopkins, Minn., $6,000; Fred Annata, Houston, Tex., $90,000; Jefferson Amusement, Port Arthur, Tex., $90,000; Robert Veness, Mill City, Ore., $9,000; Joy's Theatre, Walsh, La., $35,000; Auburn Theatres, Inc., Auburn, Ala., $75,000; Woodward Amusement Co., Woodward, Okla., $66,000; Florida Coastal Theatres, Jacksonville, Fla., $10,000; Ray Church, Delta, Utah, $43,000; C. B. Hayworth, Pink Hill, N. C., $9,000; Ercel Frazier, Whitesburg, Ky., $60,000.

Syndicate Theatres Delayed

Also: E. L. Pack, El Paso, Tex., $30,000; Syndicate Theatres, Inc., Franklin, Ind., $65,000; Elson Marr, Coraopolis, Pa., $2,300; Standard Evans Realty, Evansville, Ind., $15,000; Evans Theatre Corp., Evansville, Ind., $20,000; L. V. Nickell, Chesapeake, W. Va., $35,000; Arthur S. Christenson, Delta, Utah, $60,000; Richard B. Casement, Fordville, N. D., $20,000; L. J. Ferguson, Clinton, Mo., $12,000; West Side Amusement Corp., Bridgeport, Conn., $30,000; Associated Theatres, Lynchburg, Ohio, $8,000; Boyd Dale Prather, Hale City, Tex., $16,000; Francis Brown, Dallas, Tex., $40,000; Felix Hebert, Hayes, La., $6,000; D. Austin, Mecklenburg, N. C., $20,000; T. O'Loughlin, Courtland, Ohio, $45,000; S. A. Levine, Fox Lake, Ill., $70,000; S. Young, Sr., Ft. Hill, South Carolina, $30,000; H. Bronnon, Dahlonega, Ga., $20,000; Wesley Himmler, Dallas, Pa., $2,170; W. H. Theiman, Montague, Mich., $12,000; Mrs. Golda Woolman, Drain, Ore., $40,800; A. P. Lassiter, Conway, N. C., $12,000; and William O'Greer, Pasadena, Md., $80,000.

Most of the constructions applications denied by the CPA were for repairs and remodeling of theatres, rather than new construction.

Only in emergency cases, such as fire, building a new theatre staircase for safety, and other 'urgent" cases will be given permits, the CPA said.

DENVER, Nov. 17.—Believed to be the first theatre to be erected anywhere in the country of pre-fabricated steel, the new $100,000 Fox Intermountain house, named the Fox opened here recently. Among the latest features of the theatre, a quonset-type construction, are the most recent developments in sound projection, ventilation and air purification, and employs a germ-killing ray created in electronic research. The house seats 670.

Four Open in Michigan

DERTOIT, Nov. 17.—Four Michigan theatres are in the news with the opening of the 630-seat Lake Theatre, owned by William Harris, Jr., of Keego Harbor; Harold Shaw's and Joseph Papiez's Tilden in Flint; the reopening of Howard T. Reynolds' Family Theatre in Grand Rapids after having been closed for rebuilding following a fire in February, and the Lafayette Theatre, Bay City, operated by Harold G. Bernstein.

New Theatre in Norwich

HARTOFRD, Nov. 17.—The E. L. Realty Corp. has opened the new Lord Theatre on the site of the former Strand Theatre at Norwich, a year after construction began. Joseph Comrack, president; Pauline Comrack, secretary, and Edward Lord, treasurer, are associated in the firm.

Drive-in for Salem, Ore.

SALEM, Ore., Nov. 17.—Albert and William Forman, operators of the Grand, State and Liberty, plan construction of a $100,000 drive-in theatre here. A 20-acre tract of land has been purchased for this new development and construction plans are now under way.

Transfer Alamo Theatre

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov .17.—Long-range plans for the three buildings, including The Alamo Theatre, recently purchased by the Center Development Corp. call for remodelling. The Alamo, operated on a lease by Manny Marcus from Joe Cantor, president of Center Development and owner of a neighborhood group here, has built up a policy as a Western house.

Community Center in Tacoma

PORTIAND, Ore., Nov. 17.—William Forman of United Theatres has announced the purchase of Tacoma Rodeo Grounds, adjacent to South Tacoma, as site of a new community center project with a 600-car drive-in theatre. The property, a 54-acre tract, will represent an outlay of approximately $300,000. Construction will begin as soon as materials are available.

New Theatre in Iowa

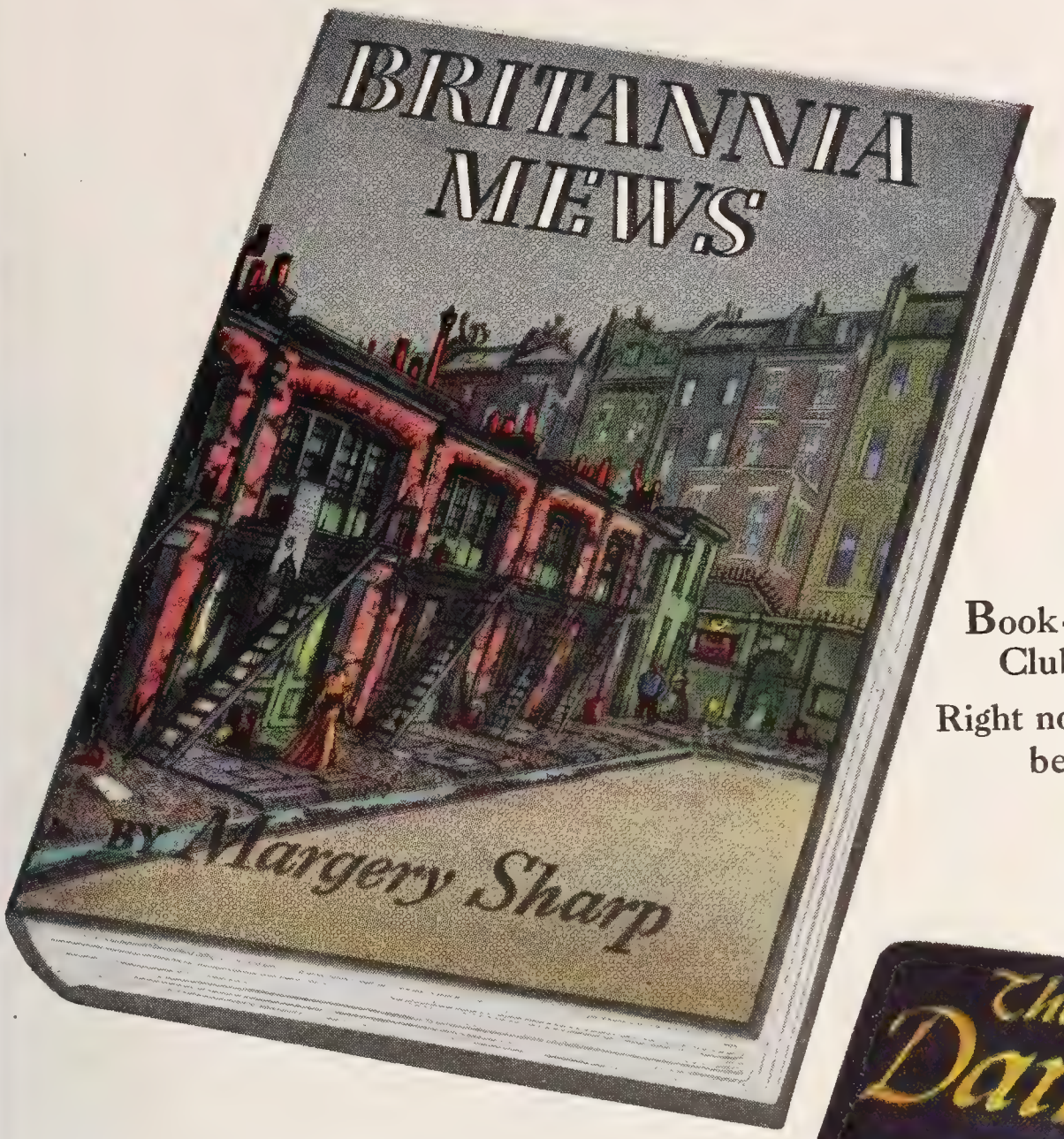
LOGAN, Ia., Nov. 17.—Bob Johnson, local theatre operator here, has purchased a building at Shelby and hopes to have a theatre ready for business by Jan. 1.

300-Seater in Arkansas

MEMPHIS, Nov. 17.—The Diane Theatre, owned and operated by Burris and Henley Smith, opened recently in Pocahuntas, Ark. The new house has 300 seats.

Open Cleveland Auto Theatre

CLEVELAND, Nov. 17. — Herbert Och's new theatre on Brook Park Road has been opened.



Book-of-the-Month Club selection!

Right now high on the best-seller lists!



Literary Guild selection!
Serialized in the Ladies' Home Journal!
A top best-seller now!

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE
Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS
AUG. 25TH – DEC. 28TH

CENTURY-FOX

State Dept. Pictures Raise 'Difficulty'

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. — Difficulty is being encountered by the U. S. State Department cultural film division in its efforts to choose appropriate titles for 16mm. motion pictures for exhibition abroad, it was disclosed by a spokesman here today.

The major stumbling-block is finding a title which can be translated into 20 languages without altering the original meaning. An additional source of concern is a search for a title which will not be "taken wrong" by foreign populations.

By way of illustration the Department official said the production, now in process, of a film on the independence of the Philippines had created some minor trouble because the first title selected, "Philippine Independence," was the object of protests by several diplomats. The title, they maintained, might make some people unhappy because they may also "want independence." Puerto Rico was one of the countries which the diplomats had in mind.

Herbert Edwards and other film officials at the department therefore changed the title to "A Republic Is Born."

Equipped with several projectors, each American outpost circulates the films through local civic groups, schools and other interested organizations. Only a limited number of Government culture films are shown commercially, the Department said, and all of the new films being made are exhibited on a "strictly non-commercial" basis.

Technicolor in Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17. — Preparations are being completed at studios at Churubusco, local suburb, for the production of Mexico's first Technicolor picture by Roland Reed Productions. Guy Thayer and Lemuel Ayers, head the Hollywood crew in charge of the undertaking.

Tierney to Monogram

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17. — James J. Tierney has been appointed service manager of Monogram International Corp., it is announced by president Norton V. Ritchey. Tierney returns to the industry after several years in Government service. He formerly was service manager for Republic.

Negroes Picket House

SAN FRANCISCO, Nov. 17.—Picketing of the Uptown Theatre here by Negroes is regarded by theatre executives as a forerunner of similar situations in theatres throughout the city. The Negroes are demanding that the theatre employ 50 per cent colored help.

Tempo Gets Studio

Jack Schwartz and David Hilberman, who recently formed Tempo Films, have completed negotiations for production facilities at Film Graphic studios, Corona, Long Island. Production of their first cartoon is scheduled for this month.

Veldez Manages Clasa

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17.—Rafael Veldez is the new distribution manager of Clasa Films Mundiales. He succeeds Juvenal Urbina, former Columbia manager here, who has gone into the film business on his own.

Reviews

"Laughing Lady"

(British National—Anglo-American)

London, Nov. 17

GRANTED it's a-cloak-and-dagger theme, painstakingly compounded to accepted recipe, but here is a confection which the British showman will know precisely how to handle. It has Technicolor, some pleasant singing (choral and otherwise), lavish spectacle and—beyond all—shows true young love coming by its own. Simple Britons love the faithful recipe invariably. It is to be surmised that American showmen likewise will welcome the submission on appropriate booking terms. Director Paul Stein, abetted by scenarist Jack Whittingham and music-maker Hans May, chose the French Revolution and the contemporaneous junketings in nearby England as the background for their enterprise. They contrive to pack everything and everyone into it; not only the kitchen stove, but Napoleon, Robespierre, the younger Pitt, England's gay Prince of Wales of the day, not to speak of a remarkable galaxy of noble ladies and gentlemen mingled with gallant highwaymen and other raffish ruffians of the road.

They tell their story—it doesn't matter very much, being concerned with a young French aristocrat who smuggles into Britain to recover the Royal jewels and thereby save his noble mamma from the guillotine—with song and dance. What does matter is the fact that the noble puppets sing, dance, act their way through the gallimaufry not only with accomplishment and distinction, but with zest. Chief contributor to this festival of zest is Peter Graves as the Prince of Wales. Runners-up are Anne Ziegler and Webster Booth, with Francis L. Sullivan and Felix Aylmer (accomplished actors both) in close proximity. But plaudits chiefly go to the Stein-Whittingham-Hans May team. For once here's a British film with a first-rate script and admirable music, plus a director who knows how to handle both.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Home in Oklahoma"

(Republic)

CERTAIN to be a source of nourishment for theatregoers with an appetite for Westerns, "Home in Oklahoma" will also have appeal for a wider audience. A neat, well-told story with good entertainment value, it fuses a well-paced detective yarn with a Western background, cleverly manipulating the chases and gun-battles so that they blend into the plot. Added to this are several pleasant numbers rendered by Roy Rogers, the Flying "L" Ranch Quartette and Bob Nolan and the Sons of the Pioneers.

Republic's cowboy does the sleuthing in the capacity of editor of a small Oklahoma newspaper, and he is aided by Dale Evans as a news gal from a St. Louis newspaper. Suspicions are aroused about the death of the late owner of the Flying T Ranch by an inscription in a hymn-book willed to Rogers by the deceased. Foul play is suspected, and an additional eyebrow-raiser is the fury which possesses Carol Hughes when she learns that her late uncle has left his ranch to Lanny Rees, 12-year-old ward of George (Gabby) Hayes, the ranch foreman. Others in the cast are George Meeker, as the menacing cohort of Carol Hughes, and George Lloyd as the befuddled sheriff. And, of course, Trigger.

Credit for this vehicle, which manages to break away from several of the Western cliches, goes to Edward J. White as associate producer, William Witney for direction and Gerald Geraghty for the script. William Bradford should also be singled out for a fine photographic job.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 8.

IRVING KAPLAN

"The Fighting Frontiersman"

(Columbia)

THE action is fast and furious in this latest "Durango Kid" adventure, in which Hank Newman and the Georgia Crackers and their musical instruments fit in nicely. They and slap-stick comedian Smiley Burnette hardly relinquish their occasional footage, however, when Durango (Charles Starrett) again shows to reclaim audience attention as he resumes pursuit of a band of predatory desperadoes who had kidnapped an old prospector, played by Emmett Lynn, and try to torture the oldster into disclosing the whereabouts of Santa Ana's hidden gold which he had hit upon.

With a pretty frontier cafe hostess, Helen Mowery, and the town's upright citizens, Durango makes things very tough for the villains who, however clever they may be, are no match for the hero whether he is in or out of his familiar disguise. Gun-fighting, fisticuffing and hard-riding a-plenty stamp the proceedings before the bad hombres are finally brought to justice and the gold is channelled into community welfare. Derwin Abrahams directed from an original screenplay by Ed. Earl Repp. Colbert Clark produced.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Running time not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Drive for Tri-States

OMAHA, Nov. 17.—District manager William Miskell announced plans for a four-week "Holiday Happiness Hypo" drive at a meeting here of Tri-States Theatres city managers. It will start Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 28.

Folger, Turgeon Named

ATLANTA, Nov. 17. — Paramount News, here has named Frank Folger, formerly in the booking department, to booking manager. B. L. Turgeon, formerly booking manager, was transferred to special sales representative.

Latins Want Action, And Less Dialogue

WASHINGTON, Nov. 17. — Pictures for release in Latin America should contain less talk and more action and a more graphic portrayal of ideas, the Commerce Department says in a report on the motion picture market in Ecuador.

Distributors of American pictures in Ecuador are convinced that the market in that country will continue to be for U. S. films, it was said in the market report. Commenting upon audience requirements, it added: "While it is recognized that financial difficulties interfere with slanting U. S. motion picture production for foreign markets, it would certainly be desirable to present the U. S. people more realistically.

"Producers should avoid the distorted views of United States life conveyed in films stressing gangsters, gaudy living and shallow sophistication. They should correct the current over-emphasis on bigness, power and mechanical energy. Information that films convey about the average citizen of the United States should be as accurate as are historical 'props', and so help to break down the traditionally adverse ideas concerning life in the U. S.—ideas which have been reinforced by the distortions of the typical commercial film," concluded the report.

Elizondo Joins Agency

MEXICO CITY, Nov. 17.—Salvador Elizondo, former general manager of Clasa Films Mundiales, producer, now heads Ars-Una, advertising agency that handles the film company's publicity.

Rafael Sevilla, recently Columbia manager here, has quit an executive position with Panamerican Films to become general distribution auditor for Latin American for Clasa Films Mundiales.

Extend Joice Duties

CLEVELAND, Nov. 17.—J. Maxwell Joice, Paramount exploiteer covering Cleveland and Detroit territories, has taken on Cincinnati, Dayton, Charleston, W. Va., Huntington, W. Va., and Lexington, Ky., during the illness of Charles Perry.

Don Cole in New Post

DALLAS, Nov. 17. — Don Cole has been appointed manager of Favorite Films of Oklahoma, according to Ed Green, district manager. Headquarters will be maintained at Dallas, for all services other than sales. Cole, latterly with Films Classics of Texas, is a veteran in the Oklahoma field.

Honor Pioneers

TORONTO, Nov. 17.—Monogram Pictures of Canada will salute the Canadian Picture Pioneers with a ball and carnival on Wednesday, Nov. 27, at the Royal York Hotel. Proceeds will be turned over to the Pioneers Benevolent Fund.

Coast Video by Jan. 1

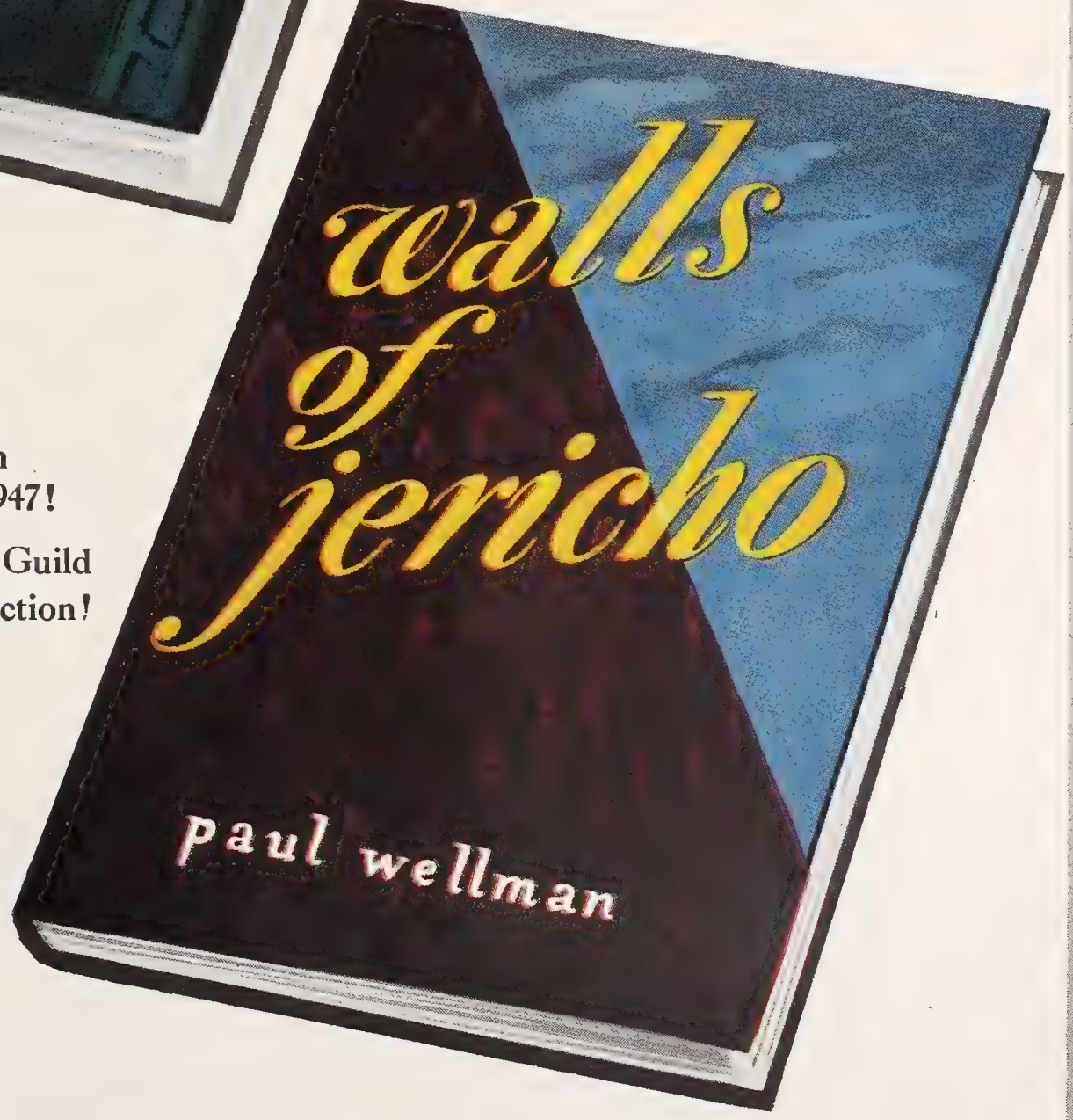
LOS ANGELES, Nov. 17.—Work at Mount Wilson on the telephone company's short-wave relay station for television and FM transmission has progressed to a point where the equipment is expected to be ready for use by Jan. 1.



A sensation! One of the most talked about novels in years!

Now in 3rd gigantic printing!

Climbing to the top!



To be published in January, 1947!

Chosen by the Literary Guild as its February selection!

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE
Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS
AUG. 25th – DEC. 25th

CENTURY-FOX

Short Subjects . . .

"Brooklyn, I Love You"
(*Paramount*)

Leo ("Lippy") Durocher, manager of the Brooklyn "Dodgers" baseball team; "Red" Barber, sports announcer; the ball-playing "Bums" themselves; and the "Dodgers Symphony," Hilda Chester and assorted fans who make life at Ebbets Field full of zest and noise, are featured in this "Pacemaker Special." Durocher puts on a talking battle with four umpires. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Sons of Courage"
(*20th Century-Fox*)

The camera travels 8,600 feet up the Rockies near Boulder, Colo., to the Lazy VV Ranch, home of pure-bred Arabian horses. The steeds are shown going through their daily routines, displaying endurance, courage and intelligence. As a climax, a show is put on by the local cowboys. A Movietone Adventure. Running time, eight minutes.

"So You Want to Play With Horses"
(*Warner Brothers*)

Here's a whacky one about betting on race horses. Joe McDoake is a guy who plays the saddle instead of the horse, picking up his information around the feed box. He plays according to numerology, geneology and all the other ologies but can't pick a winner. Running time, 10 minutes.

"A Bit of Blarney"
(*Universal*)

Starring the Fred Waring Glee Club, this "Sing and Be Happy" musical is laid in a police station where two culprits have been accused of fisticuffing. When the lieutenant learns one is a tenor, he calls in three cops and the quartet renders songs in good old Blarney vein. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Football Thrills No. 9"
(*Pete Smith Specialty—M-G-M*)

The football classics that thrilled millions last year come back in brief revue. The subject is highlighted by the description and witty narration of Pete Smith, plus some camera precocities that are laugh-getters. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Unusual Occupations"
(*Paramount*)

Among the items of unusual interest examined herein are the several hobbies of Bob Burns the comedian. Next comes hand weaving as practiced by Dorothy Liebes, followed by glimpse at Josef, Hollywood's master designer of exotic jewels. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Mousie Comes Home"
(*Universal*)

The little mouse is a source of great annoyance to Andy Panda and his dog Milo. In desperation they move away but are soon found by the adventurous mouse who resumes his playful tactics of annoying Andy and Milo and thus providing many comical situations. Running time, seven minutes.

"You Can't Fool a Fool"
(*Columbia*)

Andy Clyde retires from work and decides he is going to spend his time fishing. But his wife has political ambitions for him, all of which results in some hilarious confusion.

"Palmetto Quail"
(*Sportscope-RKO Radio*)

At the Allapatches Lodge, near Punta Corda, Eltinge Warner, publisher of *Field and Stream,* and Lou Calder, owner of the lodge set out for a day of hunting in the bird country of southwestern Florida. Two well-trained pointers are used, the camera capturing the skill and technique required to become an expert pre-eminent bird hunter. Running time, 8 minutes.

"Hobo Hound"
(*Universal*)

Items shown in this "Person-Oddity" are: A St. Bernard who is the town's pet dog; Byer Rolnick who makes hats to fit each personality; Henry Lungstrom who built his own automobile out of odd parts; Mrs. Bernice Fitzsimmons Hathaway, an authority on coats-of-arms; and finally, Connie Ann Gallagher who is a target for her mother who throws knives. Running time, eight minutes.

"Sudden Fried Chicken"
(*Paramount*)

Mice, hens and roosters people this Noveltoon about a fight in a barnyard. Herman the Mouse matches "One Round" Hogan with Hector the Rooster. Hector is about ready to be fricasseed when Herman comes to his rescue. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Motor Maniacs"
(*RKO Radio*)

The non-too-placid life of Edgar Kennedy becomes even more turbulent when an old flame of his mother-in-law comes to claim his bride. Kennedy tries to interest him in a new outboard motor only to find himself zooming around a lake sans boat. The subject is invested with the usual slapstick hilarity. Running time, 18 minutes.

"Racketeer Rabbit"
(*Warner Brothers*)

Bugs Bunny, in his latest adventure, tangles in an abandoned house with two gangsters who bear a strong resemblance to Edward G. Robinson and Peter Lorre. When Bunny finishes with them, Robinson scrambles down the road in search of police protection. Running time, seven minutes.

"Mysto Fox"
(*Columbia*)

The fable shows the crow, in order to obtain room and board, masquerading as a rabbit and applying for a job as assistant to Mysto Fox, magician. Soon the crow tries his hand at magic and even makes an attempt at saving the magician. Running time, 7 minutes.

"The Purloined Pup"
(*Walt Disney—RKO-Radio*)

Officer Pluto, a rooky cop, sets out to solve a dognapping case and runs afoul of Butch, a vicious bull-dog who is the culprit. Pluto's attempts to save Ronnie the pup from the clutches of the villain provide humorous adventures. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Adventures in South America"
(*Technicolor Adventures-WB*)

As the cameraman's plane soars over the Andes, La Paz capital of Bolivia comes into sight. A colorful fiesta provides an interlude before the camera goes on to Lake Titicaca and then to Cusco in Peru. Lima is next and finally the land of the Jivaro headhunters at the source of the Amazon. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Be Kind to Animals"
(*Paramount*)

When the narrator in this subject asks for kindness to dumb animals, a wire-haired terrier, spokesman for the animals, adds, "And we'll be kind to you dumb people, too." Many representatives of the animal kingdom are quizzed on the subject. The final shot is a hilarious conversation between the narrator and a cow. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Fair and Warmer"
(*Technicolor-Cartoon—WB*)

A worm, after a fallen apple, becomes embroiled in a pursuit with a bull dog, a dog-catcher and a skunk. The skunk chases all but the worm away. Puzzled, he learns the worm was not interested in the apple for food. It was the only apartment in town. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Lighthouse Keeping"
(*Disney-RKO Radio*)

Donald Duck, as lighthouse keeper, has plenty of trouble with a nosey pelican in this one. The trouble started when Donald flashes the beacon light into the pelican's face. The pelican is set on revenge and Donald takes a beating as a result. In Technicolor. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Wacky Worm"
(*Warner Brothers*)

A worm, which more than slightly resembles Jerry Colonna in voice and moustache, plays a life-and-death game of hide and seek with a crow in this Blue Ribbon Cartoon. The worm bobs in and out of every apple on the apple tree with the crow in hot pursuit. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"The Jail Break"
(*Terrytoon-20th-Fox*)

Mighty Mouse pits brawn and brains against Bad Bill Bunion, outlaw of the west whom even the walls of Alcatraz cannot confine. After a hectic chase which involves brazen robberies and a suspended football game, Bad Bill is returned to Alcatraz. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Jamaica"
(*Movietone Adventures-20th-Fox*)

This is a camera tour of Jamaica, in the West Indies tropics. Besides buildings and places of note, a look-see is taken at the sugar plantations and banana crops which are the island's main source of wealth. Filmed in Technicolor, Lowell Thomas narrates. Running time, 8 minutes.

"Golden Slippers"
(*Paramount*)

Gangsters force Mike, owner of a night club, to sell out thereby throwing both singer Mary Daley and press agent Nat Foster out of their jobs and preventing Mike from financing Nat's play. Mike, at the last minute, tries to stop the sale and is murdered by the gangsters. When Mike's will is read it is discovered that provision has been made for Nat's show to be produced and for Mary to star in it. This Technicolor Musical Parade stars Mary Edwards, Alfred Ryder and Harris and Shore. Running time, 17 minutes.

"Sure Cures"
(*M-G-M*)

Pete Smith's whimsical approaches to various and sundry day-to-day problems of humanity consistently make for a good time for theatre audiences. With Dave O'Brien playing it hard, and well, for laughs, producer Smith in his newest effort undertakes to debunk those home remedies and cures—nine sips of water and your hic-coughs are gone—and the results add up to an amusing subject that will doubtless add a little support to any program. Running time, 10½ mins.

"Unusual Occupations"
(*Paramount*)

Hedda Hopper, columnist, leads this Jerry Fairbanks subject with her odd collection of hats. Powell Helton, at his home in the mountains, collects rare wood which he fashions into intricate mosaics. O. C. Lightner, publisher of *Hobbies* magazine collects collections and has surrounded himself with statuary glassware, dolls and other odd items. Pint-sized horses are Mrs. Fannie Branson's hobby. She constructs these foot-high replicas from balsa wood and real horsehides.

"Follow that Blonde"
(*RKO Radio*)

To get a friend out of trouble, Leon Errol masquerades as a woman and goes through a fake wedding ceremony with the friend. The complications leading up to such a situation are many. They start when a strange woman mistakes Errol's automobile for a taxicab and ends with Leon behind bars. Running time, 18 minutes.

"Deep Sea Fishing"
(*Sport Reels-Columbia*)

Bill Stern takes the audience on a deep-sea fishing trip in Florida waters where sportsmen thrill to the excitement of a game-fish hunt. Seen in the reel is a fight to catch a sailfish, dolphin and finally, a kingfish. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Bacall to Arms"
(*Technicolor-Cartoon—WB*)

A wolf drops into a picture house for relaxation but is bored by everything until Lauren Bacall comes on the screen. Then he is beyond restraint, until Humphrey Bogart takes the situation in hand. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Operation Holiday"
(*Variety View-Universal*)

Since war's end, G.I.'s on leave in European occupation zones have been invited by the Swiss Government to vacation in that beautiful, untouched land. The picture shows famous places.



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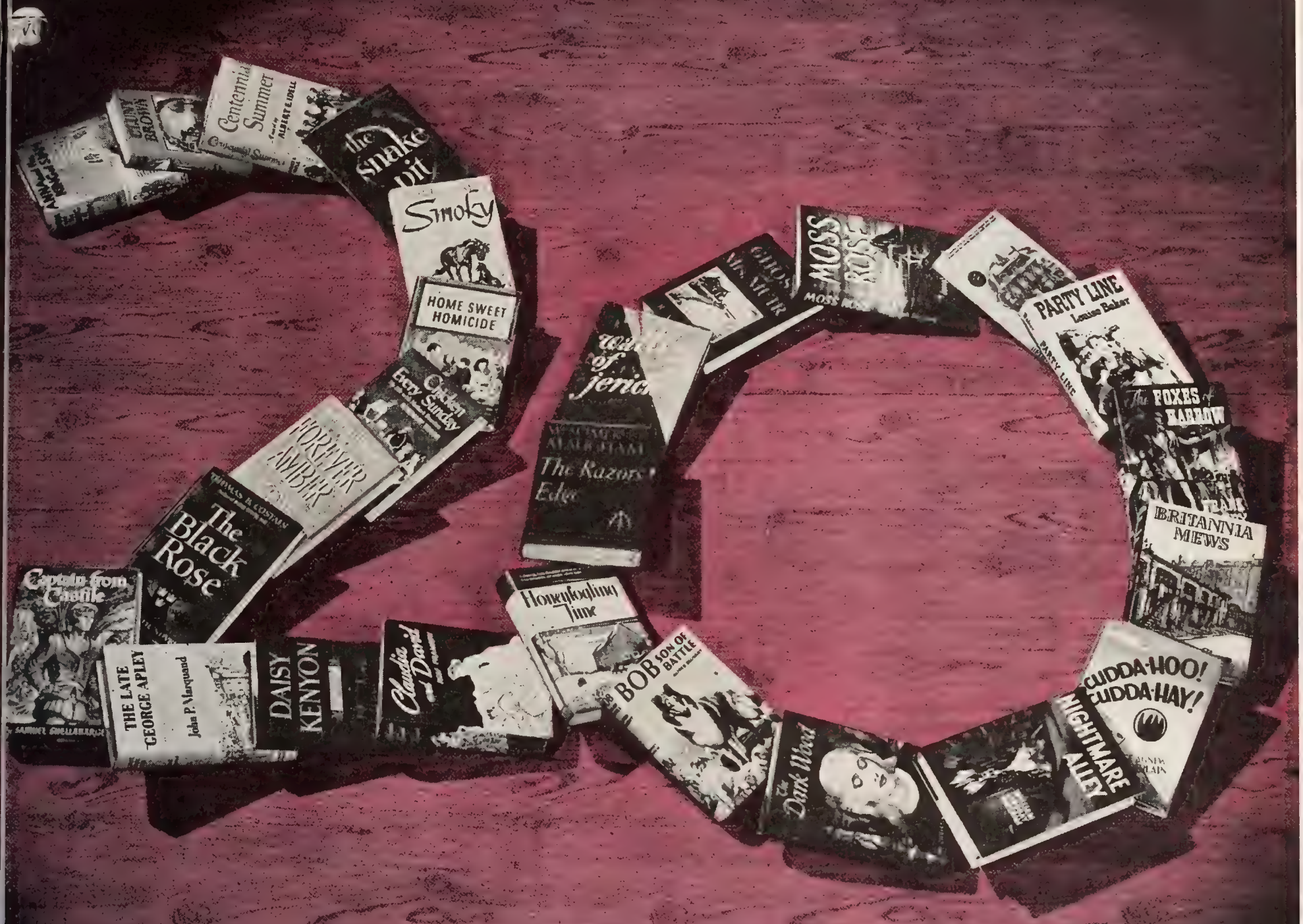
CENTURY-FOX

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 19	BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Rev. 9/13/46) LAND RUSH (Rev. 9/17/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE C—83 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46)			GAS HOUSE KIDS Billy Halop Robert Lowery D—68 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (Color) (Rev. 9/5/46)		(October Release) DARK MIRROR Olivia De Havilland Lew Ayres Thomas Mitchell D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	NOBODY LIVES FOREVER John Garfield Geraldine Fitzgerald D—100 mins. (604) (Rev. 9/24/46)
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)	NO LEAVE, NO LOVE C—119 mins. (Rev. 8/27/46)			TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean		GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46)	HOME SWEET HOMICIDE C—90 mins. (Rev. 7/18/46)	(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders D—100 mins. (Rev. 11/4/46)		DECEPTION Bette Davis Paul Henreid Claude Rains D—112 mins. (605) (Rev.10/17/46)
Nov. 2		RAGE IN HEAVEN D—83 mins. (Rev. 4/4/41)	WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D—73 mins. (605) (Rev. 10/31/46)				SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46)	STRANGE JOURNEY D—65 mins. (643) (Rev. 9/9/46) (Re-release) THE BOWERY D—84 mins. (642)			
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks D—65 mins. (818) (Rev. 11/1/46)		BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby		(Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)		(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606) (Rev. 10/24/46)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563)		STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O	HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542)			(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer C—109 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)	
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	UNDERCURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)	MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—(824)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		SANTA FE UPRISING Allan Lane Bobby Blake O—56 mins.	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)	WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644)			
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue	(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd	(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERAZADE (Color) Brian Donlevy Yvonne de Carlo	
Dec. 14			(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts (Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)		(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce	MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 21			SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan			(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas (Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney (Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)			TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	
Dec. 28						THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunne Mona Freeman 95 min.			(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru		

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN THE INDUSTRY!



THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN BEST-SELLERS!

THE BIGGEST FIGURE IN BOXOFFICE HITS!

FJP Drive Committee

(*Continued from page* 1)

eration of Jewish Philanthropies, leaders of the film industry and other entertainment fields met Friday at the Essex House here to appoint working committees and plan the industry's drive.

Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, chairman of the amusement division, presided over Friday's meeting. Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation, stressed the diverse activities of the Federation in maintaining 116 hospitals and welfare agencies, which serve more than 350,000 persons annually.

The division's campaign, which will get under way officially on Friday, will be climaxed by a dinner on Dec. 12, Kingsberg announced.

Co-chairmen of the main committee are: Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Spyros P. Skouras and Albert Warner. Vice-chairmen are: Matthew Fox, Emil Friedland, Henry Jaffe, Eugene Picker, Billy Rose, Fred Schwartz and Nate B. Spingold.

The executive committee consists of: Jack Bregman, Jack Robbins, Harry Brandt, Si Fabian, Sam Rosen, Leopold Friedman, Leonard Goldenson, Herman Robbins, Sam Rinzler, William Klein, Walter Reade, Jr. and Benjamin S. Moss.

Chairmen

Chairmen of the various groups participating in the amusement division are: Edward N. Rugoff for independent exhibitors; Ben Sherman for concessionaires; Budd Rogers and Alfred W. Schwalberg for independent producers; Lawrence Langer and Marcus Heiman for legitimate theatres; Emanuel Sacks and Herman Starr, for music publishers, radio and recording artists.

Also, Martin Quigley and Jack Alicoate, for trade publications; William Brandt, Arthur L. Mayer, David Weinstock, Max A. Cohen and Leo Brecher, for the Independent Theatre Owners Association, and Nat Kalcheim and Robert Weitman, for radio artists, bandleaders and artists' representatives.

The following are corporate chairmen: Abe Schneider, Irving Greenfield, Joseph Vogel, Arthur Israel, Lou Novins, Ed Hyman, Eugene Arnstein, Sam Shain, Dan Michalove, Nat Furst, Harry Thomas, Ralph Poucher, Charles Boasberg, Sol Schwartz, Edward Schnitzer, Harold Rodner, Sam Schneider, Joseph H. Seidelman, Sam Nachnovitch and Adolph Schimmel.

Film Leaders Chart NCCJ Banquet Today

Arrangements for the annual industry dinner of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, to be held here next month, will be discussed by a preliminary arrangements committee of industry leaders at a luncheon in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, today. Louis Nizer is in charge of arrangements for today's luncheon.

Among those expected to attend are: Barney Balaban, Spyros Skouras, Si Fabian, Ned E. Depinet, Martin Quigley, William F. Rodgers, George Schaefer, John J. O'Connor, Oscar Hammerstein, II, Matty Fox, Pincus Sober, David Weinstock, Ray Bolger, Emil Friedlanger, Al McCosker, Charles L. O'Reilly, James E. Sauter, Abel Green, Harry Brandt, Jack Alicoate, and others.

Irving Berlin is to be one of the guests of honor at the December banquet.

Reviews

"The Perfect Marriage"

(Paramount-Hal Wallis)

EXHIBITORS probably will know at a glance that this title is a piece of irony. But some of their patrons may not. So it might be well to devise ways to avoid bringing them in under false pretenses. What we have here is Loretta Young and David Niven in a highly polished reiteration of the theme of divorce among Park Avenue's wealthier and more shallow sophisticates. Derived from a play by the thoughtful Samson Raphaelson, it goes a bit deeper into the subject than usual before arriving at the usual conclusion.

Niven builds airplanes. Miss Young, like many of her predecessors, runs a fashion magazine. They have been married 10 years. Trying to make the anniversary feel like a honeymoon proves too much of a strain and leads to confessions that they do not really "want" each other any more—have not, in fact, for some time. So Reno seems to be the answer, but it is complicated, of course, by their little offspring, Nona Griffith, whose swelling sophistication, at nine, has hardly yet engulfed her to the point of washing out common sense and human warmth. The die, however, has been cast. Virginia Field, divorcée, and Don DeFore of the Army are recruited as consolation partners, and all is not well in the night clubs, drawing rooms and boudoir until the discovery that the husband alone has the right touch for massaging the wife's aching back.

The main performances, strident, but slick, are augmented by competent support from Charles Ruggles, Rita Johnson, Zasu Pitts, Nana Bryant, Jerome Cowan, Louella Gear and Howard Freeman. Wallis has given the show his customarily glossy production, while director Lewis Allen has done his best to resolve the conflicting demands of near-farce and near-tragedy which such material always imposes. The screenplay was by Leonard Spigelgass, who resisted the temptation, if any, to recall that most folks, after 10 years, gain some modicum of composure. Audiences, no doubt, will find that a lack in the film but will find compensation in the costumes, for both day and night, which adorn Miss Young and in the borderline guffaws with which the dialogue is seasoned.

Running time, 87 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

TOM LOY

"Cross My Heart"

(Paramount)

Hollywood, Nov. 17

BETTY HUTTON and Sonny Tufts supply the marquee strength for this comedy, which may be advertised as a combination of slapstick and farce with an overlay of music, since Miss Hutton sings five songs in the course of the proceedings. The film is at its best in a courtroom sequence, comprising about half of the picture, which burlesques a trial for murder in somewhat the manner of "The Front Page," with all parties having a hand in the humor. It is at its worst in another sequence showing a libertine menacing the heroine.

Miss Hutton is seen as a chorus girl, engaged to a struggling young attorney, who confesses to the murder in self-defense, of a libidinous playboy (although she did not kill him) in order to get her fiance a bright day in court and the benefit of publicity accuring from same. This is one of a dozen prevarications on the young lady's part, all of which make the kind of trouble that makes for amusement. Tufts is seen as the attorney.

Others in the cast are: Rhys Williams, Ruth Donnelly. Alan Bridge, Iris Adrian, Howard Freeman, Lewis L. Russell and Michael Chekhov (the latter as the real killer). Harry Tugend produced the picture, which was directed by John Berry, from a sceenplay by Tugend and Claude Binyon, based on a play by Louis Verneuil and Georges Berr.

Running time, 83 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Boyer Will Launch French Relief Drive

Charles Boyer will speak during ceremonies at Dunkirk, N. Y., on Nov. 28 marking the opening of the fund-raising campaign for French relief by American Aid to France, Inc. The star will tell the story of the evacuation at Dunkerque, France, in 1940 by the British Expeditionary Forces. At the conclusion of his address, Boyer will introduce former Prime Minister Winston Churchill, who will describe from London the part played by the French in the battle.

$2,094,206 Philco Profit for Quarter

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 17.—Philco had an operating profit, before tax adjustments, of $2,094,206 in the third quarter of 1946, compared with $164,787 in the second quarter, it is announced by John Ballantyne, president.

Reflecting this improvement in operations, Philco reduced the operating loss for the first nine months of 1946 to $310,478. After estimated tax credits, the net loss for the first nine months was $20,478.

Goetz, Republic Split

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17. — Walter Goetz has resigned from his associate-producership with Republic.

UN Delegations to 'Razor' Premiere

Twenty-six United Nations delegation chairman and 46 other UN representatives will attend the international premiere of 20th Century-Fox's "The Razor's Edge," at the Roxy Theatre here tomorrow night, as will more than 1,000 society people and numerous celebrities of screen, stage and radi[o], 20th-Fox announced at the weeken[d]. Also listed among the notables to be on hand are Senator and Mrs. Warren R. Austin, Ambassador and Mrs. Henri Bonnet and Dr. Wellington Koo.

Darryl F. Zanuck, producer of the film, based on the novel by W. Somerset Maugham, will head the Hollywood contingent at the premiere, accompanied by Edmund Goulding, who directed the picture, and three of its stars: Gene Tierney, Tyrone Power and Clifton Webb.

Minsky Is Named to Eagle-Lion Post

Joseph Minsky has been named Eagle-Lion district sales representative for Philadelphia, Washington and Pittsburgh by Alfred W. Schwalberg, company vice-president. The new assignment is effective immediately.

Minsky has been in the film business for 20 years, with the exception of four and a half spent in the Armed Forces. He started in the Allegheny Theatre, Philadelphia. From there he became manager of Warner theatres in Philadelphia and Wilmington. Following this, Minsky was with Warner in a sales capacity in Pittsburgh, Cincinnati and Cleveland. Since his release from the service, he has been with International Pictures as special sales representative.

S.A. Exhibitor Reyes Seeks U.S. Equipment

Alvara Reyes, Bogota, Colombia, theatre-owner and former manager in Colombia for Paramount, has arrived in New York to purchase equipment for a new theatre, which he is building in Bogota. Reyes disclosed, additionally, that he is planning to construct four more houses in Colombia. He will return to Bogota in about four weeks.

Reyes reported that he is currently showing 50 per cent American product and 50 per cent Mexican.

Two Max Cohens

Max A. Cohen, president of Cinema Circuit, points out that he is not the New York theatre operator who raised a question about percentage suits under the industry anti-trust case decision at the Allied convention in Boston. The Max Cohen referred to in that connection by MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Monday is an operator in the borough of Brooklyn.

$32,000 for 'Henry'

An advance sale of tickets amounting to $32,000, which has been rung up by Laurence Olivier's "Henry V" at the Little Theatre in Washington, constitutes a new record for a road-shown picture in the capital city, the theatre management reports, according to United Artists, distributor of the film.

AAA Appeal Filed; 2 Cases Dismissed

Appeal from an award which reduced clearance from seven to three days over the Paradise Theatre, Brooklyn, N. Y., in favor of the Avon Theatre, has been filed by Antonio and Ciro Paolillo, owners and operators of the Paradise, with the tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, [illegible]re. The original complaint, naming the Gaven Amusement Corp., which owns the Avon, as intervenor, asked for elimination of clearance between the two theatres in licenses granted by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer and Paramount.

Two clearance complaints filed with the tribunal, one in the Cincinnati district, the other in the Boston district, have been dismissed.

Charging "unreasonable clearance" by RKO Radio and Warner Brothers in favor of the C. and F. Theatre Co. of Providence, which operates the Majestic, Carlton and Fay in that city, Artcraft Pictures, operators of the Greenwich Theatre in East Greenwhich, R. I., asked for reduction of clearance from 14 days after the first period run, to one day. The arbitrator's finding declared that the complainant had not succeded in proving an "unreasonable delay in getting pictures" to justify a reduction in clearance.

In the case dismissed by the Cincinnati tribunal, the arbitrator granted the separate motions for dismissal by Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers, on the ground that the complainant, Skyline, Inc., has no contract with and leases no product from those companies. The Dayton Drive-in Theatre Co. was named as intervenor.

'Bess' Exploiteers Conclude Meetings

ATLANTA, Nov. 17.—Following a two-day meeting at the Biltmore Hotel, here, with William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation, and Howard Herty, Los Angeles field representative and advance men for the personal appearance tour of "Bess," the horse, seven M-G-M field exploiteers have returned to their respective territories. William Ornstein of the home office also attended and has returned to New York with Ferguson and Herty.

From the field were: Bernie Evens, Kansas City; E. B. Coleman, Dallas; James Thames, Memphis; Al Burks, Charlotte; Ed Gardner, Oklahoma City; Emery Austin, Atlanta; and Ken Prickett, New Orleans.

Conte Replaces Stack

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 17.—Illness of Robert Stack, lead in Enterprise's "The Other Love," has necessitated his withdrawal from the role. Richard Conte, who appeared in "A Walk in the Sun," has been selected to replace Stack, whose replacement is estimated to set the production back by $100,000.

'Humoresque' Opening

"Humoresque," Warner Brothers, has been set to open Christmas morning at the Hollywood Theatre, here. It will follow "Deception," which is now in its fifth week at the Broadway first-run.

Reviews

"Dick Tracy vs. Cueball"

(RKO Radio)

THE second feature in RKO Radio's "Dick Tracy" series bristles with all of the action and skullduggery that is so adroitly epitomized in Chester Gould's super-popular cartoon strip, dealing with the stirring adventures of that rawboned, natty police detective whose name is a household word everywhere—maybe even in China. To point out that this picture, like its predecessor, is a promotional "natural," is one way of saying the obvious. What some exhibitors did exploitation-wise with the first "Dick Tracy" picture, can even be surpassed with "Cueball," now that exhibitors have had a try-out.

Studded with many fresh, exciting touches—credit for same going to director Gordon M. Douglas, who must have relished his assignment—this number is essentially straight-away cops-and-robbers fare of the most elemental sort and, as such, adheres closely to the nature of the cartoon from which it stems. Cueball (he was as bald as a billiard) is freshly invented for the picture. Played by Dick Wessel, he is big, tough and cruel—a killer. His murder of a jewel merchant and theft of gems sets Tracy, portrayed by Morgan Conway, on his trail. Clues lead the detective to an antique shop and a sordid bar room run by an old "hag," excellently played by Esther Howard, but before he catches up with Cueball, to engage in a running gun-fight, the villain kills several of his more "genteel" collaborators in arguments over the gems, and also slays Miss Howard during a particularly gripping scene.

All of the characterizations are good, but especially so is that of Vitamin Flintheart, played by Ian Keith. Anne Jeffreys plays Tracy's sweetheart, Tess; Lyle Latell is Pat Patton, the detective's right-hand man, and Jimmy Crane plays Junior. Others in the cast include Rita Corday, Douglas Walton, Byron Foulger and Joseph Crehan. Dane Lussier and Robert E. Kent wrote the screenplay, from an original by Luci Ward. Herman Schlom's production is nicely polished.

Running time, 62 minutes. General audience classification. For December release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"That Brennan Girl"

(Republic)

BASED upon the poignant problem of irresponsible motherhood—a problem intensified by the war—"That Brennan Girl" is a touching story which relates the near-tragic consequences of the behavior of a young attractive widow who, forsaking her duty as a mother, seeks to pursue "the easy road."

A sprawling script, unevenly paced and ranging over a wide latitude of experiences, the picture gingerly sidesteps a cops-and-robbers tale to become, instead, the story of the young widow's trials with her baby. In those moments when it sets sympathetic chords in vibration, the picture is guaranteed to bring out the handkerchiefs.

Out of Republic's upper stratum, the film is sustained by a good cast, topped by James Dunn, who is smooth as the affable racketeer with a warm Irish heart who takes Mona Freeman, a young starlet endowed with a sensitive face as well as acting ability, into his hijacking racket after discovering that she has been earning her keep by petty pilfering. In a quick romance with a serviceman, played by William Marshall (another newcomer with box-office potentialities), Miss Freeman marries, becomes a widow and has a baby. Others in the cast are: June Duprez, who appears spasmodically to educate Miss Freeman, her daughter, to the short cut to "good living;" Frank Jenks as a cab driver, Dorothy Vaughan as Dunn's mother, and Rosalind Ivan as a dour landlady.

Alfred Santell gets credit for production and direction of a screen play written by Doris Anderson, based on a story by Adela Rogers St. John.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 23.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Boston Blackie and the Law"

(Columbia)

LIBERALLY sprinkling with action, comedy (mostly slapstick), and mysterious doings, this latest edition in Columbia's "Boston Blackie" series rates a place with the better of its predecessors. Chester Morris again renders a neat performance as the roguish sleuth whose abilities prove embarrassing to police inspector Farraday (Richard Lane), and George Stone plays Morris' side-kick, "The Runt."

This time Blackie demonstrates his prowess as a magician before inmates in a women's penitentiary and therewith inadvertently aids one of the girls in escaping. The police take him for an accomplice, and the elusive Blackie assumes the task of getting the girl back to prison. Before long, however, Blackie and the police find themselves headed toward the solution of an old, unsolved robbery, with their principal adversary turning out to be a professional magician (Warren Ashe.)

Ashe is murdered, Blackie is suspected of the crime, and the police become more confused. Blackie finally catches up with the escaped convict (Constance Dowling) only to find her murdered by the magician's sweetheart (Trudy Marshall) and it doesn't take the sleuth long to prove Miss Marshall is the brains behind the dirty work. D. Ross Lederman directed, from an original by Harry J. Essex. Ted Richmond produced.

Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Relaese date, Dec. 12.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Distributors File in Jackson Park Case

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—Defendants in the Jackson Park Theatre case, which radically changes the Chicago clearance system, on Friday filed notice of appeal protesting Judge Igoe's ruling of Oct. 16 and posted a $100,000 surety bond pending outcome of the final decision by the U. S. District Court of Appeals. The bond is to insure the plaintiffs of payment of possible damages during the time the appeal is pending.

From present indications the case will not come before the Court of Appeals until next June. Meantime, the *status quo* in the Chicago clearance system will be maintained, with possible changes only as ruled by the New York Court decree.

One of the prime objections of the five distributor defendants and the Balaban and Katz and Warner circuits, is the limitation of two weeks clearance for initial Loop runs. Thomas C. McConnell, lawyer for Jackson Park, said today he was confident that the Court of Appeals will uphold Judge Igoe's District Court ruling. He added that in all likelihood it could well set a pattern for the rest of the country. Both McConnell and lawyers for the defendants indicated that in all likelihood the case will eventually reach the U. S. Supreme Court.

Carrier Promotes 3 Sales Executives

SYRACUSE, Nov. 17.—Promotion of O. W. Bynum as Carrier Corp. manager of direct sales, John A. Gazelle as manager of distributor-dealer sales and Carl U. Spriggs as assistant general sales manager has been announced by Arthur P. Shanklin, vice-president and general sales manager of Carrier, which manufacturers air conditioning systems for theatres and other places. All three will make their headquarters in Syracuse.

Fletcher Heads Film Co.

CHICAGO, Nov. 17.—C. Scott Fletcher, executive director of the Committee for Economic Development, and former general sales manager of Studebaker Corp., has been elected president of Encyclopaedia Britannica Films, Inc., succeeding E. H. Powell, president since 1943, who is now chairman of its board of directors. Powell is also president of Encyclopaedia Britannica.

Raise License Fees

NORTHAMPTON, Mass., Nov. 17.—Increases in fees for Sunday licenses have been levied on all theatres, in a move which will cost local theatre men $1,250 in license fees annually. The Calvin will pay $25 instead of $10; the Plaza $10 instead of $5, and the Academy of Music $15, instead of $10.

$12,668 New Mexico Tax

ALBUQUERQUE, Nov. 17. — Collections of the two per cent state sales tax from theatres and other amusements in New Mexico during Sept., 1946, totaled $12,668, according to the New Mexico State Bureau of Revenue.

NAVIGATOR!



When you sail the seas of Showmanship . . . be sure that your Navigator is the PRIZE BABY . . . whose SEE-WORTHY Trailers and Accessories . . . weather any storm . . . and bring you safely into port! ★ ★ ★ During his Twenty Six Years of SEEmanship . . . this able mariner has charted the waters of better *Showmanship* . . . and he knows how to avoid the rocks and reefs . . . that spell disaster for the uninitiated ★ ★ ★ It's Full-Speed-Ahead . . . when you travel with this lad . . . and you are always on your course to Bigger Profits . . . because his compass is always pointing at your *Box Office*!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 99 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA, 28 WEST 44TH ST., NEW YORK, N. Y. (3 COPIES)

Republicans Oppose U.S. Film Program

Congressional Leaders Call Plan 'Unhealthy'

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Republican Congressional leaders do not favor the establishment of an industry-wide film committee to work with the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, and indicate they will not support one.

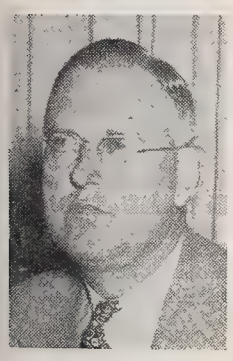
They went on record today as resenting efforts to continue "New Dealish" propaganda through the medium of motion pictures. Expressions against such a program were made by both Senate leader Robert Taft of Ohio and Congressman Joseph Martin, slated to become speaker of the House.

Industry representatives have been invited to meet at the White House

(*Continued on page 6*)

White House Meet To Be Held Today

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Representatives of the industry will attend a conference at the White House tomorrow afternoon at the request of John Steelman, director of the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion, who seeks to set up a committee to facilitate the Government's film program.



© *Harris & Ewing*
John R. Steelman

Speakers will include U. S. Attorney General Tom Clark, who plans to discuss the value of educational pictures; General Omar Bradley, veterans' administrator, who will discuss film messages for veterans, and Undersecretary of State William Clayton, outlining the importance of pictures in the U. S. cultural relations and information program.

Among those who have accepted invitations to attend are: Charles M.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Chicago Proposes Admission Tax

Chicago, Nov. 18.—A finance subcommittee of the city council here today considered a tax on movie admissions as one way of raising $2,000,000 to meet the city's increased costs for labor and materials. Proposed by Budget Director Lindell was a tax of one half of one per cent on tickets up to 30 cents; one cent tax on 30 to 50-cent tickets; two cents for 50-cent to $1-tickets and three cents for tickets above $1.

Mayor Edward J. Kelly opposed "too high" taxes on children's tickets. A flat tax of two per cent on all sport events was approved today by the finance subcommittee.

Krug Bids Theatres To Conserve Coal

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—U. S. Interior Secretary J. A. Krug today urged theatre managers to begin conserving both coal and electric power "immediately" in the face of a threatened coal miners' strike this week, despite government efforts to avert it.

(Despite a Government-secured temporary court order prohibiting John L. Lewis's United Mine Workers Union from carrying out a nation-wide coal stoppage at midnight Wednesday, some 35,000 soft coal miners in eight states yesterday started walking off their jobs.—Editors' Note)

Krug has issued a sweeping order placing coal on a ration basis, with all fuel now in production to be "frozen" for use only by railroads, utilities, hospitals, and other vital public service activities.

Blackout Probable

If the strike begins and has suf-

(*Continued on page 10*)

Goldwyn Points to British for Quality

British producers, operating through the individual units encouraged by the J. Arthur Rank system, are thinking for themselves and, as a result are turning out pictures that are gaining popularity in the U. S. and providing a threat which may "stir Hollywood

(*Continued on page 10*)

RKO 9-Month Net Rises 6 Millions; Earns $9,963,906

Consolidated net profit of Radio-Keith-Orpheum Corp., headed by N. Peter Rathvon, for the first nine months of 1946 was $9,963,906, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately $2.59 per share on the 3,839,600 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of the period, compared with consolidated net profit for the first nine months of 1945 of $3,941,830, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent (after allowing for dividends on the 6 per cent



N. Peter Rathvon

(*Continued on page 6*)

Ex-Mayor Walker Died Last Night

Former Mayor James Joseph Walker, 65, died at 6:25 last night at Doctors Hospital. Death was caused by a cerebral thrombosis. He was taken to the hospital yesterday morning in an unconscious condition.

Walker was at one time counsel for the old New York Theatre Owners Chamber of Commerce composed of New York City theatre owners. He had many close friends in the film industry and was an active legislative friend of the industry while serving as state senator at Albany.

NCA Votes to Join National Allied

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 18. — North Central Allied joined National Allied by a unanimous vote at the close of the midyear convention at the Nicollet Hotel here today, following approval at a morning board meeting which had only one dissenting vote. A committee is to be named by President Ben Berger to investigate the caravan service and report recommendations at the next regular meeting.

Berger asked full support to carry a test case against Ascap, one of several scheduled to be heard in the Dis-

(*Continued on page 10*)

Bar Exhibitors Voice Before High Tribunal

Deny Intervention Pleas; Amicus Curiae Granted

When the industry anti-trust suit is appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court, exhibitors will not be able to voice their opinions before the high tribunal. This result is brought about through a decision handed down by New York Federal District Court Judges A. N. Hand, H. W. Goddard and John Bright denying the intervention petitions of the American Theatres Association, the Southern California Theatre Owners Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations.

The Department of Justice, however, reflected exhibitor views somewhat in its original prosecution of the case, as well as in its proposals for a final decree, which still is pending, and has promised to move with regard to what it deems is the best interests of independent theatre owners when the final phase of the suit unfolds in Washington. But exhibitors are divided as to the desirability of total di-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Kanturek European Chief of MPEA

Louis Kanturek, heretofore managing director for the Motion Picture Export Association in Czechoslovakia, has been named European supervisor with his territory embracing Czechoslovakia, Poland, Austria, Hungary, Rumania, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria, the association announced here yesterday following receipt of a cable from Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, who has arrived in Berlin after presiding at a conference of field managers and representatives in Paris.

The meeting, Maas reported, was successful in resolving organizational problems and formulating policies for distribution, which is expected to be considerably expanded in 1947.

Following conferences with military officials in Berlin, and inspection of

(*Continued on page 6*)

In This Issue

Reports on theatre grosses will be found on page 7.

Personal Mention

KARL G. MACDONALD, vice-president of Warner International, returned yesterday from a tour of the company's branches in Brazil.

•

H. GREENE of the Orr Circuit, Albertville, Ala.; P. L. TAYLOR and J. B. COLLEY of Columbus, Ga., and C. K. ELLIS of the Star Theatre, New Smyrna Beach, Fla., were visitors in Atlanta.

•

BERT GRANET, RKO Radio producer, is in New York from Germany where he spent four weeks scouting for talent; he will leave for Hollywood on Thursday.

•

RALPH STITT, 20th Century-Fox field exploitation representative, in Hartford, was recently married to MISS DOROTHY PARKER of Bridgeport.

•

LIONEL KEENE, former district manager for Loew's Theatres and owner of the several theatres in Atlanta, has returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

•

TOMMY GRACE, manager of the Eastwood Theatre, East Hartford, Conn., is observing his 19th year in the film industry.

•

CEREDIC GIBBONS, art director for M-G-M studios, is in New York from California, accompanied by MRS. GIBBONS.

•

GEORGE WELTNER, Paramount International president, is due to return here from London around Dec. 1.

•

CARTER BARRON of Loew's Washington organization was a visitor in Atlanta at the weekend.

•

EDWARD MOREY, Monogram vice-president, is scheduled to return here today from the Coast.

•

FRANK HYNES has been appointed assistant director of the Paramount Dramatic Society here.

•

MOZELLE STARR of M-G-M's Atlanta office has returned there from a vacation in Florida.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, M-G-M publicity manager, will leave for Hollywood today.

•

RAOUL WALSH, Warner director, has returned to Hollywood from New Orleans.

•

HAL WALLIS has postponed his departure from the Coast from New York.

•

JOHN PIERRE AUMONT, actor, has arrived in New York from Beverly Hills.

•

MARIAN DUNAWAY of the Florida State Theatres and VICTOR CAIN were married on Saturday.

•

FOSTER BLAKE, Universal's district manager, is in Denver.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 18

THE UA situation may have descended like a cloudburst, but it's been formulating for some time. First, the legal action filed by Charlie Chaplin against David O. Selznick over the latter's deal by which 20th-Fox produced "The Keys of the Kingdom" and "Jane Eyre", among others. UA partner Chaplin charged UA partner Selznick had used UA funds, in part anyway, to develop properties which never benefited from UA distribution. For whatever reason, the suit has never reached trial, but it sharpened the rift between these two member-owners.

Secondly, Selznick personalities — Dorothy McGuire, Joan Fontaine, etc. — and a Selznick producer—Dore Schary—moving to RKO Radio on a package-deal embracing "The Spiral Staircase" and "Till the End of Time," et al, which similarly never reached UA distribution. There is no suit on this, at least not yet. But Chaplin, supported by UA partner Mary Pickford, maintains Selznick has breached his contract. In the UA setup, like a ball game where it's three strikes and out, David O. may have two against him.

■

Whether he did or did not will be determined by due process of law or it will be forgotten if the three partners, who together own UA, can settle their differences. Isaac Pennypacker, Quaker City lawyer who undertook an investigation of the RKO arrangement with sanction of all the partners which, interestingly enough, includes Selznick, has completed his probings.

The report — by report — is conditioned with a number of "ifs" and some "buts", meaning by that there appear to be questions susceptible to interpretation. In turn, these interpretations deal with fine-line questions as to what constitutes a producer and what he has to do to get that way. As for Selznick, it is maintained for him that someone ought to read his UA pact for the answer which, he maintains, makes it clear he has violated nothing at all.

■

While there is not much on which the two camps agree, it is agreed UA is no longer interested in releasing Selznick's product. On the eve of the first roadshow dates of "Duel in the Sun" this seems reason enough to precipitate astonishment. Astonishment or not, that's the way it is unless Selznick agrees to unwind his distribution contract under which he initially pays 25 per cent and thereafter, under certain conditions and grosses, can drop rapidly to 15 per cent and finally to an incredibly low 10. The Chaplin-Pickford coalition maintains this is burdensome on UA.

Selznick's forces say UA knew what it was signing at the time. They also say the opposition understands full well Selznick will not consider revision. They go beyond to claim the distribution deal rings a minor note in an internal manouvre to end the association with Selznick either by first buying in the UA stock which he now three-fifths owns, on their terms, or by suing to set aside the arrangement by which it was acquired.

■

Selznick is willing to sell. He is willing to buy, too, as already reported. On the basis of a $15,000,000 valuation reported mutually agreed upon, he wants $5,000,000 to get out or will pay Chaplin and Miss Pickford $5,000,000 each for their respective thirds. When Charley Schwartz, Chaplin's lawyer, who figures prominently in these jockeyings, asked, "In cash?" and was answered, "In cash," the grapevine report says he gulped once or twice.

But Selznick's chances are highly remote and he knows it. Miss Pickford, a one-time neutral in the Selznick-Chaplin impasse, but now a Chaplin ally, might have sold at one time, not now. Chaplin is understood to have declared he would never dispose of a solitary share of his holdings.

■

If Selznick won't unbend on distribution—and he won't—and if UA won't accept future product from him unless he does; if the Chaplin and Pickford groups won't meet Selznick's demand for $5,000,000—and there is no inkling they will; if they refuse to sell out to Selznick—and undoubtedly they will not—what then?

The answers might be several. It all depends on whether or not the Chaplin-Pickford bloc determines to go to court.

■

If this is to be it, Selznick will go and do likewise. He will draw upon six actions already tentatively roughed out, charging UA has done some breaching on its own as in the

(*Continued on page* 6)

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTA

THE THUNDERING SAGA OF THE PONY EXPRESS!
"PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY"
starring
WILLIAM ELLIOTT - VERA RALSTON
GAIL PATRICK - JOSEPH SCHILDKRAUT
Associate Producer and Director
JOSEPH KANE
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
3RD WEEK • GOTHAM B'way & 47th St.

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
GEORGE RAFT · LYNN BARI
in
NOCTURNE
with
VIRGINIA HUSTON · JOSEPH PEVNEY · MYRNA DELL

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN '3 WISE FOOLS' MARGARET O'BRIEN
IN PERSON DAVE APOLLON
Extra! HARRY BABBITT

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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YRONE POWER
GENE TIERNEY
OHN PAYNE
nne BAXTER
lifton WEBB
lerbert MARSHALL
Darryl F. Zanuck's Production of
V. Somerset Maugham's

The Razor's Edge

roduced by
DARRYL F. ZANUCK
irected by
EDMUND GOULDING
creen Play by
LAMAR TROTTI
rom the Novel by W. Somerset Maugham

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS AUG. 25th - DEC. 28th

CENTURY-FOX

EVERY DAY ENHANCES ITS GREATNESS!

TONIGHT...

The great, the glamorous, the celebrated will see the World Premiere of

The Razor's Edge

AT THE ROXY, NEW YORK

TOMORROW...

They will join with one voice in spreading the word

"The Greatest Motion Picture I Have Seen In My Life!"



MARK WELL THE DAY!

The BEST thing it

Thursday evening, N

"The BE

of Our

will have its World Prem

at the ASTOR Theatre, N

ever happened will happen on

November 21st, at 8:30 o'clock, when

ST Years

Lives"



MARK WELL THE DAY!

Bar Exhibitors

(*Continued from page* 1)

vorcement of distributors from their theatres, and this is the end for which the Department has decided to press in its appeal.

In denying the intervention petitions, the New York judges accepted the briefs of ATA, SCTOA and CSA on an *amicus curiae* basis. All three groups opposed the sale of films through competitive bidding, which was called for in the June decision.

Six other petitions, which did not seek to go beyond the *amnicus curiae* basis, also were allowed. They came from the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, opposing "auction" sales; the Conference of Independent Exhibitor Assocations, and Radio Centre, Inc., urging a ban on cross-licensing among the theatre-owning defendants; the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers and Vanguard Films, seeking to have road shows exempted from the court's prohibition against price-fixing, and Joseph P. Day, Inc., proposing a method of handling competitive bids.

Although the New York court's final decree is not expected to be handed down for several weeks, or even months, the Department of Justice already is preparing its appeal to the Supreme Court. The defendants have indicated that they will appeal.

Kanturek Named

(*Continued from page* 1)

facilities handling the distribution of U. S. product in the American-occupied zones, Maas will proceed to Vienna and Prague. Also on his itinerary are Sofia, Belgrade, Bucharest, Budapest and Warsaw.

Harmon Silent on MPEA Bid to U. A.

Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, back in New York from the Coast, yesterday declined to comment on the results of his efforts to bring United Artists producers into the Motion Picture Export Association fold. A spokesman for the MPA foreign distribution subsidiary said that the question of whether the producers will authorize UA to channel their product through MPEA has yet to be resolved. Harmon's silence does not alter earlier indications that UA is not particularly receptive to the export association.

Variety Club Elects

ATLANTA, Nov. 18. — The local Variety Club has named a new slate of directors for 1947, including O. C. Lam, John Cunningham, Walter Speight, Guy Brown, Charlie Durmeyer, E. E. Whitaker, Emory Sustin, Ike Katz, E. D. Martin and Mack Jackson.



Admission Increases Widespread: Filmack

Chicago, Nov. 18. — Theare admissions continue to increase in practically all parts of the country, according to Filmack Trailers, which reports that most of the special trailers ordered by exhibitors to announce their new admission prices are necessary because of added film rentals, higher salaries and higher costs in theatre operation.

In most situations, children's admissions have been raised two and three cents, while adult prices have averaged an increase of five to eight.

White House Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Reagan, William F. Rodgers, William Powers, Donald M. Nelson, Francis S. Harmon, Kenneth Clark, Leonard Goldenson, Ralph I. Poucher, Meyer Schine, Fred Wehrenberg, Lewen Pizor, Herman Levy, Martin Quigley, Jr., R. B. Wilby, E. V. Richards, Ted R. Gamble, S. H. Fabian, Arthur Tourtellot, A. J. Richard, Harry Brandt, Malcolm Kingsberg, Jesse L. Stern, Mack Jackson.

Reagan, as chairman of the industry distributors' committee set up following dissolution of the War Activities Committee, will act at the meeting on behalf of any distribution companies not otherwise represented.

Clark Postpones Dec. 12 Conference

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18.—Attorney General Tom Clark has postponed his planned conference on juvenile delinquency with film producers which was scheduled for Dec. 12, here.

Clark said today that the Justice Department wants to explore the possibilities for an educational film program on both the commercial and academic levels. He said that the meeting with leading producers will be held sometime after Jan. 1.

The Attorney General added that he is anxious to have the advice of the industry on the matter of educational pictures, and he said the Department may ask the film companies to cooperate in its program. It is actually in a formulative stage at present, he concluded.

Nelson to New York

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Donald Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, who left here by plane today to attend the industry meeting at the White House in Washington tomorrow, will visit New York before his return to the Coast.

Illinois Owners to Honor Jack Kirsch

CHICAGO, Nov. 18.—Several hundred exhibitors and representatives of the industry of Chicago and Northern Illinois, will pay their respects to Jack Kirsch, president of the Allied Buying and Booking Organization at the fourth anniversary stag dinner of the buying group, on Friday, Dec. 6, in the Congress Hotel.

RKO 9-Month Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

preferred stock) to approximately $1.19 per share on the 2,873,053 shares of common stock outstanding on Sept. 30, 1945.

Consolidated net profit of RKO and subsidiaries for the third quarter of 1946 was $308,082,553, after taxes and all other charges, equivalent to approximately 80 cents per share on the 3,839,600 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of that quarter. This compares with consolidated net profit of $1,520,052 for the third quarter of 1945, likewise after taxes and all other charges, equivalent (after allowing for dividends on the six per cent preferred stock) to approximately 47 cents per share on the 2,873,053 shares of common stock outstanding at the end of that quarter.

RKO Slates 10-Week Children's Program

Ten weeks of Saturday morning shows for children, selected from the Children's Film Library, will be a contribution to holiday entertainment by RKO Theatres here, beginning Dec. 28. The Library, sponsored by Eric Johnston and 10 distributors, has been approved by Parent-Teacher and other reviewing groups and has won the special recommendation of New York license commissioner Benjamin Fielding, who has urged New York schools to encourage the showing of these pictures.

Cleveland Children's Shows Lack Parental Support

CLEVELAND, Nov. 18.—Cleveland parents, educators and Parent-Teachers associations are on trial as to their sincerity in wanting specially-selected film shows for Cleveland, according to industry circles here. Saturday morning shows tried out in the spring and early fall is out in the Cleveland area because of lack of parental support. The policy has now been shifted to Saturday afternoons. It will be given a trial by exhibitors but will be continued only so long as it gets the backing of the organizations which have clamored for this type of juvenile entertainment. All houses have dropped the special 25-cent admission rate. Some have reverted to their regular 10-cent scale. Warner theatres have adopted a sliding scale of 10 cents to 12-year-olds, 25 cents to 15 years and the individual theatre adult scale for all over 15. J. Knox Strachan reports that of the 11 Warner houses presenting special programs selected from the approved list last Saturday, the results were 50-50. Where the manager went out and sold the show, attendance was good. Where attendance depended principally on parental support, attendance was fair.

Rowland Is Improving

Richard Rowland, 20th Century-Fox executive, yesterday was reported to be improving at West Side Hospital, here, where he was confined about three weeks ago with a kidney ailment.

WB Releases Henried

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Paul Henried, actor, who asked Warners for release from his contract, has been granted it.

Republicans Oppose

(*Continued from page* 1)

tomorrow with John R. Steelman, head of the OMR, to discuss a Government film program and possibly form an industry committee to work out the manner and method of handling one.

Both lawmakers indicated that "propaganda films" by Democratic writers are "unhealthy" and would be a vehicle for the executive branch of the Government in putting over its ideas to the American people.

Speaking as an individual, Senator Taft asserted that the time has come for "objectivity." He stated that the public cannot be objective when "New Deal" type information is fed them by information services of the various Government departments and on the screen by the OWMR.

Against Propaganda

Senator Taft contended that GOP has always been against the dissemination of propaganda by Government agencies. He also said he is opposed to the production of pictures by Government agencies.

"Production should be left to commercial companies in order to preserve our free economic system," Senator Taft asserted. He added that the film industry should not get itself "mixed up" in a move to continue putting over propaganda to the public in pictures. He pointed out that during war time, the coordination of informational media is necessary. However, he concluded that the formation of a "propaganda outlet" during peacetime is not a safe move to make.

Congressman Martin asserted that Republican leaders in the House of Representatives have been fighting Administration propaganda for 12 years. He declared that the use of the press, radio and motion pictures as a means of propagandizing the people is "not the function of a Democratic Government."

Martin Doubtful

Martin said that he has some doubt about the legality of forming such an industry committee. The Massachusetts Representative expressed the belief that before OWMR forms an industry committee, even though it be on a voluntary basis, it should have the approval of Congress. He added that the OPA, before appointing advisory groups had Congressional approval written into its price control bill.

According to Taft and Martin, the OWMR won't last for long anyway, because it has funds to operate until June, 1947, only.

Insiders' Outlook

(*Continued from page* 2)

alleged instance of a "Spellbound" date in Denver, the terms of which has sales force presumably never approved.

But it has to be remembered UA maintains it no longer wants the producer's films, which seems to suggest he can do what he pleases with them. What Selznick pleases to do is to get moving on his own with his own sales force and someone else's physical facilities.

Three such deals are simmering now.

N. Y. First-run Grosses Drop

In contrast to top-notch business of recent weeks at New York's first-run situations, the current week's income is spotty. Several theatremen charge the decline to some extent to the drop subsequent product now playing neighborhood houses while another group reports that the general peak-business period is nearing its end.

"Notorious Gentleman," one of the few exceptions, got under way impressively at the Winter Garden, with a big $47,000 in its first week. Two other beginners are "The Chase," which is fair at $24,000 for a first week at the Globe, and "Criminal Court," which probably will gross an unfavorable $6,000 for its first and only week at the Rialto; "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" will open at the house on Friday.

"Rage in Heaven," M-G-M reprint which concluded its first week at the Capitol with a very healthy $82,628, figures to bring $62,000 in a second week; Enric Madriguera's orchestra is on the stage. "The Jolson Story" is standing up well at the Music Hall where the sixth week's business is expected to reach $116,000. The final six days (seventh week) of "Margie," with the stage show, at the Roxy will bring $74,000. The invitation premiere of "The Razor's Edge" will take place at the theatre tonight; the general run will begin tomorrow.

"Blue Skies"

"Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra, will gross $90,000 in a fifth week at the Paramount, which is good business. "Two Years Before the Mast" chalked up a fairly substantial $35,000 in an eighth week at the Rivoli.

"Nobody Lives Forever," with Lionel Hampton on stage, at the Strand, is somewhat off in its third and final week, estimated at $53,000, and will be followed on Friday by "Never Say Goodbye." "Deception" will bring in about $23,000 in a moderate fifth week at the Hollywood, after having drawn $28,000 in the previous week. The second week of "Nocturne" is good for $24,000 at the Palace; the film will continue to Nov. 27 when "Song of the South," Disney-RKO Radio, will open. "The Dark Mirror" should gross about $27,000, which is fairly well, in a fifth week at the Criterion; it will continue.

The 12th and final week of "Caesar and Cleopatra" at the Astor figures to bring in a rather meager $14,000. "The Best Years of Our Lives" will open there Thursday evening. The sixth week of "The Westerner" will provide the Victoria with an estimated $11,800, while "Fantasia," in its eighth week at the Republic, is good for $7,000. "The Plainsman and the Lady" is headed for a modest $8,000 in a third and final week at the Gotham; it will be replaced there on Saturday by "The Man from Morocco."

WPTZ Promotes Walling

PHILADELPHIA Nov. 18. — Ernest Walling, executive producer for Philco television station WPTZ, has been promoted to program manager of WPTZ, by Ernest B. Loveman, vice-president of Philco.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

A cold, rainy weekend failed to affect theatre attendance, and virtually all houses are heading for upper-bracket figures, with some of the returns being particularly good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 19-22:

EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Stage: Gene Krupa and orchestra, plus acts. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $22,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $10,000)

CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio) and STRANGE HOLIDAY (PRC) — RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600)

TRAIL TO MEXICO (Mono.) and ACCOMPLICE (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000 (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, on a moveover after two weeks at the Shubert following an opening week at the Palace. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus at Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $13,500)

BRIEF ENCOUNTER (U)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

Getting off to only average openings and with the weekend business hitting about the same pace, box-office figures are not what managers would like them to be. Weather conditions are favorable, and the only outside competition comes from the Shrine Circus. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 21:

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,500)

KEITH'S (2,409) 35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, **THE DARK MIRROR (International)** — 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $10,750)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $17,500)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days, with stage show. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $18,000)

ADAM HAD FOUR SONS (Col. Reissue)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

ATLANTA

Most box-offices came to life with new product and healthy holdovers. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20:

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $9,200. (Average: $8,200)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c) 3rd week on a moveover. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,600)

BORN FOR TROUBLE (WB Reissue) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,200)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M Reissue)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

Short Subject

"Beauty for Sale"

(*This Is America—RKO Radio*)

"Beauty For Sale" goes behind the scenes in advertising art departments, model agencies and illustrators' studios, to tell a lively, appealing story of models and modeling. Korky Kelly, elected "most photogenic girl in the world" by the Society of Photographic Illustrators, makes her screen debut in "Beauty for Sale" as the "Cinderella girl" from Ohio. This short is in the best tradition of a motion picture series that combines information with enjoyment and fact with fascination. An engaging, stimulating start on the fifth year of "This Is America" subjects. Running time, 18 minutes.

Toddy to Sell Abroad; Kahn Named Mgr.

Toddy Pictures Co., has organized an international division for distribution of their features abroad. The 16mm. and 35mm. films carry superimposed titles in Spanish, French and other languages. M. H. Khan has been appointed manager of the new division.





Gene's First

SIOUX CITY SUE

with CHAMPION Wonder Horse of the West and

LYNNE ROBERTS • STERLING HOLLOWAY • CASS COUNTY BOYS

Directed by Frank McDonald • Original Screen Play by Olive Cooper • A REPUBLIC PICTURE

AUTRY'S BACK

to the box office . . .

BIGGER

and BETTER

than EVER !

BACK to **REPUBLIC** and his millions of movie fans . . .

WORLD PREMIERE

TRI-STATES' HOLLYWOOD THEATRE
SIOUX CITY, IOWA • NOVEMBER 20

Goldwyn

(*Continued from page* 1)

out of its complacency," Samuel Goldwyn stated here yesterday. Blasting the film capital with the charge that it has not changed in these changing times, he called for a sharp decrease in the amount of product made annually by American companies, with a corresponding increase in quality.

Recognizing that this recommendation comes at a time when many exhibitors are pressing for increased production, Goldwyn said: "They have never played a picture as long as they should. They have made a lot of money during the past few years, in a buyers' market rather than a sellers' market." He declared the time would come when subsequent-runs which now show a film two or three days will hold it for a week.

Goldwyn holds that this must change, largely because "there are not enough good writers with a real story to tell to write 400 or 500 pictures a year."

Emotional Reaction

"With few exceptions, what most of Hollywood does not recognize is that the American people are going through a postwar emotional reaction. They are faced with many problems, personal and worldwide, and what they want is not pure escapism in their pictures but some reflection of their own emotional turmoil," Goldwyn declared.

Voicing the need for creative new blood in the studios, the producer declared that "some of the unions have stopped that." He cited the example of "wonderful cameramen from all over the world" who cannot get permits to work on the Coast because of the closed shop. The U. S. industry's promised exchange of technicians with the British has not materialized, so far as Goldwyn has heard.

Goldwyn, whose "The Best Years of Our Lives" is scheduled to open at the Astor Theatre here on Thursday, plans to sail with Mrs. Goldwyn for England on Dec. 14 to spend six days, including Christmas, with his son, who is with producer Sydney Box. "Best Years" is set to open in London during his stay.

Says British Films Top Grossers in UK

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—British pictures are out-grossing comparable American pictures by from 16 to 20 per cent in England, Walter Wanger told the press today on his return from a visit to London. Crediting the change to the maturing effect of the war years on the British public, which British producers reflect in their pictures, Wanger urged upon American producers the advisability of visiting England and the Continent to acquaint themselves with the postwar status of the entertainment appetite, and to condition their films accordingly in order to protect the American industry's foreign market.

Wanger said the chief difference in the present English demand consists of preference for films in which a mature viewpoint, treatment and characterization are presented. He specified that this does not mean a change in subject matter, and that new taste standards are applied to comedies, musicals, dramas, and all types of material.

Wanger's observations will result in revision of the treatment of the three productions remaining on his Universal-International schedule, the producer said, and on pictures produced thereafter for United Artists release.

Krug Bids Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

ficient longevity, another power blackout is a probability, Krug indicated.

Krug recently praised exhibitors for their cooperation during the last coal strike. Theatres were blacked out, and in some cities shut down. The strike threat now would be effective at midnight Wednesday, when the Government coal contract terminates.

This strike will have a more serious impact upon theatres than the previous one because it will have a dual effect upon the exhibitor. First problem will be heating and secondly, electric power will be short within 10 days after the strike commences. The heat was not turned on during the last (59-day) walkout.

Estimates here are that there is only a three-week supply of bituminous coal stocks on hand. The Interior Department has been operating the coal industry for six months.

Discussing the role played by the film industry, Krug today emphasized the importance of every theatre conserving heat and electricity during the next few weeks, in the event of a long strike. Krug asserted that he cannot tell yet whether electric power limitation may be necessary. "That depends upon how long a strike lasts if it is called by John L. Lewis," Krug said.

Breathing Spell?

Lewis, however, has estimated that it will take one month to work up a contract with mine operators. He may, according to a United Mines Workers spokesman, give management a breathing spell and negotiate a contract without calling the miners from their jobs. This will be decided by Lewis and his executive board before the Wednesday deadline.

Some sources here indicate that Lewis never "actually intended a strike," but just wanted to use a scare to get the mines away from control of the Interior Department. While the mines are Government-operated, a contract giving an increase in pay and other concessions asked by the UMW cannot be drawn.

Enterprise Deal By January: Einfeld

Enterprise Productions "has made no committments on distribution" and "we may not conclude any arrangements before the end of the year," Charles Einfeld, president, announced here yesterday, on arriving in New York to attend the opening tonight of "Joan of Lorraine," which stars Ingrid Bergman, and also in connection with the screening of final sequences for "Arch of Triumph."

Pointing out that the picture, which will be completed by February, will probably begin its run with a road showing, Einfeld said the company does not feel itself under any immediate pressure to conclude distribution arrangements. He added that Enterprise, with six pictures a year representing an investment of about $13,000,000 and a "world potential" in gross of $30,000,000 to $35,000,000, "will continue to confer with all companies interested in a deal."

Slate New By-Laws For Oklahoma Unit

OKLAHOMA CITY, Nov. 18.—New by-laws, based upon a Congressional districting plan, will be submitted to the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma at its meeting at the Skirvin Hotel, here, on Dec. 9-10, it has been announced by M. Loewenstein, the organization's president.

Asserting that already there is hint of a municipal tax on admissions in one Oklahoma town, Loewenstein indicated that problems of this nature will be dealt with at a round table session at the meeting, which will also feature the awarding of a national citation to the local Variety Club for outstanding service. The theatre Owners will elect new officers and directors at the Dec. 10 session.

Among those who have already accepted invitations to attend the meeting, according to Loewenstein, are the following: R. J. O'Donnell, National Variety president; Ted Gamble, executive director of the American Theatres Association; Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president; William McCraw, executive director of National Variety; Chick Lewis, National Variety publicist; Dave Palfreyman, Motion Picture Association; Herman Levy, MPTOA general counsel; H. M. Richey, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief; Claude Lee, Paramount public relations head; Leon Bamberger, head of RKO Radio public relations, and E. B. Coleman, M-G-M Dallas publicist.

UA Meet Unset, But May Be Held Friday

Date of the next United Artists board meeting appeared indefinite yesterday but it is expected to be held Friday at the earliest, or Tuesday at the latest. Edward C. Raftery, UA president, who arrived here from the Coast yesterday, probably will set the date today or tomorrow for the meeting at which action will be taken on the company's charges of breach of contract against David O. Selznick. The situation is discussed in detail in the first of two reports by Red Kann on page two of this issue of MOTION PICTURE DAILY; the second will be published tomorrow.

Arnold Grant, attorney for Mary Pickford, said here yesterday when asked about the prospect of court action that further developments in the dispute will depend on the outcome of the meeting.

Gradwell Sears, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, is due here today from Hollywood, while Neil F. Agnew, UA director and sales chief for Selznick's Vanguard Films, is expected tomorrow.

Reade and Universal In Clearance Dispute

Final papers were filed in New York State Supreme Court yesterday on the injunction application made by the Normandie Theatre here against Walter Reade's new Park Avenue Theatre and Universal. The plaintiff asks seven-days' clearance over the Reade house with the Universal film, "Canyon Passage," which had been booked to play at the Park Avenue Nov. 24-25, according to Louis Nizer, counsel.

NCA Joins Allied

(*Continued from page* 1)

trict Court, Minneapolis, Dec. 4. He urged members to contact the legislators in opposition to the legislation to be introduced in Minnesota giving communities the power to tax theatres up to 10 per cent of receipts.

Berger failed to get support for a resolution condemning Paramount's sales policies, tactics and refusal to cooperate with NCA. The unit also pledged itself not to pay 50 per cent rentals. No action on local checkers was taken although the practice was termed by Berger the "most damaging thing" in our industry.

Greater Showmanship

Leon Bamberger's plea for greater showmanship cooperation was heartily applauded. Citing figures compiled by Audience Research indicating only 19,000,000 average of 82,000,000 possibilities attend each "A" picture, Bamberger said the surface has not been scratched and that distributors and exhibitors must join in cultivating all possibilities to become regular film theatre patrons.

George Dembow explained that man power and labor shortage had caused grounds for complaints against National Screen Service, but said conditions are now improving. He declared, however, that exhibitors themselves were responsible for some "poor" service charged to NSS, and declared the word service is only noticeable when there is trouble.

Charge Conspiracy To Strike Leaders

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—The studio strike moved into new ground today when the district attorney issued complaints against CSU president Herbert K. Sorrell, and 13 CSU leaders charging criminal conspiracy and other acts.

The complaints, under which warrants were served on about half of the accused number at once, charge the leaders with conspiracy to obstruct the enforcement of court orders, refusal to disperse in compliance with court orders, and to commit assault with deadly weapons and commit acts of extortion in defiance of property rights. The charges carry a maximum penalty of 14 years imprisonment.

Although no date for a hearing was set immediately, CSU spokesmen said the leaders will deny guilt on all counts, meanwhile continuing to prosecute the strike along present lines, which today resulted in mass picketing at the RKO studio and tomorrow will see return to picketing at all laboratories and studios, with concentration on one, undesignated.

In telegram sent to the producers Sunday night, SCU replied to a wire in which the studios Friday refused to resume negotiations. The CSU reply proposed new conditions for return to work, key concession being agreement to allow studio labor heads to allocate all work to whatever union they might select, with the understanding that the allocation could be arbitrated later. The producers tonight had not replied to this offer.

SAG tonight issued statement following special board meeting, explaining that the breakdown in arbitration plans assessing the blame to the "conclusion that certain leaders of CSU do not want the strike settled."

Big Premiere For 'Razor' Tonight

The pomp of top pre-war world premiere screenings is slated for intensified revival this evening when 20th Century-Fox's "The Razor's Edge" opens at the Roxy Theatre, here, to an audience comprised of film stars and other notables of the industry, United Nations' delegates, members of international society, and others.

Climaxing two years of production effort and an extensive advertising-publicity campaign, the picture will make its debut in a glittering whirl of "world premiere" activity, according to advance reports from 20th-Fox. In the theatre lobby, Ben Grauer will introduce incoming celebrities over a television hook-up, Mel Allen will interview them over station WNEW, and Johnny Grant will keep up a running commentary over the theatre's public address system for the information of crowds in the streets.

100 Pinkertons

Elaborate preparations have been made to handle the crowds and traffic by the New York police, the company reports, adding that some 100 Pinkerton detectives will be on hand to facilitate the movements of UN and other ticket-holders to their seats.

The company has arranged for the setting up of special facilities for press representatives and photographers in the lobby, and as the notables enter they will be photographed and interviewed under conditions which will facilitate rapid movement, the company reports. Movietone News cameramen will be stationed at various points.

Besides Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney, Clifton Webb and director Edmund Goulding, a large number of other Hollywood stars and notables will also attend, according to 20th-Fox. However, producer Darryl Zanuck, who was originally scheduled to be on hand, was obliged to cancel his trip from the Coast.

250 Guests to Attend N.Y. 'Father' Opening

Circuit owners, cartoonists, press representatives and Monogram officials will be among the 250 attendin the world premiere of Monogram's "Bringing Up Father" at the Laff Movie Theatre, here, tomorrow night. The event will also be in celebration of the 34th anniversary of the George McManus cartoon from which the picture is adapted. King Features Syndicate executives have also been invited.

Monogram executives who will attend include: Edward Morey, Maurey Goldstein, Nat Furst, Norton V. Ritchey, Madeleine White, and others. Renie Riano, star of the film, is scheduled to make an appearance.

Columbia-Young Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—Under a deal concluded here, Cavalier Productions, Robert Young's independent producing company, has obtained Columbia release for his first picture, a Technicolor Western starring Young. It will start Nov. 20.

Dietz Buys in F-M, SG

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 18.—Harry C. Arthur has sold Fanchon and Marco's and Sam Komm's stockholdings in Screen Guild Productions of St. Louis to Andy Dietz, exchange manager.

Photographers Are Honored by the US

Washington, Nov. 18.—Government leaders paid tribute to photographers this weekend at a special White House Photographers Association banquet, held at the Statler Hotel in appreciation of the work done by both still and newsreel photographers who have covered current events here during the past year.

President Truman, 20th Century-Fox president Spyros Skouras; Maurice Bergman, Universal; Walton Ament, RKO-Pathe; William Rodgers, Loew's-M-G-M; Earl Munson, 20th Century-Fox, and Carter Barton of Loew's were guests. Tony Muto of Movietone, was in charge of entertainment at the affair.

Record Roll-Call For Indiana Meet

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 18.—The longest roll-call in Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana's history is expected for the 20th annual convention to be held tomorrow and Wednesday at the Hotel Severin here. The group will hold its first trade-show since 1940 in conjunction with the meeting.

Leading exhibitor representatives who will take part in the program include four officials of National Allied: Jack Kirsch, president; William L. Ainsworth, treasurer; Abram F. Myers, general counsel; Sidney E. Samuelson, head of the Allied Caravan committee.

Others registered include Ray Branch, president and Jack Stewart, general manager of Allied of Michigan; Gene Custer, president and Rube Shor, secretary of the West Virginia Theatre Managers Association; Dave Palfreyman of the Motion Picture Association; Leon Bamberger of RKO-Radio; Claude Lee and J. J. Donahue, Paramount; Walter Brooks, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

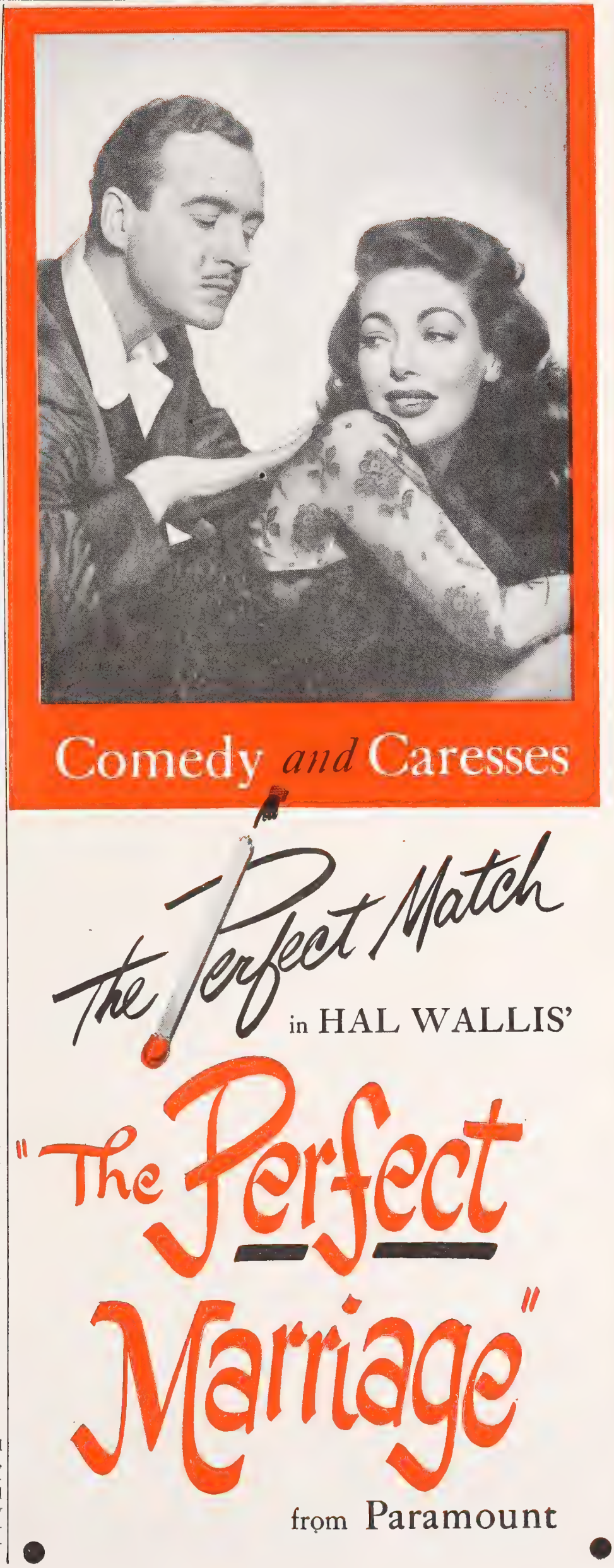
Trueman T. Rembusch, president of the ATOI, will open the first business session at one P.M. tomorrow. Highlights include an explanation of the Government suit by Myers, a report on Allied progress by Kirsch and a discussion of public relations, led by J. W. Barr, local exhibitor. A new board of directors, to be elected at tomorrow's session, will meet Wednesday morning to elect officers.

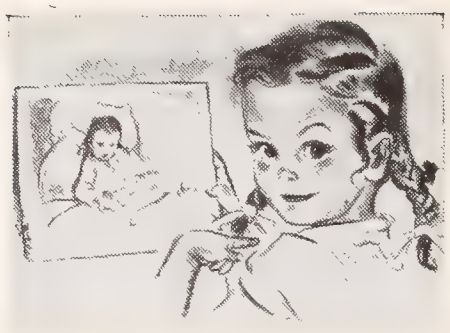
Wednesday afternoon's session will be devoted to a film forum covering distributor profits, Confidential Reports, Inc., the product shortage and Allied's film producing plan. Bamberger will be heard on "Showmanship" and Samuelson on the Caravan.

Social highlights will include a dinner-dance Tuesday night and the 20th annual banquet Wednesday night on the Severin Roof.

Donald Meek Dies

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 18.—S. Donald Meek, 68, popular film character actor, died in the Hollywood Hospital following a three-month illness. Funeral services will be held Wednesday morning at the Utter McKinley Hollywood Chapel with interment in Denver. His widow survives.





Thank you!

The thousands of exhibitors and others who cooperated so splendidly in our industry's 1946 March of Dimes will be gratified to read the accompanying final, certified report just completed by the accountants.

Although the final tabulations took considerable time, the actual payment of monies was made to the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis long ago, and this money helped greatly in fighting the polio epidemics of the past summer.

Only the unselfish, whole-hearted efforts and support of thousands in our industry could have brought about such wonderful results.

On behalf of the Executive Committee, the State Chairmen and myself, may I express our deep appreciation for your help in this good cause.

Cordially,

National Chairman

MILLER, DONALDSON AND COMPANY
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS
90 BROAD STREET
NEW YORK 4, N. Y.

November 15, 1946

National Motion Pictures Committee for March of Dimes,
New York 19, N. Y.

Dear Sirs:

We have examined the accounts of your Committee relating to MARCH OF DIMES 1946 CAMPAIGN for the period to November 14, 1946 and reported to you in detail on November 15, 1946. The report contained the following summary:

Total collections		$5,615,907.94
Less—State expenses reported		24,207.20
Net collections to be accounted for		$5,591,700.74
Available for:		
Counties	$2,797,094.06	
National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, Inc.	2,794,606.68	
		$5,591,700.74

Expenses were as follows:

State expenses	$24,207.20
Cost—13,410 Special Trailers (incl. postage)	75,259.85
Other expenses	27,681.06
Total Expenses	$127,148.11

Based on the total collections the ratio of expenses was 2.264% and excepting the appeal trailer the ratio was .924%.

In our opinion, the above tabulation sets forth correctly the total collections as reported and the total expenses of the 1946 campaign as recorded and accounted for in the Committee's records of cash receipts and disbursements for the period to November 14, 1946.

Respectfully submitted,
MILLER, DONALDSON AND COMPANY

(NOTE: The Committee expresses its appreciation to Miller, Donaldson & Co. for its gratis services.)

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 100 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

C. S. LANDAU, film industry attorney, has been engaged by Charles D. Prutzman, Universal vice-president and general counsel, to assist him in handling, jointly with Adolph Schimel, various legal matters of "U" and Universal-International, in New York.

Among deals recently handled by Landau were the purchase by Universal of the Bell and Howell 16mm. film library and the lease of the Keith Theatre, Cincinnati. Universal's acquisition of the Keith's was first reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Monday. The lease is for five years with options for 10 more. Landau was formerly litigation counsel for RKO, assistant general counsel of United World Pictures and New York counsel for International Pictures, Leo Spitz and others in the industry.

'Hy' Daab Heads Selznick Foreign Film Publicity

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—Hyatt Daab, pioneer in motion picture advertising, publicity and general promotion, has been named head of the foreign publicity department of David Selznick Productions, under Paul MacNamara, here. At the same time, Alfred Katz, of the New York publicity firm of Friedberg and Katz, has been placed in charge of Selznick's Latin-American publicity and exploitation. All Selznick pictures come under the new arrangements.

Fred Rohrs Promoted to PRC District Manager

Fred Rohrs, former Washington branch manager for PRC Pictures, has been promoted to district manager, supervising the Washington-Philadelphia territories, replacing Joe Gins, who has resigned.

61 Millions from U.K. for U.S. Films

London, Nov. 19.—British exhibitors outlayed $61,000,000 for the rental of American motion pictures in the 10 months up to Oct. 31, W. Glenvil Hall, foreign secretary of the Treasury disclosed in the House of Commons, here, today, in answering a question from the floor.

Hall declined to answer the question of whether this was a wise expenditure in view of the shortage of dollar credits.

Wary Distributors Holding Up 16mm. For Theatres: MGM

Failure of other companies to follow M-G-M substantially into the 16mm. theatrical business abroad is hampering the development of this market because one distributor alone cannot supply enough product to keep the sub-standard theatres operating, according to Seymour Mayer, 16mm. sales chief for Loew's International, who has returned here from a tour of Europe and the Near East.

Anxious, however, to avoid any semblance of a plea for other companies to inaugurate new sub-standard programs, or accelerate the few now existing, Mayer stated that M-G-M will expand its schedule to service the theatres adequately if sufficient product is not forthcoming in the near future from other sources. His company at present is releasing about 20 films per year in 16mm., but at least 52 are needed, since most of the houses change weekly.

The Italian situation, more than any other, convinced Mayer that help

(*Continued on page 4*)

ATOI Elects Carroll Executive Secretary

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 19.—More than 200 answered the roll call for the 20th annual convention of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana here today in the first session of a two-day meeting, which will be the largest in its history.

Just before the initial meeting, Don R. Rossiter, for more than nine years executive secretary of ATOI, announced his retirement to give full at-

(*Continued on page 4*)

NJ Allied Meeting, Annual Dinner Dec. 3

Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey will hold its annual meeting and beefsteak dinner at Hecht's Ritz Restaurant, in Passaic, on Dec. 3, with local exchange managers, salesmen, bookers, and a number of exhibitors expected to attend the dinner.

Members of the Allied unit will attend a business session on film buying and the New York court decree discussions, pending adverse legislation in New Jersey, a report by Irving Dollinger on new product, and a report on the distribution of Government-sponsored short subjects. Ed Lachman, president of New Jersey Allied, will preside.

Johnston Is Sailing For US Saturday

London, Nov. 19.—Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, and his aides, will "definitely" sail from Southampton on Saturday aboard the "S. S. America," due in New York on Friday, Nov. 29.

Meanwhile, in view of unpleasant weather, Johnston, recovering from pneumonia, is remaining in his hotel, receiving J. Arthur Rank there tonight, officers of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association tomorrow, and Rupert Somerville, head of the board of Trade films division, also tomorrow. He may see Arnold Plant of the Film Council's quota committee, on Thursday.

Jam Streets, Roxy At 'Razor' Opening

While thousands of sightseers jampacked the streets surrounding the Roxy Theatre, here, last night, 20th Century-Fox presented the world premiere of Darryl F. Zanuck's $4,000,000 "The Razor's Edge" before an array of United Nations delegates, international society folk, Hollywood stars and industry leaders.

(A full page of exclusive Motion Picture Daily pictures taken at last night's "Razor's Edge" premiere, appear on page 5; review on pages 4 and 6).

An hour before the opening, the New York police had put in motion an elaborate traffic control plan designed to facilitate the movement of cars carrying ticket-holders to the brilliantly lighted entrance of the theatre. Arriving in motor cavalcade,

(*Continued on page 4*)

400 Pioneers Will Attend Dinner Here

Four hundred Picture Pioneers reservations are in hand for the annual "Harvest Dinner," which will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria, as received from all sections of the country, including far-away Yakima, Wash.

On the dais will be: Jack Cohn, Pioneers' head, Barney Balaban, Spyros Skuoras, Ned Depinet, Major Albert Warner, Nate Blumberg, Si Fabian, Robert Weitman, Justice Fer-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Committee Named on Cooperation

Will Study Work on Government Pictures

By JIM BRADY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 19.—A temporary "study committee" to formulate means of industry government cooperation was appointed here today at a special White House conference of film executives. This committee will hold its first meeting at the Hotel Astor in New York at noon, Thursday, and will eventually make its recommendations to the various branches of the industry.

While the 60 industry people attending the meeting were predominantly representatives of exhibition, the special committee has spoken of all three divisions of the industry.

At the meeting, held in the White House Theatre, there was considerable

(*Continued on page 7*)

ATA, Others Study Appeal

The three exhibitor organizations whose petitions to intevene in the New York equity case have been denied by the Federal Court, now have under study either a new course of action—an appeal, or holding to their position as *amici curiae* as the court here has allowed.

The three groups: American Theatres Association, Confederacy of Southern Associations, and the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, could appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court for a reversal of the lower court's ruling denying them the right to intervene, or, when the entire

(*Continued on page 6*)

Owners to Meet on Chicago Tax Plan

CHICAGO, Nov. 19.—Circuit and independent exhibitors in Chicago will attend a hearing tomorrow at City Hall to present their position on the proposed city tax on theatre admissions which has been recommended by Alderman John J. Grealis, chairman

(*Continued on page 6*)

Personal Mention

JACK L. WARNER, vice-president in charge of production for Warners, is here from Burbank.

•

STANLEY HIGGINSON, general manager for Warner's in Australia, is en route from New York to his Sydney headquarters, spending a short time at the company's Hollywood studio before leaving by plane next week.

•

BERT SANFORD, sales manager of the theatrical departments of both Altec Lansing Corp. and Altec Service Corp., will leave New York for Hollywood tonight for a visit there of several weeks.

•

DANA ANDREWS arrives here today from Vermont for tomorrow's premiere at the Astor Theatre of "The Best Years of Our Lives," in which he is starred, and then returns to Vermont.

•

LOUIS ASTOR, Columbia circuit sales executive, is back at his desk here following a three-and-one-half-week business trip to Los Angeles, San Francisco, Portland and Seattle.

•

TRACY BARHAM, president of Intermountain Theatres, is in town from Denver with C. CLARE WOODS, a circuit executive, for Paramount home office conferences.

•

BERT GRANET, RKO Radio producer, back here from Europe, will leave today for Washington, returning to New York tonight, before going to Hollywood.

•

WILLIAM W. BRUMBERG, manager of Warners field public relations staff, left here last night for Cleveland; he will return tomorrow.

•

HENRY HERBEL, Warners' West Coast district manager, arrived here yesterday from Hollywood to a district managers' meeting.

•

MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity director for Eagle-Lion Films, returned to New York yesterday from Hollywood.

•

HERMAN RIPPS, M-G-M district manager, with headquarters in Albany, N. Y., is the father of a girl, HILLARY, at Albany Hospital.

•

JOSEPH J. DEITCH, Paramount Theatres Service Corp., executive, is in Salt Lake City from New York.

•

DANIEL F. HYNES, JR. of Paramount's legal staff, has become engaged to LORETTA MCGARRY.

•

JOSEPH A. REDDY, studio publicity chief for Walt Disney Productions, is here from the Coast.

•

LOU ANSELL, partner in Ansell Brothers theatres, St. Louis, is visiting in California.

•

LON T. FIDLER, Monogram franchise owner, is due in Salt Lake City from Denver.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 19

NEXT round in the three-star display at UA is up to the board of directors scheduled to meet in New York this week. In a mercurial situation such as this, where emotions mix with business, allowance has to be made for last minute switches. Yet there is little anticipation that the definite outline of procedure determined by the Chaplin-Pickford interests will be altered.

The program provides for the UA board, by formal action, to advise Selznick what he already knows: That the company will not release any more of his product unless he accepts a new distribution formula. Selznick will refuse. UA will refuse to take on "Duel in the Sun." An impasse, as pretty as you can conjure up, thereupon will be reached. And lawyers for both sides will be back on their midnight oil routine.

■

Supporting UA's current immunity against all matters Selznick is a high-voltage discussion bearing on what to do if and when all bets are called off and mutuality prevails. Legal representatives on the Chaplin-Pickford front are understood to have made known their willingness to return to Selznick, with whom it is O.K., whatever of his product UA thus far has not yet released abroad. While the revenue is potential and principally concerns fund-blocked nations, it represents money some day to be defreezed and, in the aggregate, is moderately formidable.

In this country, there looms with much potential significance the disposal of "Spellbound." The attraction has a span of perhaps 4,000 more unplayed accounts—some sold, some unsold—with a gross which might reach $400,000 to $500,000. A moot question is this: Will UA agree to return this property in any wash-up program? If not, will the fact UA retains it endanger the company's fundamental position which—to repeat it—is that it does not give a hoot where Selznick goes, or with whom?

■

Selznick readily acknowledges he enjoys preferential treatment under his present releasing arrangement. The view accredited to him, however, is twofold: (1) UA was in full possession of its business faculties when it signed the contract and (2) Selznick rates because of the dollars his pictures have brought into the company's treasury. The Selznick group, moreover, challenges any other UA producer to match this overall record, although there is the occasional memory which recalls Sol Lesser did all right by himself and by UA with "Stage Door Canteen."

It is understood, not so incidentally, that Miss Pickford not too far back sought distribution akin to David O.'s, citing as her then intention "One Touch of Venus" as the calibre of attraction she intended producing; that, later, she sought a Selznick-type deal for Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn. UA reputedly rejected the proposal, on the ground it would hardly be right for her if it was wrong for Selznick and, furthermore, that creating a second such deal would tend to sanction the first.

■

Camaraderie among the three UA partners has not been encouraged by knowledge on the part of Chaplin and Miss Pickford that their running mate intended getting out of UA if his several efforts to buy them out failed. It seems fair to observe on Selznick's behalf, on the other hand, that he has never colored his intentions nor has he sought to disguise his final objective. His burning ambition to head the works remains undimmed. So that, regardless of details or mechanics, he finally will run his own bandwagon under his own name.

Not only is Selznick rugged. He is also an individualist.

■

As his star in UA's firmament appears to wane, another begins to twinkle. There is no formal contract as yet, and the unforeseen must be allowed here as well, but the signs point authoritatively toward the entry of Enterprise into UA. The distributor will be able to use a replacement for Selznick if a break materializes. The Einfeld-Loew enterprise will have six pictures in its first year of release, including the "Arch of Triumph" roadshow to replace the "Duel in the Sun" roadshow.

Enterprise, it is well to recall, pulled out of Universal when International took the center of that stage and has been looking for a spot where it can be the main attraction. UA, without its Selznick, may present the opening. There are those who take this view and venture the opinion UA is full party to it as well.

Newsreel Parade

HOLLYWOOD'S labor crisis—and the violence stemming therefrom—is spotlighted in all current newsreels; so are last Saturday's football games. Also featured are: News from Japan, "Mrs. America of 1946," and a U. S. submarine-sinking test; full contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 24—[illegible] are hurled in jurisdictional Hollywood st. Navy tests new torpedo. Japs get new c[illegible] stitution. "Mrs. America of 1946." Football: Notre Dame vs. Northwestern, Army vs. Penn.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 222—New torpedo sinks U-Boat in 10 seconds. New era in Japan. German baby gymnasts. "Mrs. America" contest. Hollywood film strike. Football: Army vs. Penn.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 25—Army wallops Penn. Hirohito marks new Jap democracy. New studio union flareups in Hollywood. New torpedo sinks U-Boat in 10 seconds.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 27—GOP plans new program. Bombs thrown in studio strike. Sink captured Nazi submarine. Hirohito cheered by Jap mobs. Football: Army beats Pennsylvania.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 556—Japanese Emperor declares new constitution. Students riot in Trieste. Hollywood strike marked by violence. U. S. submarine sinks Nazi U-Boat in test. Football: Notre Dame vs. Northwestern, Army vs. Penn.

Funeral Services for Walker Tomorrow

A Solemn High Mass of Requiem will be sung tomorrow morning at 10:30 at St. Patrick's Cathedral for James J. Walker, former mayor of New York and an active friend of the motion picture industry, who died Monday in Doctors Hospital here. Rev. Richard Kehoe, a life-long friend of Walker, will be celebrant. Interment will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y.

Scores of friends from the film industry yesterday joined city officials, lawyers, Broadway folk, song writers and prizefighters in paying their respects to Walker.

Walker was at one time counsel for the old New York Theatre Owners Chamber of Commerce, and was otherwise active in exhibitor organization activities, plus other film industry phases.

Ginsberg, Holman Lunch

Henry Ginsberg, Paramount vice-president and general studio manager, visiting here from Hollywood, and Russell Holman, production executive at the home office, will meet the press at a company luncheon on Thursday, at the Club 21.

Warner Dividend

The Warner board of directors yesterday declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on its common stock, payable Jan. 4, to stockholders of record on Dec. 6, 1946.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane; Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily except Saturday, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 809 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

IT'S ALL THE RAGE!



It set a new all-time Sunday record at the big Capitol, N. Y.

It set a new all-time Saturday night record there also.

It broke the house record in its Los Angeles opening.

It beat many top current hits in its first 27 test engagements.

It is being booked in the biggest first-run theatres in the land.

M-G-M re-introduces Ingrid Bergman • Robert Montgomery in "Rage In Heaven" with George Sanders • Lucile Watson • Oscar Homolka • Screen Play by Christopher Isherwood and Robert Thoeren • Based on the Novel by James Hilton • Directed by W. S. Van Dyke II Produced by Gottfried Reinhardt • A Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer Masterpiece Reprint

Wary Distributors

(*Continued from page* 1)

from M-G-M's fellow U. S. distributors would be of value in pushing the 16mm. move to fruition. He found the Vatican working to place sub-standard projectors in every Catholic parish throughout that country, while ENAL, the Italian labor federation, plans a similar service for its recreation halls. This non-theatrical market is supplemented by exhibitors who are setting up circuits in towns having no theatres.

Similar potentialities, Mayer found, exist in Belgium and England. Prospects seem also to be good in Scandinavia. The possibilities in Greece, he believes, will become apparent in about six months. The Near East, Mayer says, presents a great potential market.

France Greatest Market

Right now France offers the greatest market in Europe, Mayer said, explaining that 16mm. theatres long have been established there, with 11,200 outlets showing French films. M-G-M sold its first group of 10 pre-war pictures to 767 of these exhibitors. France is the only land where the company is allowing 16mm. to compete with 35 mm., and there only because the practice is established, Mayer emphasized.

The situation, he admitted, is not universally rosy. Prospects were found to be limited in Switzerland; likewise in Spain, because of currency difficulties, and in Portugal, where the government will take over all 16mm. operations.

Mayer found Universal selling 16mm. films in France and Belgium, while "U" and Columbia are active in the British field, with the English activity, however, limited to private institutions. M-G-M is pioneering there in theatrical distribution. RKO Radio began sub-standard operations yesterday in Italy and is planning to begin in France.

Mayer plans to leave here on Jan. 2 for a similar tour of South America and then go to the Far East.

Review

"The Razor's Edge"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

LAVISHNESS distinguishes this production; lavishness in casting, in sets, in costumes, even in the footage employed to tell the unusual Somerset Maugham story that ambles from Chicago's North Shore to Paris and the Cote d'Azur.

The negative investment inevitably must have been huge and what results is luxury merchandise. From beginning to end it is replete with the names, the craftsmanship and the materials that come high but which are readily saleable. It is the stuff of showmanship and showmen everywhere will find in it a challenge to their best ability and an assurance of exceptional rewards.

Topping the multitudinous cast names of the Darryl F. Zanuck production are those of Tyrone Power and Gene Tierney, both of whom do some of the best work of their careers in mutually difficult roles. In major supporting roles are John Payne, Anne Baxter, Clifton Webb, Herbert Marshall and Lucile Watson. Spotted in lesser roles are to be found such players as Frank Latimore, Elsa Lanchester, Fritz Kortner, Cecil Humphreys, Harry Pilcer and many others.

Further emphasizing the keynote of quality on the production end are Edmund Goulding's direction, Lamar Trotti's screen play, Alfred Newman's music, Arthur Miller's outstanding photographic direction and distinguished work in art direction, set decorations, wardrobe, makeup and technical research.

As in the novel, the screen story makes room for the author, Maugham, played by Herbert Marshall, who is partly narrator and mostly witness to or participant in the events comprising the story. There are two principal themes that span the lengthy tale, one, the search for inner peace of a World War I aviator whose life was saved by a comrade who sacrificed his own life, and a girl's love for him which persisted over the years without fulfillment.

POWER is the war veteran and Miss Tierney, the girl. The story picks them up in Chicago in luxurious surroundings where Maugham first encountered them. Power rejects an immediate marriage to Miss Tierney, believing his life was spared for some significant purpose and wanting time to find himself in study and contemplation. He leaves for Paris where, a year later, Miss Tierney renews their courtship during a visit with her uncle, played by Clifton Webb.

Power agrees to marry her but is adamant about continuing his philosophical contemplation and exploration. Miss Tierney wants a working man with promise of being able some time to support her in the manner to which she is accustomed. She returns to America and marries a wealthy admirer, played by John Payne. Power continues his search for a meaningful life, gets work as a coal miner and learns from an acquaintance in the mine of a holy man in India who has taught men how to attain peace within themselves. He makes the pilgrimage to India and there learning lessons of goodness and kindness returns again to Paris.

Meanwhile, Miss Tierney's husband has lost his fortune in the depression of

(*Continued on page* 6)

'Razor' Opens

(*Continued from page* 1)

escorted by motorcycle police, were the stars of the picture and other Hollywood notables. Shortly after eight P.M., Edmund Goulding, director of the film, put in an appearance, followed by Maureen O'Hara, Tyrone Power, Gene Tierney, Clifton Webb, William Eythe, and Lon McCallister.

As the stars stepped from their cars, photographers and newsreel cameramen photographed them. In the lobby was a microphone set-up for a WNEW broadcast, while close by, at the entrance to the mezzanine stairs, was the first of the NBC television cameras, set up for interviews. Mounted in the balconies overlooking the lobby were two more cameras, available for spot interviews. Protocol representatives of the United Nations were on hand to introduce and identify the distinguished delegates.

During the day, a brilliant electrical sign had been erected atop the Roxy marquee, announcing the picture and stars in multicolored lights, with shadowbox letters carrying further copy around the full length of the marquee.

The street public address system of the Roxy carried a full description of the arrival of the notables for the information of the crowds in the streets.

The premiere audience's response to the film was warm and hearty. Some of the players, especially Webb, Anne Baxter and Elsa Lanchester, received rounds of applause after their biggest scenes, while Webb's subtle comedy kept the house in roars of merriment, seasoning the attentive reception of the serious drama.

ATOI Elects Carroll

(*Continued from page* 1)

tention to his marine supply business.

Bill Carroll, M-G-M salesman, in the Middle West for 10 years, was named to succeed Rossiter. Carroll has worked in Michigan, Cincinnati and Louisville. In the latter district he became well known among Southern Indiana exhibitors.

The afternoon session was devoted to business with Trueman T. Rembusch, president of ATOI, in charge. Abram F. Myers, general counsel of National Allied, reported on the status of the Government's anti-trust suit.

J. W. Barr, local exhibitor, led a discussion on public relations and showed a film on "The Evolution of the Motion Picture," which exhibitors may use.

Directors and officers will be chosen tomorrow and possible definite action taken on the questions now before the resolutions committee.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

TRADE SHOWINGS

of

"SAN QUENTIN"

NEW YORK

FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 2:30 P.M. . . . RKO Proj. Room,
630 Ninth Ave., New York, N. Y.

LOS ANGELES

FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 10:30 A.M. . . . RKO Proj. Room,
1980 So. Vermont Ave., Los Angeles, Calif.

ALBANY
FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 10:30 A.M.
Fox Proj. Room, 1052 Broadway,
Albany, N. Y.

BUFFALO
FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 10:30 A.M.
Fox Proj. Room, 290 Franklin St.,
Buffalo, N. Y.

BOSTON
FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 10:30 A.M.
RKO Proj. Room, 122 Arlington St.,
Boston, Mass.

NEW HAVEN
FRIDAY, NOV. 29, at 10:30 A.M.
Fox Proj. Room, 40 Whiting St.,
New Haven, Conn.

William Wyler, Guest At RKO Reception

William Wyler, director of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," which will open at the Astor Theatre here tomorrow, was honor guest yesterday at a reception given by RKO Radio, distributor of the film, at the 21 Club. Wyler is associated with Frank Capra, George Stevens and Samuel Briskin in Liberty Films, which will release through RKO.

Among those who attended were: Gordon Youngman, Ted O'Shea, Gus Eyssell, Fred Lynch, Charles Boasberg, Phil Hodes, John Whitaker, Martin Quigley, Lynn Farnol, Mort Nathanson, M. G. Poller, S. Barret McCormick, Rutgers Neilson, Ned Depinet, James Mulvey and Robert Mochrie.

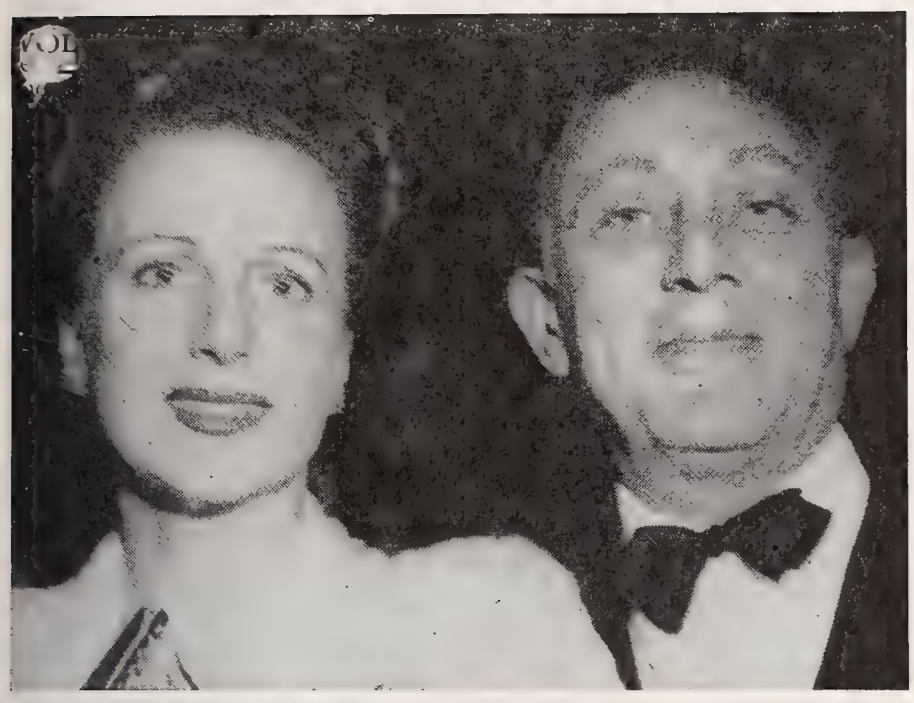
Prendergast to Sun Dial

William E. Prendergast, former White House liaison officer, has been appointed director of research and sales of Sun Dial Films, here, by S. A. Datlowe, president. The company, which recently expanded its production and office facilities, has in work at present two features and a series of sound slidefilms, Datlowe reports.



Notables at 'Razor's Edge' Premiere

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Vogel



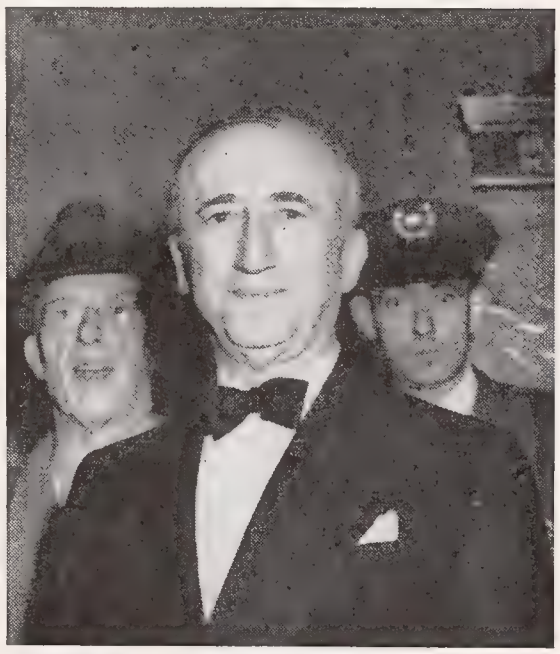
Mr. and Mrs. Barney Balaban



Mr. and Mrs. Nate Blumberg



Tom Connors, A. J. Balaban, Spyros Skouras, Irving Lesser and Charles Schlaifer (rear)



Sec. of State James Byrnes



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Goldwyn



Mr. and Mrs. Sam Rinzler, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Robbins

All Photos by Floyd Stone

Pioneers Dinner

(*Continued from page* 1)

dinand Pecora, Dr. Ralph Silverstein, Herman Robbins and Jack Levin.

Tribute will be paid to the late James J. Walker, who was a member of the Pioneers and its master-of-ceremonies since its inception.

Sixty-one candidates will be inducted to membership by Cohn and Judge Pecora; they are: Philip Abrahams, H. H. Britwar, Abe Bernstein, Josh Binney, Dr. Henry Brown, J. J. Cohen, S. P. Cornish, R. V. Connor, Frank Chippani, Maxwell Cohn, P. T. Dana, Jack Ellis, Harold Erichs, E. Myer Feltman, W. H. Fass, Max Fellerman, H. W. Freedman, Louis Goldstein, Martin Gottlieb, M. Gruber.

Also: W. H. Guerínger, L. Greenberger, I. Goldmark, H. H. Goldstein, James J. Grady, W. H. Howard, H. C. Kaufman, Bert Kulick, Sam Lefkowitz, H. Lawrenson, L. S. Schlesinger, Don McElwaine, L. J. McGinley, William Mancuso, Fred Mercy, Jr., Jack Meyers, W. A. Leonhardt, G. W. Morgenroth, Louis Phillips, Luther Reed, Elmer C. Rhoden, Arthur Robinson, Arnold Stoltz, Monte Salmon, John J. Scully, H. F. Shaw, S. J. Switow, W. J. Storz, T. F. O'Toole, Joseph A. Taney, John M. Urbansky, R. S. Wallace, E. J. Warner, Thomas Walsh, A. I. Weiner, R. B. Wilby, H. E. Weiner, Mortimer Wormser, Irving Wormser, Frank Zucker, Harry Zeitz.

Heading the program of entertainment are Harry Hirschfield, Henny Youngman, Jack Pearl, Milton Berle and Irving Kaufman. Lucy Monroe will sing the National Anthem.

Acquires French Film

Leo Cohen, film importer and exporter, here, has aquired North American rights to the French film, "Paris Frills," with English titles. The picture will have its premiere at the 55th Street Playhouse, following "Johnny Frenchman."

"The Razor's Edge"

(*Continued from page* 4)

1929 and with the husband, now ill, and their two children, they have taken up residence in Paris with Webb. There is a reunion with Power and Miss Tierney again begins her romantic pursuit of him. In a Paris dive which they visit in the course of a gay night they encounter a childhood friend, played by Anne Baxter. The latter has sunk to the depths following the tragic deaths of her husband and child in an automobile accident. She is a confirmed alcoholic. Power seeks to help her and becomes engaged to marry her when she stops drinking.

Infuriated, Miss Tierney sets the stage for tempting Miss Baxter to resume drinking. The latter weakens and returns to the Paris dives. She disappears as Power becomes embroiled in a fight when he endeavors to reclaim her. Later she is found murdered in the south of France. Nearby, Webb lies dying in his Riviera mansion. The scene is the setting for a last reunion of the principals. Miss Tierney pleads her love for Power and, unresponsive, he extracts from her a confession of her part in enticing Miss Baxter to resume drinking. He leaves, planning to return to menial work in America.

THE story is graphically told under Goulding's direction and attains high dramatic levels on frequent occasions. Power's and Miss Tierney's performances are always effective and occasionally notable. Miss Baxter provides memorable acting in a hospital scene in which she learns of the death of her husband and child, again during the encounter in the Paris dive and in the scenes in which she is tempted to resume drinking.

Webb is excellent as the snobbish expatriate. Marshall is in good character as the unobtrusive Maugham, witness and story-teller. Lucile Watson is good as Miss Tierney's aristocratic mother. Character roles are uniformly well filled.

The length of the picture is a minor handicap. Another is the frequent changes of scene and skeins of individual lives which, veering apart and re-joining, break the continuity and occasionally tend to be confusing. However, intense interest is won and held throughout. This tends to emphasize the inconclusiveness of the story's two principal themes, Power's uncompleted search for spiritual peace and Miss Tierney's unclaimed love for him.

It is different. It is a quality product. Its box office potentialities are undeniably great.

Running time, 146 minutes. Adult classification. Release, in December.

SHERWIN KANE

Buys Film Rights to NBC Television Play

In what is described as the first transaction of its kind, Radio Cinema Theatres Corp. of California has purchased the film rights to a television production, "Mr. Mergenthwirker's Lobblies," a Nelson Bond-David Kent play, it was jointly announced here yesterday by Richard Rogers, president of the Dramatists Guild, and John F. Royal, NBC executive.

ATA, Others

(*Continued from page* 1)

case is brought to the high court, as it will in all probability, the three could thereupon seek to intervene directly.

John Jackson, attorney for CSA, said here yesterday that the matter would have to be taken up with his clients. He added however that CSA's principal objective is the elimination of competitive selling and that the court already has indicated it is unlikely that bidding will be a part of the decree.

ATA and SCOTA likewise voiced strong objections to competitive bidding.

Zukor, Perkins on Air

LONDON, Nov. 19.—Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of directors of Paramount, currently visiting in England, and J. E. Perkins, the company's new chairman and managing director for Great Britain, appeared on a 40-minute broadcast on the Midland Home Service of the BBC, last evening, in personal interviews.

1,100 Accept for Dinner to Balaban

More than 1,100 of the motion picture and entertainment industries will pay tribute to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount, for his efforts to promote inter-group harmony among various racial and religious groups in America, at a dinner in his honor, tomorrow evening, at the Hotel Astor.

The affair will be held in behalf of the $5,000,000 Joint Defense Appeal campaign; co-chairmen are Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia; Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount; Sam Rinzler of Randforce Theatres.

The event will also launch a trade-wide drive to raise $250,000 to help the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith in maintaining their program. The Joint Defense Appeal is the financial arm of these two national organizations and further serves as their coordinating body, the three chairmen explained, adding that the 1946 JDA goal is 43 per cent more than the amount raised last year.

A three-point tribute to Balaban will highlight the evening's program. Harvey Gibson, president of Manufacturers Trust, will laud his activities as an industrial leader; Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, will acclaim the guest of honor for his humanitarian endeavors; Ed Weisl, of the board of directors of Paramount, will extol Balaban as a friend. Bill McCraw, of the Variety Clubs of America, and Louis Novins, former asistant national director of the ADL, will be other guest speakers.

Chicago Tax Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the city council's finance subcommittee.

The proposal calls for admission taxes ranging from one-half per cent on 30-cent admissions up to three per cent on admissions over $1. The tax proposal is part of a proposed general amusement tax aimed at raising $2,000,000, a portion of which Mayor Kelly regards as necessary to pay for wage increases for city employes. Kelly pointed out that he had supported theatres in their fight several months ago against a proposed 10 per cent state tax.

Brown, Republic Split

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 19.—Donald H. Brown has resigned his associate-producership at Republic. He made 11 pictures in three years for the company.

M-G-M TRADE SHOW

NEW YORK - NEW JERSEY TERRITORIES ONLY

"THE SECRET HEART"

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21

2 P.M.

R-K-O SCREEN ROOM

630 NINTH AVENUE NEW YORK CITY

HELPFUL BANK of AMERICA SERVICES

Checking Accounts
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Escrow Service
Motion Picture Production Loans

The Bank of the motion picture industry...
23 branches in the Nation's motion picture and radio center

Bank of America
NATIONAL TRUST AND SAVINGS ASSOCIATION
MEMBER FEDERAL DEPOSIT INSURANCE CORPORATION
When you travel carry Bank of America Travelers Cheques

Name Committee

(*Continued from page* 1)

debate regarding the feasibility of establishing a permanent committee because of Republican congressional opposition to such a move. Several industry officials cautioned against the use of film messages to foster a propaganda program for the administration.

In message to the group gathered at invitation of John Steelman, director of the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion, President Truman praised the industry for sending representatives to the White House conference.

Truman Praises Trade

"Your outstanding wartime record is well known. The American people are deeply in your debt for many fine contributions during the national defense period. I am hopeful that this interchange of views will help in determining your future course and am sure that your contribution in time of peace will be as constructive as it was in time of war," the President said.

Three leading Government officials reported to the session the importance of Government film messages.

General Omar Bradley told of the urgent need for a trailer to explain the veterans' insurance rights. In a written message to the group, Attorney General Tom Clark told of the ever increasing youth delinquency problem, and urged the production of more "Crime Does Not Pay" shorts. Clark's message was delivered by his assistant, Edward McLaughlin. Under-Secretary of State William Clayton told of the need for pictures on the home front which explain to the people the importance of eliminating trade barriers and lifting the standard of living throughout the world.

Si Fabian, chairman of the White House meeting, appointed the temporary group.

The Study Committee

Those appointed to the "study committee" were:

For production—Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association; and Donald M. Nelson, president of the SIMPP.

For distribution—Charles M. Reagan, Paramount; for exhibition, Robert Wilby of CSA and ATA; Herman Levy, MPTOA; Lee Newbury, Allied States; Harry Brandt, unaffiliated exhibitor associations; and Jesse L. Stern of the New York ITOA. Representing the trade press will be Ben Shlyen.

In opening the meeting, OWMR director John Steelman pointed out that all other media of information have agreed to help the Government. He urged the formation of a group patterned after either the National Advertising Council or the old War Activities Committee.

Steelman stated that the theatre screen is one of the most important media for reaching the people.

Exhibitor representatives, Bob Wilby, Fabian, Herman Levy, E. V. Richards, C. B. Akers and others, participated in the floor discussion. It was stressed that the films must be entertaining, not too long, and not too many.

Donald M. Nelson, SIMPP president, and MPA vice-president Francis Harmon also participated in the talks. Both indicated that production will be willing to cooperate with the Government, but each said it is difficult to know "just what the Government wants of the industry."

Funds for conducting the production and distribution of Government messages was also discussed.

Comments

Among those commenting on the White House meeting and the problem posed were:

Lee Newbury of Allied: "We had a definite wartime function but what we do in peacetime is another question."

Harry Brandt, New York: "We want to help out. However, the industry certainly doesn't want to make way for the establishment of a bunch of Government film agencies."

Donald M. Nelson: "Our industry has a job to do in peace as well as it did in wartime."

Francis Harmon, vice-president, Motion Picture Association: "A lot is already being done. The industry is constantly cooperating with these Government agencies. We had better analyze this entire problem before any decision is made. Raw stock is tight, there is a strike on the coast and many other bottlenecks."

Herman Levy, MPTOA: "It is hard for an exhibitor association to say what the exhibitor will do. If we approve a film, it is up to each exhibitor to screen it. The ultimate decision always rests with the exhibitor."

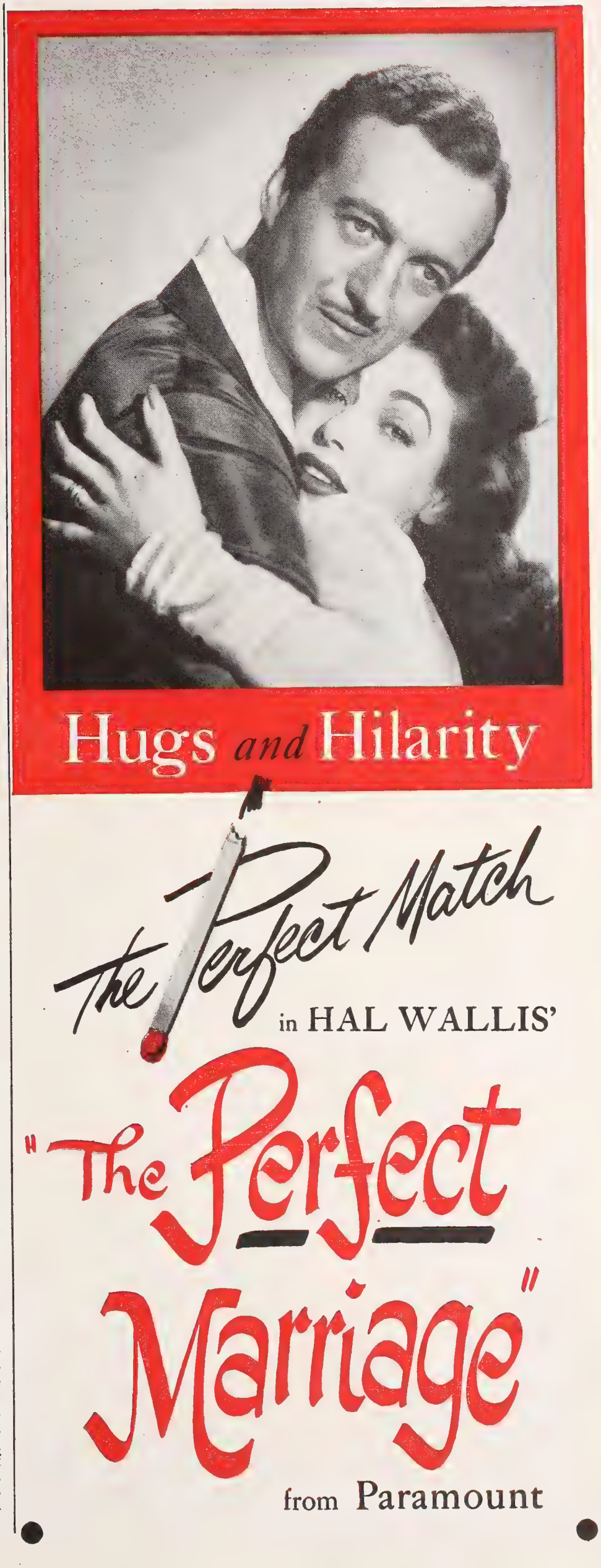
William F. Rodgers, Loew's: "I believe the time has been reached when the Government should not be in open competition with the industry. I do not believe in cooperating to the extent of taking entertainment from the screen."

Martin Quigley, Jr., Quigley Publications: "Government film agencies are not scheduled to last much longer, according to this morning's issue of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, which quotes Senator Taft and Representative Martin as being against so-called Government propaganda efforts."

Traveling Curtailed By ODT Ruling

Film company transportation departments here are anticipating considerable difficulty in arranging business train trips to various parts of the country for executives and other personnel as a result of the Office of Defense Transportation's order cutting passenger service on coal-burning lines 25 per cent, due to the miners' walkout, several of the departments reported yesterday. Inevitably passenger space will be difficult to secure under the order, they report, adding that it is likely that many scheduled trips of film company representatives, as well as travelers in other businesses, will have to be postponed or cancelled. The order will go into effect on Sunday.

Among industry events slated to take place which may be affected attendance-wise are the Nov. 25-26 Pittsburgh convention of the Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania, the Dec. 3-5 industry meeting in New Orleans to establish a national film foundation for the needy, the Dec. 9-10 Oklahoma Theatre Owners' meeting.



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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Keep your eye on this "page one" hit

"Magnificent Doll"

[*Universal*]

Hollywood, Nov. 14

CHAMPIONSHIP caliber is the phrase for this impeccable Skirball-Manning production starring Ginger Rogers as magnificent Dolly Madison. Its grosses are likely to be in kind. Slick as ribbon and strong as steel in its championing of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness fought for in all this nation's wars, the attraction entertains steadily while building, with fastidious attention to detail, to the final sequence in which Miss Rogers, stilling a mob intent on lynching Aaron Burr, utters in eloquent lines the practical principles of American justice. It's a stirring scene and picture, proceeding stride and stride with Miss Rogers.

And persuasively present for marquee purposes, are David Niven as the traitorous Burr and Burgess Meredith as James Madison. To these superb leading performers are added strong supporting portrayals by Horace McNally, Peggy Wood, Robert Barrat, Grandon Rhodes and many others. Between them they make the Philadelphia of the period between the Revolution and the War of 1812 seem as near and intimate as the present, and the political issues then at stake to apply directly to those prevailing in some areas of the world today. Although strictly a period picture, and accurately dated in its historical aspect, the story is as fresh as if transpiring in 1946.

Irving Stone's original story and screenplay opens with the forced marriage of Dolly Payne to a man chosen by her father, who, with the baby born to them, dies in the plague. It moves then to Philadelphia and the courting of the widow Payne by Burr and Madison, with the latter winning her hand and her help in the affairs of politics and state which are down in the history books.

Burr's attempted rebellion is graphically shown, and his rescue by Dolly from the mob which would lynch him after his acquittal are high points to be remembered. Production by Skirball is of the highest quality throughout and Frank Borzage's direction is possibly his best work.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

RED KANN

(Continued on page 18)

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 101 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1946 TEN CENTS

p to 33% of Equipment Is Going Abroad

Manufacturers Act to Clinch World Market

Recognizing that current heavy domestic demands for projectors and theatre equipment will fall off after a few years, equipment manufacturers have taken an important step toward developing foreign markets by allocating a substantial amount of their present output for export, a survey of the companies discloses.

The flow going abroad, built up steadily during the past six months, now is understood to average approximately 20 per cent of the total production, with one large company having gone so far as to earmark a blanket one-third for countries outside the U. S.

Domestic consumers, still unable to to obtain as much equipment as they

(*Continued on page* 11)

'Brownout' Siege Faced by Theatres

Theatres in the East and Midwest, especially, may be faced with another "brownout," comparable with those during the war, as a result of a protraction of the coal miners' walkout, which went into effect last night.

States east of the Mississippi, it is understood, would be simultaneously called upon to establish "brownouts" and rationing of electricity. Other states which might also be included are Iowa, Wisconsin, Missouri and Minnesota.

The more serious threat to theatre

(*Continued on page* 7)

US Has Film Plans On Delinquents

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20. — Leaders representing a cross-section of interested organizations in youth delinquency began a two-day session here today with a message from President Truman which urged that crime be discouraged by publicity in motion pictures, the press and radio.

Tomorrow, a panel of representa-

(*Continued on page* 7)

Company European Heads and MPEA Map Foreign Plans

Plans for closer integration of Motion Picture Export Association operations in Europe with the Continental management of its member companies were formulated at a conference held in Paris, the MPEA's New York office reported yesterday. It marked the first meeting of MPEA field representatives with European managerial chiefs of the companies they serve.

A full discussion of MPEA objectives and distribution problems in each of its territories preceded the establishment of a method of operations whereby servicing of all MPEA offices in Europe will be improved and stepped up in anticipation of expan-

(*Continued on page* 7)

65 Are Inducted In Picture Pioneers

The Picture Pioneers, last night, inducted 65 new members at its annual "Harvest Dinner" in New York's Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, in one of the largest initiations in the seven years' existence of this group of veterans, each of whose members can count upwards of 25 years in the motion picture industry. Justice Ferdinand Pecora inducted the candidates, each receiving gold membership cards from Jack Cohn, founder of the Pioneers.

To the 61 names of candidates published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, were added those of candidates Abe I. Goodman, Don Mer-

(*Continued on page* 11)

ATA to Aid 'Dimes,' But No Collections

American Theatres Association will recommend to its members full promotional support of the forthcoming Red Cross and March of Dimes drives but, as expected, audience collections will not be made. This was decided at a board of directors' meeting in Washington Monday evening, and reported on here yesterday.

In its effort to assist the "Dimes" and Red Cross funds, the board suggests the showing of trailers which are approved by the film program committee, as well as advertising expenditures.

The directors also decided its an-

(*Continued on page* 6)

UA Board Action on Owners' Row Delayed

United Artists has deferred action on its dispute with David O. Selznick, growing out of charges of the latter's breach of contract, until a board meeting after Thanksgiving, it was said here yesterday. Directors of the company will hold a meeting here Monday but this will not concern itself with the Pickford-Chaplin-Selznick row, a company spokesman said here yesterday.

90 on Testimonial Dais for Balaban

A triple-decker dais will be used to seat the 90 executives of the motion picture and entertainment industries at the testimonial dinner tonight when Barney Balaban, Paramount president, will be honored by friends and associates in the Hotel Astor in behalf of the Joint Defense Appeal.

Starting at 6:30, the affair will attract more than 1,100, according to Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia; Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler of Randforce Theatres, co-chairmen of the effort.

Balaban will be acclaimed for his efforts to foster inter-faith harmony and understanding among the American people.

The testimonial will spark the 1946 motion picture drive to aid the $5,000,000 Joint Defense Appeal campaign.

(*Continued on page* 6)

Re-elect Rembusch Head of the ATOI

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 20.—Trueman T. Rembusch was re-elected president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana in the convention here today which, in a late afternoon session, passed a resolution condemning "false and harmful" publicity as presented by "certain newspaper columnists and radio commentators" and urging curtailment of their news sources.

First discussion which gave vent to the feelings of exhibitors on the subject of adverse publicity occurred yesterday afternoon in the resolutions committee, which was asked to draw up a resolution for later action.

The statement, passed without a dissent today, said in part: "Certain newspaper columnists and radio commentators have been publishing and

(*Continued on page* 7)

All Exhibitor Units to Pass On Gov't Plan

Film Group To Devise Cooperative Program

The meeting here today of the 10-man "study" committee to devise a point of contact between the industry and the Government and an overall formula for cooperating with the Government on film matters will be followed by a canvass of all exhibitor organizations, as well as other branches of the industry to determine their reaction to whatever program the meeting develops. This was reported here yesterday by Jesse L. Stern, who represents the Conference of Independent Exhibitors (Allied) on the committee.

In no case, Stern ventures beforehand, will the independent exhibitors accept any form of organization that bears semblance to the War Activities Committee.

The "study" group, which will meet

(*Continued on page* 7)

No Strings With Divorcement: US

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20. — No restrictive trade practices will be proposed as a companion to complete theatre divorcement by the Justice Department when the pending New York equity case reaches the U. S. Supreme Court, Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, said here today.

There will be an interim period,

(*Continued on page* 11)

Reade Plans 2 B'way Houses at 10 Million

Walter Reade, head of the extensive New Jersey theatre circuit bearing his name, said here yesterday he has plans under way to construct and operate two adjoining first-run theatres in

(*Continued on page* 6)

In This Issue

Review of "My Brother Talks to Horses" will be found on page 11; theatre grosses appear on pages 10 and 12.

EK Declares Wage, Stock Dividends

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 20.—A wage dividend estimated at $8,500,000, to be paid in March to more than 47,000 Kodak employes in the Western hemisphere has been voted by the Eastman board of directors.

A common stock dividend of $2.50 a share for the quarter and the regular one and one-half per cent dividend, amounting to $1.50 a share, on preferred stock, were declared at the same meeting. Both are payable Jan. 2 to stockholders of record on Dec. 5. A common stock dividend of $1.50 has been declared in each of the past three quarters, totaling $7.00 for the year.

The rate at which the wage dividend is paid rises or falls with the amount of dividends declared on the company's common stock. This action, therefore, sets the employe rate at one and three-quarter per cent of the total of each eligible employe's wages or salary during the five years of 1942-46.

The sum to be paid in March will be computed at $17.50 for each $1,000 of an individual's wages received during 1942-46. The formula fixes the rate at one-half per cent for each dollar of declared common stock dividends above $3.50 a share.

Sievers Resigns from EK; I. L. Houley Is Promoted

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 20.—Retirement from active service of Herman C. Sievers, vice-chairman of the board of directors of Eastman Kodak, was announced here today. A member of the Kodak organization for 44 years, Sievers served first as store manager, then successively as general manager of Eastman Kodak Stores, general sales manager, vice-president in charge of sales and advertising, and finally as vice-chairman of the board.

I. L. Houley, assistant comptroller and director of management surveys for Eastman Kodak, has been elected assistant vice-president by the company's board of directors.

'U' Lease for Keith's To Cost $1,165,000

CINCINNATI, Nov. 20.—Universal's acquisition of the 1,500-seat Keith's Theatre here on a 15-year rental basis involves payment of $1,165,000 over that period to City Investing Co., of New York, owners of the building, it is understood here.

The theatre is now closed for remodeling and will reopen Thanksgiving Day with the local first-run of "Magnificent Doll." The house will be Universal's "showcase" in this RKO Theatre-dominated area. Some J. Arthur Rank "prestige" product also will be given playing time.

Edward Riesbenbeck will continue as manager and Joseph Donahue will remain as assistant manager and treasurer. Robert Ungerfeld, who operates New York's Winter Garden for "U," is here working on preparations for the reopening, to be for the benefit of this city's Nurse's Fund.

Personal Mention

AL SCHWALBERG, vice-president of Eagle-Lion Films, left the Coast yesterday by air for New York.

•

WOLFE COHEN, vice-president of Warner International in charge of Mexico, Latin America, Australia and the Far East, will leave New York Tuesday for a Latin American tour.

•

ALOLFO FRIEDMAN, United Artists' manager in Colombia, is in New York for a brief stay after undergoing medical treatment at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

•

JOSEPH SEIDELMAN, head of Universal's foreign department, has been awarded a War Department citation for "outstanding contributions to the armed forces."

•

WILLIAM BOYD will arrive here this morning from the Coast with his wife, GRACE BRADLEY, and LEWIS RACHMIL, producer.

•

DEBORAH KERR, English actress, arrives here from London Nov. 26 and will depart immediately for Hollywood.

•

LLOYD L. LIND, vice-president and assistant general manager of PRC, will leave New York for Canada tonight.

•

FLOYD CROWDER, Monogram distributor for China, has left Hollywood on his return to the Orient.

•

STEVE BROOKE, publicity representative for California Pictures, is here from Hollywood.

•

RICHARD CARLSON has arrived in New York from Van Nuys, Calif.

•

SIMONE SIMON arrived in New York last night from Paris.

•

GERO MALY, Hungarian actor, arrived here last night from Europe.

•

HAL HACKETT of the radio department of MCA, is here from the Coast.

•

JOHN LODER has returned to Hollywood from New York.

CHARLES EINFELD, head of Enterprise, will leave New York this weekend for Hollywood.

•

WALTER GOULD, foreign manager of United Artists, returned by plane yesterday from a three-week visit to the company's offices in London, Paris and other European capitals.

•

HAROLD H. MALONEY, manager of Loew's Poli Theatre, Worcester, Mass., is observing his 10th anniversary as manager of the theatre and the theatre's 20th birthday.

•

VICTOR J. SCHOCHET, United Artists manager in Peru, arrived in New York yesterday, accompanied by his daughter, MRS. LARS G. BERG, who is en route to Sweden.

•

B. J. GATES, supervisor of Monogram distribution in Latin America, has left New York for a four-month tour of his territory.

•

JACK KLOEPPER, manager of Film Classics branches in Portland, Ore., and Seattle, is in New York for home office conferences.

•

FRANK RAMSEY, formerly manager of the Lenox Theatre, Hartford, is now managing the Fox West Coast Strand in Vallejo, Cal.

•

Monogram's board of directors and owner of the Wisconsin franchise, has returned to Milwaukee from Hollywood.

•

MOE SILVER, zone manager for Warner Theatres in the Pittsburgh territory, is visiting in New York.

•

W. R. FRANK, producer and Minnesota circuit owner, has arrived in Minneapolis from Hollywood.

•

CHARLES KESSNICH, M-G-M's Atlanta district manager, is recovering from an attack of poisoning.

•

FRED M. JACK, Southern district manager for UA, has arrived in New York from Atlanta.

•

ARTHUR SCHWARTZ has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

Many from Industry To Walker Funeral

A large representation from the film industry is expected to attend the funeral this morning of the late James J. Walker, former mayor of New York and a long-time active friend of the industry. A solemn High Mass of Requiem will be sung at St. Patrick's Cathedral here. Rev. Richard Kehoe, life-long friend of Walker, will be celebrant. Interment will be in Gate of Heaven Cemetery, Valhalla, N. Y.

Thompson Coast Office

HOLLYWOOD, Oct. 20.—The J. Walter Thompson Co. has formed a motion picture advertising department to operate here. W. C. Lewellen will be in charge of the department's service, Leon Benson will supervise copy, and Charles W. Meggs art.

Ansells Launch a Production Company

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—Louis K. and Joseph C. Ansell, owners of Ansell Brothers Theatres, St. Louis, have announced incorporation of Southern California Pictures, independent production company.

Louis is president and Joseph is vice-president. William Rowland has been engaged to direct the first picture, "Women in the Night." It will be filmed at Ensenada, Mexico. No distribution has been set, and roadshowing is contemplated.

Chicago B'nai B'rith Meet

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—The Chicago Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith will hold a meeting in the Stevens Hotel on Thursday, according to Jack Kirsch, president.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

THE headaches accompanying the promotion of 20th Century-Fox's premiere performance of Darryl Francis Zanuck's "Razor's Edge," at New York's Roxy Theatre, Tuesday evening, were many, like all ballyhoo of such magnitude. Number one, however, was the handling of the United Nations delegates.

The company hired 100 Pinkerton policemen to mingle among the UN members in the theatre—just in case. And guards were needed, too, for the Duke and Duchess of Windsor, and Secretary of State Byrnes, and other notables. In addition to the Pinkerton men, the FBI also "covered," and, of course, New York detectives were plentiful.

Vyacheslav Molotov was the real problem child. He was invited, along with the other UN delegates, and, as usual, neglected to formally accept. Aware that it is customary for the Soviet's No. 1 UN emissary to arrive on the scene without giving advance notice, accompanied by seven bodyguards and a retinue of aides, 20th-Fox was prepared for Molotov's party, placing 20 tickets in the hands of persons who were ready to vacate a block of seats in the event of Molotov's arrival. And they were among the choicest in the house, because the Russian has a pronounced reputation for walking out on a performance whenever seats allotted to him are not satisfactory.

▽

Frank Lynch of Skouras Theatres concludes that, "The motion picture business is built upon successful confusion."

▽

If General Electric acts favorably on the application of Bernie Lewis, Eastern publicity representative of Story Productions, that Hal Horne company will get the first crack at GE's new home-made blizzards.

Horne's "This Side of Innocence" will be filmed in part in Upstate New York, and for background, the story calls for at least one good-size blizzard. Being far removed from the snow-making facilities of Hollywood, the expense of making an Eastern blizzard artificially would be considerable. Now, however, GE scientists come along with a brand new kind of blizzard, produced merely by sprinkling a cloud with chemically-treated pellets of dry ice, dropped from an airplane, and which, when hitting a cloud, turn into snow that will blanket a large area. Bernie Lewis has asked GE to use its blizzard-maker on Horne's production.

Hughes Asks Injunction

Attorneys for Hughes Tool Co. has filed an action in New York Supreme Court seeking a declaratory judgment and restraining order enjoining New York City license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and police commissioner Arthur W. Wallender from interfering with the showing of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw."

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Greater love hath no man in this business than he who elects to spend a second 20 years at the same studio.

Twenty years is far more than the life expectancy of average studio relationships with stars and directors. But that's how long Mike Curtiz has worked for and with Warner Bros.

You'd think both parties would have developed an acute case of cabin fever by this time. It hasn't worked out that way. Our joint and individual struggles have resulted in a strengthening of mutual respect.

Mike still loves us and we're proud of it. As for us, we love him.

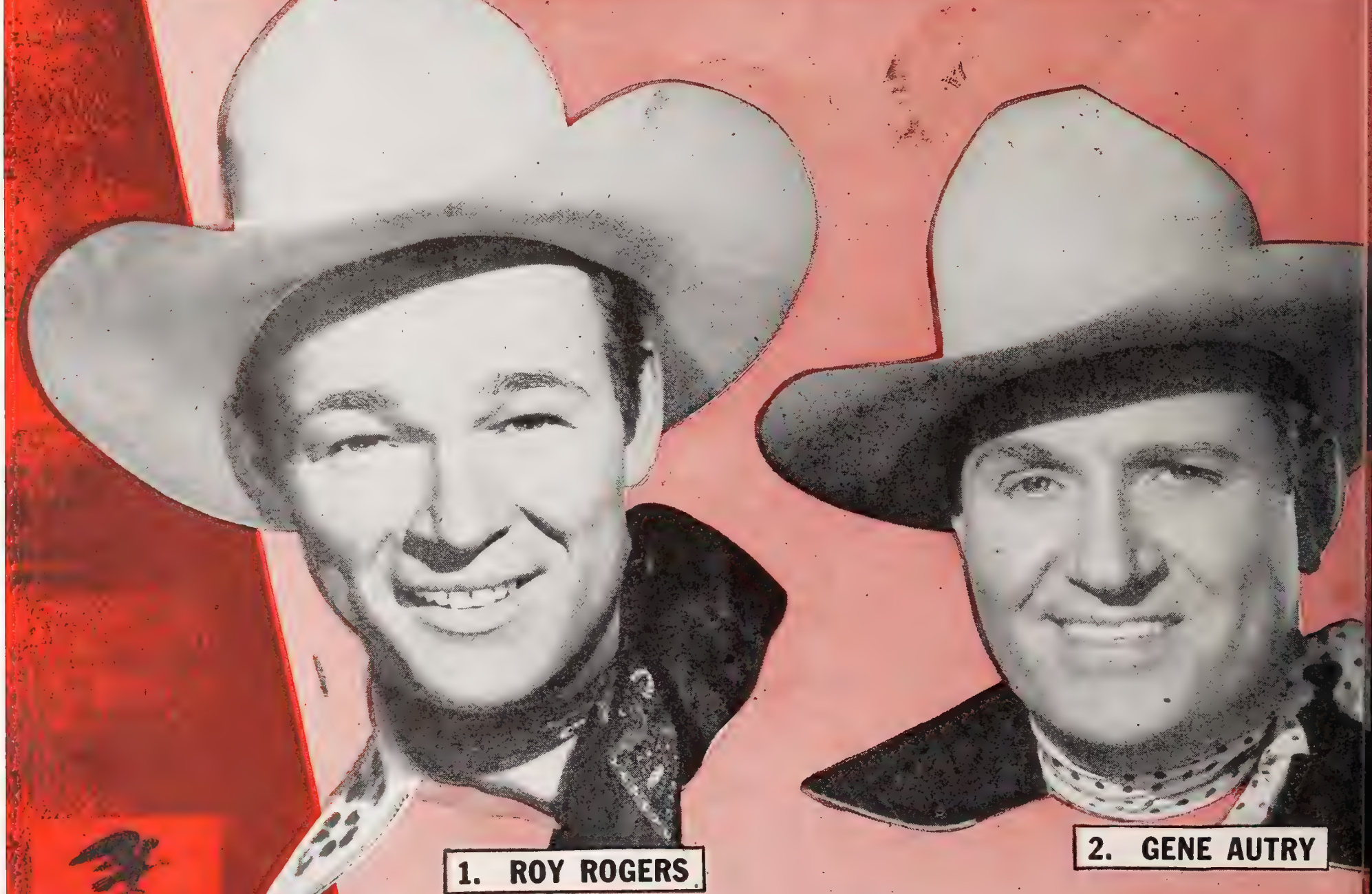
Mike is a truly great director. He has been much in demand. He could have written his own ticket—anywhere in the industry. He chose to write it at his home studio.

We applaud Mike and to him go our best wishes for continued success.

TWENTIETH ANNIVERSARY Warner OF TALKING PICTURES

Jack L. Warner

Again Republic dominates the western field!



1. ROY ROGERS

2. GENE AUTRY



BOXOFFICE BAROMETER POLL – 1946

WESTERN STARS

1. ROY ROGERS
2. GENE AUTRY
3. GEORGE "GABBY" HAYES
4. BILL ELLIOTT
5. WILLIAM BOYD
6. SMILEY BURNETTE
7. JOHNNY MACK BROWN
8. KEN MAYNARD
9. CHARLES STARRETT
10. SONS OF THE PIONEERS

Keep Your Box Office
Eye on REPUBLIC!

Hearing Tomorrow On 'Outlaw' Appeal

Arguing that the New York City License Commissioner and Police Commissioner arrogated to themselves "a potent weapon affecting fundamental liberties" in threatening to revoke the licenses of three motion picture houses which were to exhibit "The Outlaw" beginning Oct. 26, United Artists yesterday filed its brief with the Appellate Division of the New York State Supreme Court on the distributing company's appeal from Judge Walter's refusal to compel exhibition. The appellate court will hear the appeal tomorrow.

Crux of the UA argument, which is being presented by Edward C. Raftery, president of the company, and George Raftery, counsel, hinges on the delineation of the police power with respect to the exhibition of motion pictures as against the censorship powers invested in the state Board of Education. UA maintains that "a local censorship law would constitute a usurpation of a regulatory field preempted by the state-constituted body."

Defendants in the suit are Arthur Mayer, operator of the Rialto Theatre, and Harry Brandt, operator of the Gotham and Republic. Copies of the brief, according to George Raftery, were also sent to Mayer and Brandt, as well as to the City Corporation Counsel, who is intervening as *amicus curiae* in the appeal.

Assuming Power

Pointing out that the question of a municipal official attempting to assume a power vested in a state censorship body has arisen for the first time in New York City, the brief asks the court to uphold the UA contract with the exhibitors by granting an injunction to compel exhibtion of the film.

Howard Hughes Productions, producer of "The Outlaw," has been given permission to intervene as *amicus curiae* on behalf of the appellant.

Final brief in the attempt by License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding to have the motion picture division of the state Board of Education revoke its license of the Hughes picture on the contention that the exploitation was 'obscene" will be filed tomorrow by UA.


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Balaban Testimonial

(*Continued from page* 1)

A $250,000 goal has been set for the film trade to help the work of the JDA's two beneficiary agencies, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith.

A three-point tribute extolling Balaban as industrial leader, humanitarian and friend will be made by Harvey Gibson, president of Manufacturers Trust; Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, and Ed Weisl of Paramount's board of directors.

The following were invited to the dais: David Balaban, Elmer Balaban, Harry Balaban, John Balaban, Joseph Bernhard, Louis Bernstein, Rabbi Bernard Birstein, Ben K. Blake, A. H. Blank, Nate J. Blumberg, Harry Brandt, Stephen Callaghan, Philip Chasin, Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, Jack Cohn, T. J. Connors, Sam Dembow, Ned Depinet, Si Fabian, J. J. Fitzgibbons, Matty Fox, Leopold Friedman, William German, Harvey D. Gibson, Henry Ginsberg, Paulette Goddard, Leonard H. Goldenson, Samuel Goldstein, Abel Green, Stanton Griffis.

Also: Richard E. Gutstadt, Phillip W. Haberman, Francis Harmon, Duncan G. Harris, Joseph Hazen, Will H. Hays, Marcus Heiman, John D. Hertz, Jr., A. C. Horn, William K. Jenkins, Austin C. Keough, Malcolm Kingsberg, Oscar M. Lazrus, Jack Levin, Earl I. McClintock, William McCraw, Donald M. Mersereau, Carl E. Milliken, Harold J. Mirisch, Henry Monsky, Abe Montague, William Morris, Jr., M. J. Mullin, Maurice Newton, Louis Nizer, Ed Noble, Louis Novins, Edward K. O'Shea.

Also: Louis Phillips, Samuel Pinanski, Martin Quigley, Charles Reagan, Walter Reade, E. V. Richards, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Billy Rose, George J. Schaefer, Len Shlyen, Abe Schneider, Max J. Schneider, Sol Schwartz, William H. Scully, Joseph H. Seidelman, Spyros P. Skouras, Dr. Frank Stanton, Herbert L. Stern, Meier Steinbrink, Robert D. Swezey, Joseph R. Vogel, Frank C. Walker, Major Albert Warner, Edmund Waterman, David Weinstock, Edwin L. Weisl, Bob Weitman, R. B. Wilby.

Gins to Chicago as Rank Representative

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 20.—Joe Gins, Charlotte division manager for PRC, who has resigned, has accepted a position as special representative of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, to be stationed in Chicago. Gins will assume his new duties around Dec. 1.

Gins was formerly manager of the Columbia exchange here for nearly three years, leaving in 1944 for Detroit as Columbia manager, and returning here early this year with PRC. With his resignation, Charlotte loses its only division office maintained by a film company. This territory is slated to be divided by PRC and the Charlotte branch will be operated under the Atlanta division.

Wait 'Chinatown' Decision

New York State Supreme Court Justice Edward Koch has reserved decision here in the title injunction suit brought against Monogram two weeks ago by Nathan Saland and Mercury Film Laboratory. The plaintiffs contend that the Monogram film title, "Shadows Over Chinatown," is rightfully theirs.

Hearing Monday in Chicago Tax Fight

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, Nov. 20.—An amazing apathy on the part of Chicago exhibitors who would be affected by the proposed city admission taxes was evident this morning when only one theatre representative, Morris G. Leonard, legal counsel for Balaban and Katz, was present at an open hearing held on the proposed tax plan.

Leonard told Arthur G. Lindell, City Budget Director, and Alderman John J. Grealis, chairman of the city finance sub-committee, that his first knowledge of the proposed tax plan came Monday night and he asked for more time for himself and all Chicago exhibitors in which to prepare material to combat the proposed tax. The delay was granted and the next hearing will take place in City Hall on Monday, with an alternate date of Dec. 2. The next regularly scheduled meeting of the City Council is Nov. 27.

The proposed tax plan, which calls for a one-half per cent tax on admissions of 30 cents and under, with increases going up to three per cent on admissions over one dollar, is a plan proposed to replace the present licensing fee paid by theatres, which varies from $220 annually, paid by the smallest theatres charging the lowest admission prices, up to $3,520 annual license fees paid by theatres with 4,000 seats or more charging at least one dollar admission.

Rebukes Trade

Chicago's City Budget Director Lindell rebuked motion picture interests for not contributing their share of the city's expense, saying that Chicago's 313 theatres are only contributing $220,000 annually towards the cost of city operation.

While not present at today's session, Mayor Edward J. Kelly, heretofore extremely friendly to theatrical interests, and an opponent of a proposed 10 per cent state tax on admissions, as advocated by Gov. Dwight Green several months ago, has stated that this proposed theatre tax is necessary for operation of the city government.

ATA To Aid

(*Continued from page* 1)

nual meeting will be held in Chicago in April.

Sitting in at the session were: W. F. Crockett, Herman Hunt, Milas Hurley, E. V. Richards, R. B. Wilby, Nat Williams, Herman Levy, Herb Jacoby, Kermit Stengel, Russell Hardy, Guthrie Crowe, Wm. Jenkins, Ed Zorn, Mack Jackson, Robert W. Coyne, S. H. Fabian, J. Edward Shugrue, John Moroney, Fred Kent, Roy Martin, John Rowley and C. B. Akers.

Skouras, Cowdin on 'Comeback' Committe

Spyros P. Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, and J. Cheever Cowdin, chairman of the board of Universal, are among the members of a 16-man committee of sponsors for the national premiere of a color documentary, "Comeback," which will be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, Nov. 26, under the auspices of the New York State Chamber of Commerce.

Reade Plans Two

(*Continued from page* 1)

one building, on Broadway, here, each to seat 3,500 and to total $10,000,000 in combined costs.

Questioned in regard to the announced plans of City Investment Company to erect two elaborate houses on the site of the Astor Theatre Building, which it owns, Reade ventured that his project will materialize long before that of the investment firm.

While declining to give the exact location of the two houses, Reade said that they will be in the heart of the first-run area, and added that for the most part all that is awaited to get construction work under way is "simply a government permit." He said that financing already is fully arranged and that the windup of negotiations for the property is expected within a month.

Reade, further elaborating on his plans, said that the single building will additionally house a dance hall.

Meanwhile, a deal is pending and expected to be closed shortly whereby Reade's Park Avenue Theatre would become a New York first-run outlet for Universal product coming from J. Arthur Rank. The film company already has the Winter Garden as a "showcase" house.

Strike Grand Jury Calls Studio Men

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—The next major development in the studio strike is expected to await the outcome of the grand jury action tomorrow on criminal conspiracy charges brought by the district attorney against SCU president Herbert K. Sorrell and 13 other leading figures in the strike.

Assistant district attorney John Barnes, who today subpoenaed scores of Hollywood executives and others, to testify, said the recent terrorism, climaxed by a shot fired at police officers last night, will be investigated fully. If the grand jury indicts accused, the district attorney will press for immediate trial.

Meanwhile, at a mass meeting this afternoon CSU leaders told the membership that counsel for CSU will wire U. S. Attorney General Tom Clarke and the Senate committee on education and labor, asking a full-scale investigation of the motion picture industry and the Hollywood unions.

Twelve former members of the property craftsmen's union Local 44 filed suit in Superior Court, against the IATSE international, the international president, Richard F. Walsh.

'Best Years' Opening Tonight Aids Blind

The premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," for the benefit of The Lighthouse, at the Astor Theatre, this evening, will attract many Park Avenue and Hollywood names. All proceeds from the sale of tickets will go to aid the Lighthouses's work in caring for 4,000 blind persons.

A dozen dinners will be given before the showing of the picture. Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Goldwyn will have as their guests Mr. and Mrs. Darryl Zanuck, Mayor William O'Dwyer of New York, William Paley and the Robert Lehmans.

Exhibitor Units

(*Continued from page* 1)

at the Astor Hotel, also includes Francis Harmon and Donald M. Nelson, for production; M. D. Clofine, for the newsreels; Charles M. Reagan, distributors; Robert Wilby for the American Theatres Association and the Conference of Southern Associations; Herman Levy, Motion Picture Theatres of America; Lee Newcomb, Allied; Harry Brandt, Independent Theatre Owners Association, New York, and Ben Shlyen, the trade press.

Stern said that no one will function as chairman of the committee, but rather the meeting will be a matter of open discussion.

Speaking for Allied and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Exhibitors, Stern said that no objections would be raised to showing Government films which are timely, informative and important. However, he added, in no case will pictures of a controversial or political nature be accepted.

Stern pointed to the two suggestions made at the industry-Government meeting in Washington Tuesday, one by General Omar Bradley on the need of a trailer explaining veterans' insurance rights, and the second by Under-Secretary of State William Clayton, who asked for films stressing the importance of eliminating trade barriers. Stern termed Bradley's idea as a legitimate and beneficial one for the public. However, he protested, trade barriers make for a controversial subject and not suitable for the screen.

Hyde, OMR Chief, and Arch Mercey to Meeting Here

WASHINGTON, Nov. 20.—Anthony Hyde, deputy director of the Office of Mobilization and Reconversion, and Arch Mercey, head of the OMR film section, left here today to attend the meeting of the industry's "study" committee which will explore means of industry-Government cooperation.

MPEA Foreign Plans

(*Continued from page* 1)

sion in MPEA's entire program of operations.

Assurances of cooperation and support were extended by member companies' Continental heads, among them Lacy W. Kastner, Columbia; John B. Nathan, Paramount; Wladimir Lissim, RKO Radio; Francis L. Harley and Robert Kreier, 20th Century-Fox; Russell Muth, 20th-Fox Movietone News; Harry Novak, Universal; William B. Levy, United Artists; Joseph S. Hummel and Joseph Westreich, Warners. Arthur M. Loew, president of Loew's International and director of M-G-M overseas operations, and David L. Lewis, M-G-M's Continental manager, were to attend but were in Switzerland.

Representing the MPEA at the conference were: Irving A. Maas, vice president and general manager; Morris Goodman, representative of Germany; Wolfgang Wolf, Austria; Arnold C. Childhouse, Holland; Louis Kanturek, Czechoslovakia and Dr. Nicholas Palugyay, Hungary. Harold L. Smith, associate manager of the MPA's international department, also participated in the discussions.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"THE RAZOR'S EDGE" (20th Century-Fox)

Edmund Goulding has brought the Maugham characters to life. . . . Darrell is played with intense sincerity by Tyrone Power. . . . Gene Tierney's beauty illuminates.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

Gripping and entertaining cinema . . . in hands less capable of understanding, Maugham's novel might well have bogged down . . . cheers for Eddie Goulding's direction.—*Lee Mortimer, New York Daily Mirror.*

Ambitious, highly impressive . . . Anne Baxter gives the most striking performance of her career . . . Mr. Power brings maturity and sincerity to a difficult role.—*Rose Pelswick, New York Journal-American.*

Zanuck's bold choice of subject-matter and the energy of his approach deserve the praise accorded men of lofty intentions . . . citadels of the spirit do not yield so readily to the frontal attack of the multi-million-dollar production, hand polished in best American style.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

First of what may prove a new cycle of films . . . the kindness and the pity shine through . . . a good picture, much better than the confused, well-meaning novel on which it is based . . . Miss Baxter's poignant portrayal may well bring her an Academy award.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

Richly, exquisitely theatrical in the very best Hollywood style . . . will appeal to a great many people who are sentimentally inclined to its vague philosophy.—*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

An impressive scuttling of screen cliches . . . a restrained and frequently fascinating study in character . . . has a dramatic depth which is rarely explored in Hollywood . . . a movie which goes behind the obvious boy-meet-girl formula to assay the fundamental appetites of mankind.—*Howard Barnes, New York Herald Tribune.*

A revelation of the scope and proficiency that the techniques of the cinema have thus far attained . . . every department contributes to the quintessence of its craft.—*Cecelia Ager, PM.*

We old Maugham worshippers realized our man had stumbled this time, and we cannot be happy over a movie which seems bent on highlighting the shortcomings.—*Alton Cook, New York World-Telegram.*

Plans on Delinquents

(*Continued from page* 1)

tives from all informational media including film representatives, headed by Arthur De Bra, of the MPA, will meet in closed session to hear recommendations from civic leaders assembled here for the national conference.

Attorney General Tom Clark today keynoted the meeting with an appeal for full local cooperation in the Government's battle against crime. The attorney general favors more films which show that "crime does not pay." He also would like to see pictures made which show civil rights.

Program of Action

In his message to the group, President Truman said that through the reports which will result from the conference, a documented program of action may be blue-printed for the citizens of the United States. "It is my belief that your efforts will result in a sincere campaign to keep children and young people from swerving toward the paths of crime," the president said in his written statement. Associate Justice Harold Burton of the U. S. Supreme Court, was temporary chairman of the juvenile meeting today.

Attorney General Clark has already conferred with Francis Harmon, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, and it is reported here that MPA is "very interested" in seeing more emphasis placed upon crime prevention films.

Decision Is Near in Seattle Damage Case

SEATTLE, Nov. 20.—An early decision is expected in the trial of the $500,000 damage suit brought by the Theatre Investment Co. and the Venetian Theatre, here, against 13 distributors and exhibitors, charging a conspiracy to monopolize distribution. Thet case was expected to be in the hands of the jury today.

Ames with PRC

Ronald R. (Ronnie) Ames, former exploiteer for Paramount and RKO Radio, has joined PRC Pictures as field exploitation man for the Kansas City territory, to work under exploi- who will make his headquarters in the tation manager Lige Brien.

'Brownout' Siege

(*Continued from page* 1)

operations, however, is the likelihood that a protracted walkout will compel the reduction of temperatures to an extent that will make theatre-going sufficiently "uncomfortable" so as to bring about a large drop in attendances. Civilian Production Administrator Small has said that even though the Government has frozen coal stocks at the mines, supplies will be insufficient for any but the most urgent health and safety needs if the walkout is sustained to any appreciable extent.

Re-elect Rembusch

(*Continued from page* 1)

broadcasting remarks derogatory to the motion picture industry as a whole and ofttimes against exhibitors.

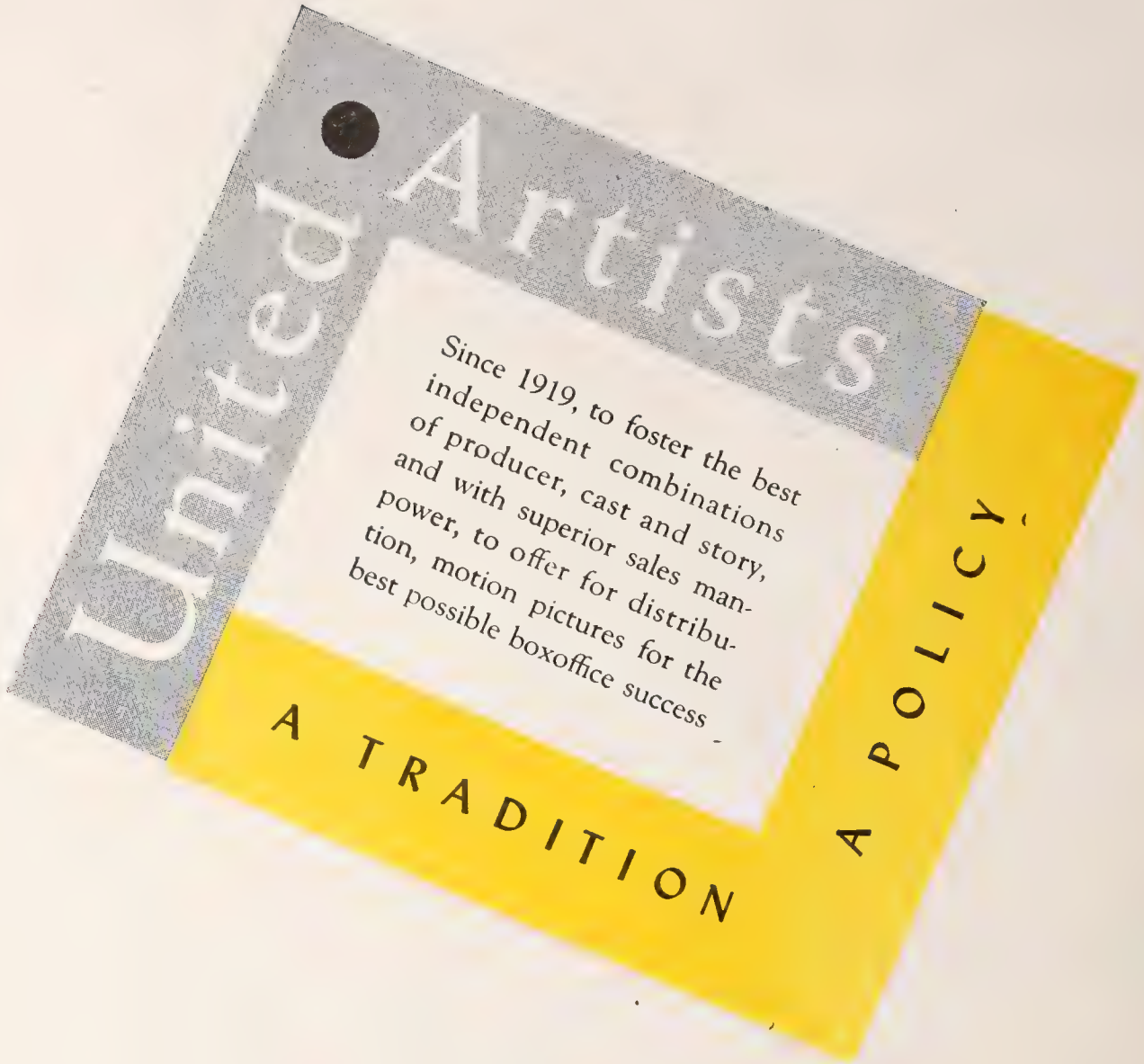
"The publicity in most instances is untrue and unwarranted and tends to discredit this industry in the eyes of our patrons.

"ATOI goes on record as disapproving and being opposed to this kind of false and harmful publicity and urges the producing companies to cease cooperating with these columnists and commentators."

$20,000 for 'Razor'

A new single-day's gross record at the Roxy, here, was rung up here yesterday by "The Razor's Edge" which drew $20,000 according to the management. The previous day's high of $18,000 was set by "Leave Her to Heaven" last Christmas. The theatre now has an increased admission scale, up to $1.80 against the previous $1.50.





As a "Masterpiece of Suspense", few subsequent films have equalled the success of the 1933 European-made "M". Thirteen years later, the producer of "M" has readied for release a picture which has been acclaimed by previewers as thrillingly "in the Hitchcock tradition", a taut, pulsing story magnificently scored, directed and acted. Remindful of the financial successes of his previous pictures, "Summer Storm" and "Whistle Stop", the producer of "The Chase",

Seymour Nebenzal releases thru United Artists.

Seymour Nebenzal

presents

ROBERT

CUMMINGS

in

"THE CHASE"

with

MICHELE

MORGAN

STEVE

COCHRAN

and

PETER

LORRE

Screenplay by

PHILIP YORDAN

Directed by

ARTHUR RIPLEY

Released thru UNITED ARTISTS

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Undercurrent," the sole new offering in a week of holdovers and reissues, got the cream of the grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $13,400. (Average: $8,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $14,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (UI)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, for 7 days: $7,700)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $12,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c60c-80c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $23,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,700. (Average: $11,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $26,200)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $24,600)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,700. (Average: $10,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $6,100)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $15,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,450. (Average: $6,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,400. (Average: $5,800)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U-I) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $23,100)

CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT (Para. Reissue) and BLUEBEARD'S EIGHTH WIFE (Para. Reissue)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,100)

CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT (Para. Reissue) and BLUEBEARD'S EIGHTH WIFE (Para. Reissue)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,300. (Average: $9,300)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $8,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,500. (Average: $15,100)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U-I)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, for 7 days: $8,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, for 7 days: $21,600)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average, for 7 days: $16,100)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 4 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average, for 7 days: $15,700)

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CHICAGO

The Oriental Theatre, with "Fatihful in My Fashion" on the screen and Mickey Rooney on stage, promises at least to equal the house record. "Deception" and "Cloak and Dagger" both opened strong in a generally good week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20-21:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c) 3rd week. On stage: Phil Regan. Gross: $59,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40). Twice daily, 15th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 8th week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)

DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC) and BLONDE FOR A DAY (PRC)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Mickey Rooney. Gross: $78,000. (Average: $45,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $36,000. (Average: $29,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $29,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 4th week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

A minimum of new bookings is taking its toll of grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 19-21:

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $7,250)

DECEPTION (WB)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,200. (Average: $22,800)

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Ray McKinley. Gross: $17,300. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-85c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $28,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $26,000)

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,800)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,700. (Average: $28,300)

CANYON PASSAGE (U)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,300. (Average: $24,900)

HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $11,200)

MINNEAPOLIS

Holdovers stood up well in competition with openings. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 21:

DECEPTION (WB)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,500)

CARTOON CARNIVAL (——)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,400)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, moved from State. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $11,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE KILLERS (U)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,700. (Average: $2,500)

CLEVELAND

Big weekend business compensated somewhat for poor midweek openings, which were attributed to Christmas shopping and the National Aircraft Show. "Margie" set a record at the RKO Allen. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 19:

MR. ACE (UA)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,800)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

BRIEF ENCOUNTER (U)—MALL (700) (45c-50c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $2,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $12,000)

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Frankie Carle and orchestra. Gross: $33,000. (Average: $30,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $22,600)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,650)

DENVER

Excellent weekend weather gave first-runs good business for the most part. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 20:

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and DECOY (Mono.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days after a week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE BRIDE WORE BOOTS (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,500)

REBECCA (UA Reissue) and STRIKE ME PINK (Film Classics)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Webber. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

MR. ACE (UA) and 'NEATH CANADIAN SKIES (Screen Guild)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: $4,250. (Average: $4,000)

REBECCA (UA Reissue) and STRIKE ME PINK (Film Classics)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Paramount. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

KANSAS CITY

Cooler, but not severly cold, weather accounted for some grosses above average. There were storms on Saturday. Competition came from the Ellington and Cugat orchestras and from the stage play, "The Voice of the Turtle." Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 19-21:

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,000)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,750)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,000)

ROLL ON, TEXAS MOON (Rep.) and DEATH VALLEY (Screen Guild)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,500)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

OMAHA

As the weather continues cold but mostly fair, three of the four theatres are doing plus-average business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Oct. 20-21:

THE KILLERS (U) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, for "The Killers," moveover from the Paramount. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,600)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,400)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $11,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio) and GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,600. (Average: $6,800)

(*Continued on page* 12)

McCraw in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 20.—Variety Club is the heart of show business and the essence of its famed generosity, Col. William McCraw, executive assistant to national chief barker Robert O'Donnell, said on his first visit to Tent No. 9.

Equipment Abroad

(*Continued from page* 1)

would like to have, may not sympathize with this fairly large export allocation, the manufacturers fear, pointing out, however, that the policy, in the long run, will prove to be of advantage to American theatres also, since it is only through solidifying the foreign market that the expansion of facilities needed to assure constant product can be justified economically. European manufacturers, they explain, offer the competition of cheaper but inferior equipment, which must be met at this time when exhibitors throughout the world are replacing machinery and theatre furniture worn out and destroyed during the war.

Another Factor

Another factor being considered by some manufacturers is that of assisting worthy educational programs of foreign countries which require motion pictures for their best development. Ampro Projectors, at the moment, is considering a Greek order favorably for this reason. It is also sending 16m. projectors to Switzerland, Scandinavia, South America and other nations.

National - Simplex - Bludworth, although reporting a setback because of strikes last month, has exported every day so far in November, shipments going to India, Central and South America and, in smaller quantities, to Europe.

DeVry, which has had a "tremendously increased" export business during the past six months, is establishing new agencies throughout the world, but most of its foreign consignments still are going to India and South America.

Foreign Market

RCA also is being careful not to slight the foreign market, particularly with regard to its complete line of 35mm. equipment, says a spokesman.

Victor Anamatograph is sending 35mm. projectors to Poland, England, Iceland, Sweden and most of South America. Moreover, it plans to resume the manufacture and export of 16mm. cameras in the near future.

Bell and Howell's export expansion is being developed in connection with British Acoustics, with which the world territory has been divided. The English company, which expects to start manufacturing soon, will handle distribution in the pound sterling area. Bell and Howell at present is shipping more equipment to South America than to other parts of the world.

No Strings: US

(*Continued from page* 1)

Wright said, when single selling, a ban on cross-licensing, and other practices will be necessary. He said that it is difficult to estimate how long it will take to create completed divorcement, if and when the high court orders it. Some industry sources have estimated five years, during which the defendant-majors would be given time to dispose of theatre interests.

Wright asserted that the Government will not oppose *amicus curiae* petitions to the high court, when the case reaches Washington. The Justice Department counsel stated that he sees no reason for additional conferences with exhibitor groups.

Review

"My Brother Talks to Horses"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

Hollywood, Nov. 20

BUTCH JENKINS, Peter Lawford, Edward Arnold, Charles Ruggles and Spring Byington are the names with which to bill this oddment in the flow of product, and whimsy (last undertaken by M-G-M in "Three Wise Fools") is the cue for advertising copy. It is not quite like any other picture, and delightful to horse addicts like your reviewer, but this circumstance, frequently a box-office asset, seemed to displease rather than please an unprepared preview audience at the Village Theatre in Westwood, not all of which stayed to the finish.

The film is an expansion of "My Brother Who Talked to Horses," a charming little composition by Morton Thompson which got wide circulation in *The Reader's Digest* last year when reprinted from his book, "Joe, the One-armed Tennis Player." That portion of the picture which tells what Thompson told originally still is charming, but the additional material supplied to protract the running time discounts it disastrously, although the author himself is credited with the whole script.

Butch Jenkins, in better than usual form, plays the little boy who talks to horses, principally the racing variety, and therefore knows which of the entries is going to win a given race. The other names above are seen as relatives and acquaintances who, in one way or another, relate themselves to this odd gift of his, which leaves him when he emerges from that somewhat mystical point in boyhood at which he does not understand about death and girls and how chickens lay eggs. The charm of the juvenile story is overshadowed by a good deal of screwy-family material in the general style of "You Can't Take It With You." Samuel Marx produced the picture, and Fred Zimmermann directed it, taking about 34 minues too long to convey what they had to convey.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Picture Pioneers

(*Continued from page* 1)

sereau, William Burke and Allan O'Keefe, whose late applications were approved by the organization's board of directors just prior to the dinner.

The Pioneers' dinners during the war struck a more serious note than last night's, which was aimed at the lighter side, as a "Victory Funfest," except for a pause to pay tribute to New York's former mayor, the late James J. Walker, who passed away this week, and who was remembered by the 400 present at the dinner for his many friendships in the film business, for his close interest in behalf of the industry both while a New York State legislator and during his tenure as mayor. Walker was to have been master-of-ceremonies last night, as in other years.

A brief memorial service was conducted by Rabbi Ralph Silverstein, chaplain of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, for the 16 members of the organization who died this year. Rabbi Silverstein also read the invocation.

More Entertainers

The entertainment program last night was lengthened beyond the original, with the addition of Paul Duke and Jack Pearl to a list which had previously included Harry Hershfield, Henny Youngman, and Irving Kaufman, all of whom were introduced by master-of-ceremonies Jack Levin. Levin had intended to introduce his father, the late Benjamin Levin, a film pioneer, who died recently, as the other half of the Pioneers' first father-and-son team, at last night's affair. Instead, that distinction went to Fred Mercy, Sr., Northwest theatre operator, who came here for the purpose, with his son, Fred, Jr., from Yakima, Wash.

Highlights

Entertainment highlight of the evening, which started with the singing of the National Anthem, by Lucy Monroe, was the ribbing given to the industry executives and other guests on the dais by Irving Kaufman.

Others on the dais, besides those mentioned were: Barney Balaban, Spyros P. Skouras, Ned Depinet, Si Fabian, Robert Weitman, Richard Dix, Gus Eyssell, William Brandt, Sam Rinzler, Marvin Kirsch and George Jacobson.

Membership of the Picture Pioneers now stands at 700.

A gold membership card was presented to Harry Hershfield, and an award to Robert Weitman for "explary services to our country and the industry" during the past year.

WB District Men Meet in New York

Nine Warner Bros. district managers, called to New York by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, for a two-day conference starting this morning, arrived in New York yesterday and held preliminary sessions with their respective division sales managers, Roy Haines, Western; Jules Lapidus, Eastern, and Norman Ayers, Southern.

Among the out-of-town arrivals were: Henry Herbel, from Los Angeles; Harry Seed, Chicago; Doak Roberts, Dallas; Hall Walsh, St. Louis; Robert Smeltzer, Washington; Charles Rich, Pittsburgh; John F. Kirby, Atlanta, and Haskell Master, Toronto. Sam Lefkowitz, who makes his headquarters in New York, also is on hand.

Territorial Distribution

Territorial distribution matters and special local situations were discussed at yesterday's group sessions. Participating in the general conferences today and tomorrow, in addition to Kalmenson and the division and district managers, will be home office executives Samuel Schneider, Mort Blumenstock, Norman H. Moray, I. F. Dolid, Bernard Goodman, Ed Hinchy, Stanley Hatch, Charles Baily and others.

Short Subject

"Operation Underground"

(*Telenews*)

Purported to be "the only authentic film record of the French resistance movement's activities during the German occupation," this documentary sets forth dramatically, swiftly, and interestingly the step-by-step operations of the French underground in effecting the escape from capture of Allied airmen shot down by the Nazis. Supported by diagrammatical material, captured enemy film and actual shots of the Allied airmen as they wander brazenly about Paris in the company of underground workers—right under the noses of the Gestapo—"Operation Underground" stands as a tribute to French loyalty to the Allied cause. It should be well received by film goers, for it contains much dramatic entertainment, as well as interesting facts. The editors of *Newsweek Magazine* assisted in the compilation production. Running time, 18 minutes.



Filming Falls To 38, Lowest In Nine Months

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 20.—The shooting index fell to 38, the lowest level since February. Seven films were finished, and five reached camera stages. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Shooting: "Blondie's Holiday," "King of the Wild Horses," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Eagle-Lion

Started: "Amy Comes Across," with Franchot Tone, Ann Richards, Tom Conway, Frances Rafferty, Clarence Kolb.

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love," "Arch of Triumph."

M-G-M

Started: "The Rich, Full, Life," with Elizabeth Taylor, George Murphy, Mary Astor, Spring Byington, Gene Lockhart.

Shooting: "A Love Story," "The Birds and the Bees," "Undercover Maisie," "The Personal Touch," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Finished: "The Devil's Deupty."

Started: "Fall Guy," with Bob Pierce, Teala Loring, Douglas Fowley, Virginia Dale; "Drifting Through," with Jimmy Wakley, Lee (Lasses) White.

Shooting: "The Guilty" (Wrather).

Paramount

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl."

PRC

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Build My Gallows High," "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw," "Magic Town" (Riskin); "A Time to Kill" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Finished: "Marshal of Cripple Creek."

Started: "Wyoming," with William Elliott, Vera Ralston, John Carroll.

Shooting: "Gallant Man," Untitled Nelson Eddy production (formerly "Will Tomorrow Ever Come?")

Screen Guild

Finished: "Return of Buffalo Bill."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Boomerang."

Shooting: "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights."

United Artists

Finished: "Red River" (Monterey); "Who Killed 'Doc' Robin?" (Roach).

Shooting: "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg).

Universal-International

Shooting: "The Egg and I."

Warners

Finished: "Possessed."

Shooting: "Dark Passage," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night unto Night."

Key City Grosses

(*Continued from page* 10)

BOSTON

Crisp and fair weather generally, plus heavy retail sales promotions, gave theatre business a boost. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 20:

THE KILLERS (U)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Tony Bruno and orchestra, Slim Gaillard Trio. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $27,400)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $32,000. (Average: $25,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and GENIUS AT WORK (RKO Radio)—METROPOLITAN (4,376) (40c-80c). Gross: $33,000. (Average: $25,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,500)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB) and SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,100)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $16,900)

SAN FRANCISCO

Grosses have improved somewhat in a week of rainy weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 21-22:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) and THE LAST CROOKED MILE (Rep.)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $32,000)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00). With vaudeville, 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and DEAD OF NIGHT (U)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $14,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $23,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—STATE (1,459) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $13,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $14,000)

DECEPTION (WB) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $27,000)

ST. LOUIS

Holdovers failed to hold up, and with the department stores filled with Christmas shoppers film business fell off. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 20:

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,000)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U) and WANTED FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $20,500. (Average: $20,000)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,300. (Average: $9,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $20,000)

THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U) and NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 6th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $6,000)

CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT (Para. Reissue) and HER JUNGLE LOVE (Para. Reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,500)

PITTSBURGH

Paced by "Two Years Before the Mast," which is doing terrific business, most first-run houses did better than average business. Estimated receipts for the week ended Nov. 21:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $9,700)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $25,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $25,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Stanley. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

SALT LAKE CITY

Despite Indian summer weather, most grosses are above average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 21:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $7,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,700. (Average: $13,500)

UNDER NEVADA SKIES (Rep.) and TRAFFIC IN CRIME (Rep.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $3,850. (Average: $3,600)

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,600)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $5,800)

THE VERDICT (WB) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Grosses slumped generally, with only "The Big Sleep" holding up. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 19-20:

SWAMP FIRE (Para.)—CIRCLE (2,800) (48c-74c) 7 days, with Louis Prima band on stage. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,000)

TILL THE END OF TIME (RKO Radio)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,800)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000.

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, for 7 days: $14,400)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days on moveover from Indiana. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,700)

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 20

BENEDICT BOGEAUS has signed a trio of tough guys — George Raft, George Brent and Randolph Scott—for the leading male roles in his next production, "Christmas Eve." The screenplay, by Laurence Stallings, tells of an eccentric and wealthy woman who adopts three underprivileged children, and later sends them out into the world to seek their fortunes. Raft will portray a gangster, Brent a suave man-about-town, and Scott a cowboy. Edwin L. Marin has been engaged to direct.

●

Another classic, W. H. Hudson's "Purple Land," will be brought to the screen by U. S. Pictures, producing unit headed by Milton Sperling, which releases through Warners. British actress Lilli Palmer, and John Rodney, a recruit from the New York stage, are tentatively set for top roles.

●

Dore Schary's next production for Vanguard will be "Dark Medallion," a screen version of Dorothy Langley's novel . . . Lew Ayres is to costar with Ann Sheridan and Zachary Scott in "The Unfaithful," drama of divorce scheduled to start shortly at Warners . . . George (Gabby) Hayes has been signed by Paramount producers Pine and Thomas to share stellar honors with Randolph Scott in their next picture, "Albuquerque." Arleen Whelan will have the top feminine role, and Ray Enright will direct.

●

Sam Howard has been elected president of American Eagle Films, new producing company which plans to make "The Lolos," a story of American flyers captured by that Tibetan tribe. Richard Arlen and Kent Taylor are set for leading roles in the picture, which will go into production early in 1947. Associated with Howard in the company are Leo J. McCarthy, vice-president, and Louis Berkoff, treasurer. . . . Hal E. Chester has acquired the screen rights to "The Big Story," by Craig Rice, thus bringing to five the total number of properties he is preparing for Monogram release.

●

Lou Bunin has left for Paris to complete a deal with Cine France for a feature-length color production of "Alice in Wonderland," to be filmed in the French capital. This will be the first of a series of features combining animation and live action. Bunin, who created the third-dimensional animated plastic mannequins featured in M-G-M's "Ziegfeld Follies," formed his own production unit shortly after completing that project.

●

A classic of childhood, "The Secret Garden," by Frances Hodgson Burnett, will be filmed by M-G-M with Margaret O'Brien and Claude Jarman, Jr., in leading roles. Clarence Brown is slated to produce and direct . . . Henry Hathaway has been assigned to direct "The Kiss of Death," an original by Lawrence Blaine, in which Victor Mature will star. Fred Kohlmar will produce for 20th Century-Fox . . . Dick Powell is set for the top role in RKO Radio's forthcoming "Stations West," adventure story of the old frontier days.

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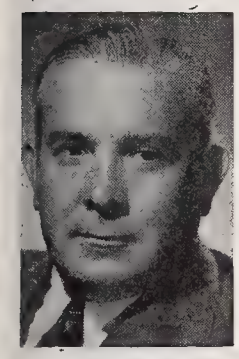
Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 50. NO. 102 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1946 TEN CENTS

$16,219,815 All-Time High Net for 20th

39-Week Figure Is Up $8,690,528 Over '45

An all-time company-high net profit of $16,219,815 for the 39 weeks ended Sept. 28 was reported here yesterday by 20th Century-Fox, headed by Spyros P. Skouras. The total, which includes earnings of the 20th-Fox controlled National Theatres and the New York Roxy, is an increase of $8,690,528 over the $7,529,287 combined net for a similar period in 1945.



Spyros Skouras

After deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible

(Continued on page 6)

UA Plans to Give MPEA a Chance

United Artists will give the Motion Picture Export Association an adequate opportunity to demonstrate that it can furnish sufficiently profitable distribution for independent producers in those foreign countries where state monopolies exist, Walter Gould, United Artists foreign manager, indicated here yesterday following his return from a three-week visit to the company's offices in London, Paris and other European capitals. For some time, there have been persistent reports that UA might sever its connection with the export group.

Gould pointed out that the MPEA

(Continued on page 6)

Youth Delinquency Not Due to Films

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Motion pictures "don't contribute" to teenage crime, or at least representatives of the film industry do not think so. It is generally agreed here today at a

(Continued on page 7)

1,100 Pay Tribute to Balaban at JDA Dinner

Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, was lauded last night for his efforts to promote inter-faith understanding in American life, at a dinner given in his honor by the motion picture and entertainment division of the Joint Defense Appeal, in the Hotel Astor, with more than 1,100 of the entertainment industries participating in the demonstration.



Henry Ginsberg

Jack Cohn, executive vice-president of Columbia Pictures; Leonard H.

(Continued on page 7)

Wisc. ITO to Hear Myers on US Case

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 21.—The history of the New York equity suit and an interpretation of the provisions of the new decree from a legal angle will be made to the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan at their convention at the Schroeder Hotel, here, today and tomorrow, by Abram F. Myers, Allied States general counsel.

Col. H. A. Cole, president of Al-

(Continued on page 7)

Film Costs Up Over 60%, Ginsberg Says

Production costs have increased 60 to 75 per cent in the past three years, Henry Ginsberg, Paramount vice-president in charge of production, said here yesterday.



Barney Balaban

Paramount will make from 16 to 18 pictures during the 1947 calendar year, exclusive of three from Hal Wallis and six from the William Pine-William Thomas producing combination. Next year's budget for Paramount's own productions is between $34,000,000 and $35,000,000, which represents an increase of 25 per cent to 30 per cent over the cost of making a similar number of pictures this year, Ginsberg said.

He described the increase in production costs as "a very great prob-

(Continued on page 7)

'The Best Years of Our Lives'

(RKO Radio—Samuel Goldwyn)

THE homecoming of a trio of World War II veterans, each to his own problems, is the subject of this warmly human and exceptionally well acted Samuel Goldwyn production.

The fact that the telling consumes just eight minutes under three hours is an integral part of this report and one which almost certainly will evoke from exhibitors, reading it, a muttered "It better be good."

It is.

The problems encountered and, for the most part, resolved, are close to the motion picture audience. Assigned to a cast which includes Myrna Loy, Fredric March, Dana Andrews, Teresa Wright, Virginia Mayo and Cathy O'Donnell, under William Wyler's fine direction, there is nothing unique or obscure about those problems. They are not so much new problems, war-made, as they are the ancient problems visited now upon returning service men. They are concerned largely with love and marriage, husband and wife, parents and children, the earning of a livelihood.

Based on the MacKinlay Kantor novel, "Glory for Me," the viewpoint now

(Continued on page 6)

12-Man Unit To Coordinate Films of Gov't

All Industry Branches, Trade Press Included

Industry executives, functioning as a "study committee" to devise and submit for approval a formula for cooperation with the Government in film matters, yesterday adopted a resolution recommending that there be organized a national coordinating committee of 12 persons representing the exhibitor organizations, the distributors, producers, the newsreels and the trade press.

The "study" group agreed to ask the cooperation of all branches of the industry in assisting the Government film program. To the coordinating committee each of the following would appoint one representative: Allied States, Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, American Theatres Association, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Confederacy of Southern Associations, Na-

(Continued on page 6)

Theatre 'Brownout' Order Is Imminent

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—A sweeping electric "brownout" order is being drafted at the Civilian Production Administration, at the request of U. S. Interior Secretary J. A. Krug.

John D. Small, CPA director, and his aides held a four-hour conference

(Continued on page 7)

Goldwyn Opening, a Star-Studded Event

Hollywood stars, public dignitaries and many who are well known in New York society, attended the world premiere of Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" at the Astor Theatre, here, last night.

Among the Hollywood stars invited were Myrna Loy, Dana Andrews,

(Continued on page 7)

In This Issue

Review of "The Best Years of Our Lives" appears on this page.

Coming Events

Today and tomorrow—Meeting of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Hotel Schroeder, Milwaukee.
Today — National Warner Club dance at the home office, New York.
Tomorrow—Canadian Picture Pioneers' annual ball, Royal York Hotel, Toronto.
Nov. 24—National Conference of Christians and Jews, awards dinner, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.
Nov. 25-26—Convention of the Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.
Dec. 3-5—Industry meeting in New Orleans to establish a national film foundation for the needy.
Dec. 9-10—Theatre Owners of Oklahoma convention, Skirvil Tower Hotel, Oklahoma City.

C. of C. Urges End Of Building Curbs

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—All restrictions on commercial building, including those which have an impact upon theatres, should be removed at once, the construction industry advisory committee of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce recommended today.

"Only the establishment of a free market will enable the construction industry, through free competition, to restore the smooth and balanced flow of building materials and equipment," the Chamber declared, and also urged the immediate discontinuance of all temporary wartime agencies to clear the way for "a constructive peacetime program."

Pledging the full cooperation of the construction industry in aiding the veterans' housing program, the committee added: "However, it can best be done on a voluntary and community level basis."

United Action to Win Tax Cut: MPTOA

United action of all exhibitors will be necessary to win elimination or reduction of Federal admission taxes, Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America declares in a statement issued from the MPTOA office, here, yesterday.

"We have always felt that admission taxes bore a disproportionately high share of wartime taxes," he said, pointing out that the organization will be "in there pitching hard for elimination or reduction, if complete elimination is unobtainable."

Personal Mention

JACK WARNER, Warners' vice-president in charge of production, is expected to leave here for Europe at the end of next week.

•

ALLAN SHERVIN, of National Screen Service home office contract department, will be married at the Concourse-Plaza Hotel in the Bronx on Thanksgiving Day to HARRIET NOVIK of Hunt Stromberg Productions.

•

BAILEY PRICHARD, Memphis, and HENRY GLOVER, New Orleans, branch managers for Republic, attended a company meeting in Nashville.

•

NICK LAMANTIA, Southern division manager for J. Arthur Rank Productions, was in Atlanta on a visit to the U-I offices there.

•

BURTUS BISHOP, JR., M-G-M district manager with headquarters in Dallas, is in Kansas City for a brief stay.

•

NELLIE WITTING, secretary of Monogram International, this week observed her 25th anniversary with Monogram.

NICHOLAS M. SCHENCK, president of Loew's, will leave the Coast over the weekend for New York.

•

MRS. T. W. YOUNG, wife of T. W. YOUNG, branch manager of 20th Century-Fox in Memphis, is recovering at the Baptist Hospital there from a major operation.

•

WIN BARRON, Paramount's special field representative covering Canada, who makes his headquarters in Toronto, is on vacation in Miami Beach, Fla.

•

AL LOWE, United Artists division manager, has returned to the home office after a four-month inspection tour in Central and South America.

•

WILLIAM G. BRENNER, head of M-G-M's field auditing department, is due back in New York next week from a tour of Southern branches.

•

MARGUERITE BOURDETTE, secretary to CHARLES M. REAGAN, has been named business manager of the Paramount Dramatic Society.

Court Actions Not To End the Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—The strike will go on, regardless of court actions, until arbitration arrangements are made, contracts signed and workers reinstated, CSU leaders declared tonight, after CSU president Herbert K. Sorrell and 13 others were subjected to testimony before the grand jury today. Indications were that the indictments against some or all would be voted tomorrow morning.

CSU was to publicly reply tomorrow to SAG's statement declaring the breakdown of the recent conference on permanent arbitration machinery, charging "misrepresentation, evasion," and calling on the Guild to join with CSU in seeking to establish an honest labor policy for Hollywood unions.

The producers went into an extra-hour session tonight in negotiations with IATSE on new contracts for the last three IATSE locals remaining for settlement of wage-hour terms.

The police arrested five suspects in the recent bombing and were holding each under $50,000 bail.

Enterprise, not previously picketed, today became the scene of a new conflict between CSU and IATSE, with the dispute still in doubt as to outcome tonight.

Superior Judge Henry M. Willis continued in effect the temporary restraining order limiting picketing at the five studios, and took under advisement a motion by CSU to dissolve the order.

Strike Leaders Out Under $5,000 Bail

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Arraigned on criminal conspiracy charges, CSU president Herbert K. Sorrell and 13 strike leaders have been released on $5,000 bond each, with the District Attorney's deputy, John Barnes, declaring his intention to seek grand jury indictments later.

Barnes told the MOTION PICTURE DAILY he will subpoena a large number of studio executives, workers and other witnesses, to testify before the grand jury, and hopes to obtain indictments today.

Following his release on bond, Sorrell said the strike would continue on the present basis regardless of this development.

Academy Amends Its By-laws on Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Science's board of governors announced an amendment to the by-laws eliminating the year-old necessity of a picture playing to the public in a regular theatre inside the calendar year to become eligible for an Academy award. Under the new rules, any picture which a producer may show seven times to Academy nominating bodies, not necessarily consecutively, becomes eligible for nomination for award if the producer notifies the Academy in writing of his intentions of entering his production in the competition.

Reversal of the long-standing rule comes in the aftermath of other by-law changes several months ago which limited the annual voting to Academy members only, and makes it possible for "Duel in Sun," "The Razor's Edge," and many other completed films not set for local runs in 1946, to be considered for an award.

$1.06 'U' Dividend

The regular quarterly dividend of $1.06¼ per share on preferred stock was declared by a Universal board meeting yesterday.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
GEORGE RAFT · LYNN BARI
in
NOCTURNE
with
VIRGINIA HUSTON · JOSEPH PEVNEY · MYRNA DELL
RKO RADIO Pictures

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45 ST.
ON SCREEN
MARK HELLINGER
presents
ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S
'THE KILLERS'
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
•
EXTRA
WILLIE WEST & McGINTY

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's
production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The BEST thing that ever happened . . is
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Hit Booking Method Of Rank Affiliate

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Nov. 21.—An attack on booking methods adopted by a section of the J. Arthur Rank organization and, by inference, praise for those of Paramount characterized the latest meeting of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association here.

Subject of the complaint was the terms demanded for "The Overlanders," which was made to the order of Ealing Studios, releasing through Rank's General Film Distributors.

Reporting to the CEA general council, the association's general purposes committee went on record with outspoken sentiments concerning GFD's boost in film rentals for "The Overlanders," which is playing in some locations with Paramount's "The Bride Wore Boots." These two pictures were originally booked to the Odeon Circuit at equal percentages but when the pictures were booked to the independents, Paramount, reports the committee, continued to ask only 25 per cent for "The Bride," when played with "The Overlanders," but GFD boosted the "Overlanders" rental to 40 and 50 per cent. "It is understood," said the committee, "that the increase of price has been dictated by Ealing Distributors."

Raises Storm

When this report came up for consideration by the exhibitors' general council a storm broke.

"Mr. J. Arthur Rank," said one member, "has been hailed as placing the industry on a high level, but the distance between Mr. Rank himself and the Rank organization is poles apart."

Others, declaring they were not satisfied that Rank knew of the position and that it was urgently necessary that the treatment being handed out to independents by his employes should be brought to his notice, said that Paramount treated them fairly, whereas harshness was the characteristic of GFD now that that company had merged with Rank's British Eagle-Lion.

Rank defended E. T. Carr, managing director of Eagle-Lion, saying it was untrue he was unaware of happenings in his own organization. He claimed the unexpected success of "The Overlanders" justified the price rise. This statement, however, does nothing to appease independent exhibitors, who are likely to carry their complaint to Reginald Baker, managing director of Ealing and president of the Renters' Society.

North Central Rejects Percentage Ban

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 21.—North Central Allied has rejected a resolution, proposed by its president, Ben Berger, under which the members would have pledged not to pay film rentals running as high as 40 and 50 per cent. It was originally understood that the group had acted favorably upon the resolution.

Ambassador To Switch

The Ambassador Theatre, here, will inaugurate a policy of exhibiting foreign films beginning with "Carmen" on Tuesday.

$171,500 Back Pay To Chicago Staffs

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—Eight hundred male and female janitors employed in theatres in the Chicago metropolitan area received $171,500 in back pay under terms of agreement signed by the building employes' union and theatre representatives here today. Each janitor will receive approximately $217 in back pay, their new contract being retroactive to May 1 this year. The contract will expire July 1 next year.

New minimum wages, based on a guarantee of a 44-hour week is $1.05½ per hour for female employes and $1.07½ per hour for male janitors. This is an increase of 18 cents per hour for men and 16 cents per hour for women.

Other Provision

Other provisions are the same as before—that is, two weeks vacation with pay and time-and-a-half for overtime.

Signing the agreement were Morris J. Leonard of Balaban and Katz, Jack Kirsch of Allied, James Coston of Warner Theatres and Edwin Silverman of the Essaness Circuit. Signing for the union was Thomas J. Burke, president of Office, Theatre and Amusement Building Janitors union, local 25, AFL Building Service Employees International Union.

Exhibitors and the union have been negotiating intermittently since expiration of the old pact last May.

NCCJ to Honor Film Industry on Sunday

Citations for contributions to the American life will be presented Sunday evening at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria here to the motion picture, radio, stage, press and advertising industries by the National Conference of Christians and Jews. Max Cohen, president of Cinema Circuit, will be chairman of the motion picture unit, and Will H. Hays, former president of the Motion Picture Producers and Distributors, will respond on behalf of the industry.

Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, NCCJ president, will give the awards, and Henry Noble McCracken, president emeritus of Vassar College, will be toastmaster.

The other industries to be honored and their representatives at the dinner are: Robert Swezey, Mutual Broadcasting System, chairman of the radio unit, with A. D. Willer of the National Association of Broadcasters; for the press, William Randolph Hearst, Jr., as chairman, and Edwin S. Friendly, treasurer of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, as respondent; for the stage, Emil Friedlander of Dazian's; Clarence Derwent and Bert Lytell, as co-chairmen, and Marcus Heiman as respondent; Reginal Clough, editor of *Tide*, chairman of the advertising unit, with James Young, chairman of the Advertising Council, as respondent. Arch Crawford, executive vice-president of the National Publishers Association, will be chairman of the magazine unit, and Walter Fuller, president of NPA and of the Curtis Publishing Co., will respond.

Goldman's Erlanger Suit in Argued

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 21.—Counsel for both sides in William Goldman's Erlander Theatre suit against Warner Bros. and the major film companies, argued here today the decree the judge is to hand down. Counsel for Goldman was William A. Gray and for the defendant was Judge Joseph Proskauer of New York. Several points were argued.

Judge Proskauer protested that if the decree in the form in which Gray presented it was left standing the defendant would be in contempt of court whenever it made a contract with an exhibitor in Philadelphia. He protested that Gray's interpretation of the decree was much more far-reaching than the court had found.

Counsel also argued on whether Goldman was entitled to interest on the damages and how much of a fee Gray should get. The argument will continue tomorrow and, if an agreement is not reached, the court will make the final decision.

Probate Will of Rubens in Chicago

CHICAGO, Nov. 21.—Nine thousand shares of Paramount Pictures stock were left to Nathaniel and Doris Rubens, children of Jules J. Rubens, late general manager of the Publix Great States circuit, it is revealed in files of Judge John F. O'Connell in Probate Court here.

Rubens, who died on Nov. 29, 1945, also left $260,000 to his children, it was disclosed.

Judge O'Connell also allowed claims of a $59,695, retroactive salary split, to M. M. Rubens and Claude Rubens, brothers, who are, respectively, general manager and maintenance head of Great States. The allowances were $30,847 to Claude Rubens and $28,847 to M. M. Rubens. They were based on a 10-year salary schedule to Jules of $389,614, with a contract minimum of $271,299, and an excess commission of $118,314.

Contracts Listed

The court files also list a series of contracts going back to 1929 involving the three brothers, Balaban and Katz Corp., Barney and John Balaban, the B. and J. Management Co., and Paramount-Famous-Lasky Corp. The basic contract is between B. and J. Management Co. and Jules Rubens, dated June 1, 1936, for the general management of Publix Great States for five and five-sixth per cent of the profits and a minimum of $31,200 a year, or $600 a week.

Included in the commissions are the following subsidiaries of Publix: Theatres Operating Co., Publix-Illinois, Inc., Superior Theatres Corp., all 100 per cent owned; and Rockford Enterprises, Gale Theatres, Quincy Theatres, L. and P. Theatres, and Ajax Theatre Co., all 50 per cent owned.

Jane Murfin Quits 'U'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Jane Murfin, who was scheduled to produce "Time Out Of Mind," Universal-International's screen adaptation of the Rachel Field novel, has settled her contract with the studio by mutual consent.

Start Ned Depinet Drive on Monday

The 10th annual "Ned Depinet Drive" will get under way on Monday in Des Moines where the first of a series of meetings in RKO Radio exchanges will be held. Len S. Gruenberg is 1947 drive captain. RKO Radio's home office will be represented by Harry Gittleson, assistant to Walter Branson, Western division sales manager, and R. V. Nolan, Prairie district manager.

The same persons will also attend a rally on the same day in Omaha. Gruenberg and Gittleson will then proceed to Denver for a meeting on Wednesday, with Salt Lake City scheduled for Saturday.

The Seattle exchange will be visited by Guenberg on Monday, Dec. 2, with J. H. MacIntyre, Western district manager, also in attendance. The latter will also be present at meetings set for San Francisco on Dec. 5 and Los Angeles on Dec. 7.

The 1947 "Ned Depinet Drive" will start officially on Dec. 20 and will extend through a 20-week period, ending next May 8. Special accessories for the drive have been prepared, under supervision of S. Barret McCormick, director of advertising-publicity.

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, will cooperate with Gruenberg.

David Resigns Post As Northio Officer

The resignation of Harry David as general manager and vice-president of Northio Theatres, Ohio, was disclosed here yesterday by Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp.

It was explained that David was forced to relinquish his post by climatic conditions that made it impossible for him to spend summers at his headquarters in Cincinnati. Goldenson said that David would continue to serve the Paramount theatre affiliate in an advisory capacity.

David has long been associated in the theatre business and has been employed by Paramount since 1923. His assignment included the operation of theatres in the Central States.

Coast Services for Sam Schwartz, 76

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—Funeral services were held here at Groman's Moruary, for Sam Schwartz, 76, who died Tuesday.

He was a retired veteran showman. He opened a nickelodeon in 1907, operated a circuit in the East and retired here in 1933. Two sons, Marty, manager of Grauman's Egyptian, and Charles, owner of the Pacific Coast Film Co., survive.

Sturges Seeks New Deal

Producer Preston Sturges, who recently dissolved his partnership with Howard Hughes, is seeking a contract whereby he will make films a part of each year for one of the established companies, leaving him free for an independent venture during the remainder. The producer plans to leave for Hollywood tomorrow.

Every Review Enh

"Undeniably Great!" —*Motion Picture Daily*

"It Has Everything!" —*Variety*

"An Outstanding Achievement!"
—*Film Daily*

And the Public Agrees
AND HOW!

FIRST TWO DAYS NEW
ALL-TIME RECORD IN
***ENTIRE HISTORY* OF**
THE ROXY, NEW YORK



ces Its Greatness !!!

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE — Honoring SPYROS P SKOURAS — AUG. 25th - DEC. 28th

CENTURY-FOX
presents

TYRONE POWER · GENE TIERNEY
JOHN PAYNE · Anne BAXTER
Clifton WEBB · Herbert MARSHALL

in

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of

W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S

The Razor's Edge

Produced by
DARRYL F. ZANUCK · EDMUND GOULDING

Directed by

Screen Play by
LAMAR TROTTI



20th-Fox Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

preferred stock, the $16,219,815 net amounted to $5.69 per share on the 2,734,180 shares of common stock outstanding at Sept. 28. There were 1,911,238 shares of common stock outstanding at the comparable date in 1945, when the $7,529,287 net reported for the comparable 39 weeks was equal to $3.31 a share on the common stock then outstanding.

For the third 1946 quarter, ended Sept. 28, the consolidated net profit, after all charges, was $4,770,366, which, after deducting dividends on prior preferred and convertible preferred stock, amounted to $1.67 per share of common. The profit for the second quarter of 1946 was $5,207,496. The profit for the third quarter of 1945 on a comparable basis was $2,095,927, equal to 89 cents per common share.

Gross income from sales during the 1946 39-week period amounted to $139,180,445, compared with $128,140,398 during the same weeks of 1945. Provision for Federal income taxes was $12,750,000, compared with $16,300,000 last year. Operating expenses for the 39 weeks of this year were $73,128,250, while the amortization of production costs and other expenses amounted to $34,240,894.

Extra 75-Cent Dividend Declared on 20th Common

The 20th Century-Fox board of directors yesterday declared a 75-cent cash dividend on common stock, plus an extra dividend of the same amount, payable on Dec. 23 to stockholders of record on Dec. 2.

At the same time, the board declared a quarterly dividend of $1.12½ per share on prior preferred, payable Dec. 16, and one of 37½ cents on convertible preferred, payable Dec. 23, both to stockholders of record Dec. 2.

NY First-Runs Book Christmas Product

A number of the larger New York first-run theatres have already lined up product for the Christmas holiday period.

M-G-M's "Till the Clouds Roll By" will open at the Music Hall, along with the theatre's annual Christmas pageant on the stage, on either Dec. 5 or 12. The Roxy will have "The Razor's Edge," 20th Century-Fox, which is now current, with Rosario and Antonio topping the vaudeville show. Two Warner films are set for the holidays on Broadway, "The Time, the Place and the Girl," at the Strand, and "Humoresque" at the Hollywood. "Song of the South," Disney-RKO Radio, is at the Palace.

The Paramount will have Paramount's "Cross My Heart" and a stage show headed by the Andrew Sisters, while the Astor will have the Goldwyn-RKO Radio film, "Best Years of Our Lives," now current.

TRANS-CONTINENTAL-FILMS, INC.
243 W. 56th St., N. Y. — Cl. 5-4151
Exclusive Foreign Distributors
FEATURES, WESTERNS, SPECIALTIES
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'The Best Years of Our Lives'

(*Continued from page* 1)

and then is obtrusively Robert E. Sherwood's, who did the screen play. However, the net impression is that ex-service men are not a breed apart but, left to their own resources, are likely to resolve their problems in pretty much the same way as did their forebears.

The motion picture audience will like that. It will like a great deal more about this picture than that. It will like its humor, its love-making, its glimpses of family life, its small-city scenes and social life. It is quite likely they will swarm to it for many a month to come.

THE story picks up March, a middle-aged sergeant and former banker; Andrews, an Air Force captain and former soda-jerker, and Harold Russell, a seaman who has lost both hands, as they await transportation to their home city in the Middle West. March is returning to his wife, Miss Loy, and their two children, Teresa Wright and Michael Hall. Andrews is returning to Miss Mayo, the girl he married 20 days before going overseas. Russell is going back to his childhood sweetheart and fiancee, Miss O'Donnell, fearful over what the loss of his hands may mean to their romance.

The first night home March is ill-at-ease and restless. He suggests some entertainment and his wife and daughter join him on a round of the local cafes. Andrews learns that his bride has become a night club entertainer in his absence and sets out to find her. In the course of the evening he encounters the March family in a cafe operated by Russell's uncle, a role played by Hoagy Carmichael. Russell, uneasy at home, walks in on them later.

The evening becomes a celebration and ends with Andrews spending the night at March's home. Miss Wright, their daughter, falls in love with him.

IN time, March goes back to work at the bank. Andrews, unwilling to return to the soda fountain, soon finds his money exhausted. In desperation, he takes a comparable job, but his bride, unwilling to continue living on his small salary, leaves him with the announced intention of divorcing him. Meanwhile, Andrews has promised March he will not communicate with Miss Wright, March's daughter.

Miss O'Donnell ultimately overcomes Russell's consciousness of his lost hands and, convinced of her love and that his affliction is no barrier, they plan their wedding. The Marchs and Andrews appear at the wedding. The latter, now free, is reunited with Miss Wright.

The acting is excellent throughout. Apart from the principals, special credit goes to Russell as the handless ex-sailor; to Miss O'Donnell as his sweetheart, and to Miss Wright. Good bit parts are contributed by Gladys George, Roman Bohnen, Ray Collins, Minna Gombell, Walter Baldwin, Charles Halton and others.

The entire production is in the familiar Goldwyn manner of excellence and completeness.

Running time, 172 minutes. General classification. Release date, not set.

SHERWIN KANE

Indianapolis Variety Reelects Sam Switow

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 21. — Sam Switow of Louisville has been reelected chief barker of Indianapolis Tent No. 10 of the Variety Club. Other officers include Russell Brentlinger, first assistant chief barker; Trueman Rembusch, second assistant; Albert Blocher, dough guy and Thomas McCleaster, property master. The following were elected to the board of directors: Ken Collins, Moe Esserman, I. A. Fendrick, Earl Herndon, Boyd Sparrow, Ralph Iola, Marc J. Wolf, Carl Niesse, Burdette Peterson and George Landis. Blocher was named national canvassman for the tent, with Switow as alternate.

Irving Sochin Heads Cincinnati Variety

CINCINNATI, Nov. 21.—Irving Sochin, general manager of Theatre Owners Corp., has been elected chief barker of the local Variety Club, Tent No. 3. Newly-elected canvassmen named Ben Cohen, manager of the Strand Theatre, first assistant chief barker, and Jack Frisch, manager of the Fidlay Theatre, second assistant. William Onie, Monogram branch manager, was chosen dough guy and Saul M. Greenberg, theatre attorney, was retained as property master. Allan S. Moritz, was reelected national canvassman. Ralph Kinsler and Onie were selected delegates to the national convention, with Harry Wessel and Noah Schecter, alternates.

UA, MPEA

(*Continued from page* 1)

has not yet released any films and said judgment cannot be passed on the effectiveness of the association until its program has been tested at the box-office. He added, however, that the export group's formula for the distribution of receipts provides fair treatment for independents. Income from all pictures sold through the MPEA will be divided on the basis of business done by individual members in the domestic market.

Although producers releasing through UA normally retain the right to approve each exhibition contract, they have waived this requirement with regard to business done on their behalf by the MPEA, Gould explained.

Grierson an Adviser At UNESCO Parley

John Grierson, former Canadian film commissioner and director of the Canadian Wartime Information Board, has accepted the invitation of the British delegation to join it as an adviser at the Paris conferences of UNESCO, the United Nations' educational organization.

Grierson, who heads The World Today, Inc., which will release 26 short subjects annually at the rate of one every two weeks for United Artists, has left here by plane for the Continent. He will stop first in London prior to joining the current meeting of the UNESCO.

12-Man Unit

(*Continued from page* 1)

tional Distributors Committee, Motion Picture Association, Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, the trade press and the newsreels. Presumably, the three additional members would come from other organizations.

The coordinating committee would, in turn, make recommendations with regard to the films of both the Government and nationally organized philanthropies. This would be with the understanding that each of the exhibitor or other groups reserves complete freedom of action with regard to all such recommendations.

In no instance will any recommendation be binding. In the final analysis, whether or not a Government film is played rests entirely with the exhibitor.

Groups Concerned

The groups which devised the plan comprises Harry Brandt, M. D. Clofine, S. H. Fabian, Francis Harmon, Fred Kent, Herman A. Levy, Donald M. Nelson, Lee Newbury, Charles A. Reagan, Ben Shlyen, Jesse Stern and Robert Wilby.

The group further recommends that local committees in each exchange area be organized to represent both distribution and exhibition, "utilizing to the fullest extent any such industry trade organizations existing in that area. The exchange area committee shall be constituted as operating groups and not as policy making groups," the resolution states.

It was further suggested that a national reviewing committee be set up comprised of representatives of the following: Allied, ATA, CSA, the Independent Theatre Owners Association, MPTOA, the distributors and the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners.

Political Films Out

Films of a political or controversial nature are ruled out. The resolution states that it will deal with any "duly designated" agency representative of all branches of the Federal Government. The Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion has been designated to handle the program at present.

Although the details of distribution are not taken up, it is understood that each company would handle the acceptable Government films on a rotating basis.

The "study committee" was designated at an industry meeting in Washington Tuesday, called by OWMR chief John Steelman for the purpose of formulating a new Government-industry program.

Barcia To Survey U. S.

Juan P. Barcia, president of Productores y Artistas de America, S.A. (Producers and Artists of America, Inc.), Buenos Aires, will arrive in the U. S. shortly, for a six-month survey of the motion picture market. In addition to visiting New York and Hollywood, Barcia intends to study American theatre circuit operations, as well as organize the distribution of Argentina pictures here.

'Yearling' Debut Dec. 18

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 21.—M-G-M will world-premiere "The Yearling" at the Carthay Circle Dec. 18 at a $5 top with the proceeds to go to the Assistance League of Southern California.

Balaban

(*Continued from page* 1)

Goldenson, vice-president of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler, of Randforce Theatres, are co-chairmen of the entertainment division. Bill McCraw of the Variety Clubs of America presided. Ninety persons sat on a triple-deck dais; their names were published in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

JDL. affair launched the motion picture effort to support the $5,000,000 JDA campaign and help the work of the JDA's two beneficiary agencies, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The co-chairmen pointed out that the motion picture drive has a goal of $250,000.

Three-fold Tributes

A three-fold tribute to Balaban highlighted the evening's program. Harvey Gibson, president of Manufacturers Trust, lauded Paramount's president for his activities as an industrial leader; Henry Monsky, president of B'nai B'rith, acclaimed his humanitarian endeavors in combatting intolerance, and Edwin L. Weisl, of the board of directors of Paramount Pictures, extolled Balaban as a friend.

Climaxing the tributes paid to Balaban, co-chairman Cohn presented the guest of honor with a sterling silver plaque inscribed with the signatures of 350 leaders of the entertainment world.

In accepting the plaque, Balaban emphasized the importance of fighting anti-Semitism in America. Alluding to the turnout for the event, he stressed that "it reflected the determination of the motion picture division to combat all forms of religious bigotry."

Support for Democracy

Louis Novins, assistant to Barney Balaban and former assistant national director of the Anti-Defamation League, denounced those who are exploiting the difficulties of the postwar world to undermine American democracy. He urged the industry to support pro-democratic agencies.

Outlining some of the activities of the two agencies in their program to warn the American people in the subject, Novins continued: "Using media of popular information in cooperation with veterans, religious and labor groups, the two agencies are constantly informing 140,000,000 Americans that hate propaganda endangers America and the freedom of every American."

At the conclusion of the event, the industry co-chairmen stated that "With the assistance of the executive committee, we will carry the appeal to every person and firm in the motion picture and entertainment industry."

Catholic Guild Dance Today in N. Y.

The Catholic Actors Guild, here, will hold its annual dance and entertainment tonight, in the Hotel Plaza. During the war years, the Guild contributed the profits of its annual affairs to war activities and charities but this year the Guild's own hospital fund will be the beneficiary.

Gene Buck, president of the Guild, will be on hand to greet members, guests and celebrities of stage, screen and radio. Jay Jostyn, vice-president and "Mr. District Attorney" of the air, will be master of ceremonies for the evening.

Wisconsin ITO

(*Continued from page* 1)

lied Theatre Owners of Texas, in his speech, will cover problems facing the independents today.

Friday night following the business sessions, a "showmen's frolic" will be held at Independent Theatre Owners headquarters.

After the convention business sessions on Saturday, 20th-Fox will stage a cocktail party. This event will fill time before the final social function of the convention. At 7:30 p.m., the annual convention dinner-dance will start with a dinner, floor show and dancing.

Other speakers will include Jack Kirsch, president of National Allied and Allied of Illinois, who will point up "unity and consolidation of the strength" of independent exhibitors; Trueman Rembusch, president of Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, who will discuss "television and its present status," and Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, who will talk on Allied's Caravan service and local and state taxes.

ITO president John P. Adler's report to the convention will outline highlights of the unit's activities of the past year, and Harry Perlewitz, business manager, will review the service exhibitors receive through their ITO membership.

Other industry leaders have been invited to attend and address the convention, either at business sessions or at a banquet.

'Brownout' Looms

(*Continued from page* 1)

during the day to determine the pattern which the power conservation order should take. There is no doubt about its impact upon theatres, and the measures may be more drastic than the order issued during the strike last March.

If the strike is not rapidly settled, it appears that CPA will come forth with another order giving regional CPA offices authority to shut down places of amusement, such as theatres, bowling alleys, and other entertainment situations.

John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine Workers, will not be made to show cause for the strike until Nov. 25, when he has been directed to appear before the Federal District Court, here.

Capital to Set Pace In Theatre Dimouts

WASHINGTON, Nov. 21.—Washington business people today decided to set a pattern for the nation by imposing a voluntary dimout which will begin at midnight Friday. Meeting with the District of Columbia Commissioners on the coal strike emergency were two representatives of the film industry. They were Carter T. Barron of Loew's and Julian Brylawski, Washington MPTO president.

According to Barron, it is not indicated that a general theatre shutdown will be necessary in Washington. "We want to set the pace for the nation during this period of crisis and hope that other cities will follow our decision to dimout the fronts of theatres and other business houses," Barron asserted after the meeting.

Youth Delinquency

(*Continued from page* 1)

special film, radio and press panel, of the Justice Department's conference of youth delinquency.

The group stopped short of making any final recommendations and planned further study into the problem of juvenile crime with a plan to meet later this year.

It was admitted in a closed meeting that there is an "existence of a popular belief that certain films and other types of communicated shows contribute to teen-age crime." However, in the absence of any definite evidence that such crimes are motivated by pictures and other means of communication, the panel reserved judgment on formulating any recommendations for the industry.

Little if any mention was made of the necessity for "crime does not pay" pictures. It was rather a meeting where various local civic representatives came in and told the information media people what "they think should be done."

Those representing the motion picture industry at the meeting were: Miller McClintock, Encyclopedia Britannica Films; Eric Height, president, Films, Inc.; H. C. E. Reagan, president of the Film Council of America; Stuart Scheftel, president Young America Films, Inc.; and Arthur De Bra, representing the same company.

Goldwyn Opening

(*Continued from page* 1)

Virginia Mayo, Hoagy Carmichael and Cathy O'Donnell, all of whom have major roles in the film. Mayor O'Dwyer was a personal guest of Mr. and Mrs. Goldwyn.

The premiere was a $10 per seat occasion for the benefit of the New York Lighthouse for the Blind. Everyone, including Goldwyn, members of the cast and all others at the performance paid for their tickets for the benefit.

Premiere ceremonies were broadcast over NBC while stations WOR and WNYC made transcriptions, and the U. S. State Department short-waved the proceedings overseas in English, French, Spanish and Portuguese.

Contract with MGM Invalid: Stamatis

Charging that the licensing agreement between M-G-M and his clients, George Stamatis, Argosy Amusement Corp., Apollo Theatre Corp., Momart Theatre Corp. and Alda Theatre Corp. is illegal because it violates the anti-trust laws, Monroe E. Stein, attorney for the defendants in the action brought by M-G-M for alleged percentage fraud, has filed a general denial of the charges in New York Federal Court.

The defendants, each of whom has submitted a separate answer, maintain that the agreement, basis for the suit, is illegal because it provides for minimum admission prices, fixed runs, clearance and availabilities, and, furthermore, because M-G-M and other distributing companies "are conspiring to exchange information" on film rentals and percentage receipts.

Ginsberg

(*Continued from page* 1)

lem" and, coupled with the new method of individual picture-selling, one which will require every picture to stand on its own merits.

Ginsberg was interviewed at a luncheon given by Paramount at the 21 Club here yesterday at which Russell Holman, Paramount Eastern studio representative, recently returned from Europe and Hollywood, also was an honor guest.

Thee Paramount production head reported that the current strike of Hollywood studio workers had not impeded the company's production schedule "materially."

Production Goes on

"Seven pictures were in production at our studio when the strike began," Ginsberg said. "Since then, five have been completed and two, 'Blaze of Noon' and 'Variety Girl,' are in production. Two more, 'Saigon' and 'Road to Rio,' will go into production this month on schedule."

Paramount has increased its picture inventory during 1946, Ginsberg reported, and has sufficient finished product now to meet next year's schedule. There are a total of 25 pictures at the studio either completed or in work, he said.

No Structural Change

Asked whether Paramount was interested in acquiring new independent producers, Ginsberg said the company's present picture inventory makes that unlikely. He added that he expects "our present production structure will remain as it is for the next year or two."

Holman said that Paramount at present has plans for the production of only one picture in England next year and that it will be made for the company at the Denham studio by Wallis. The latter will go to England in late May to start production on a screen play to be based on the British novel, "For Her to See," which will star Ray Milland with a British woman player opposite.

Plans no British Studio

Paramount has no plans at the moment for a British studio of its own, Holman reported. Production will be maintained there, however, because of British quota requirements and the importance of that market, he said.

Replying to a question, he said he disapproves of the Authors' Authority plan for control of members' writings, saying it was dangerous and has no place in a democracy.

Ginsberg is scheduled to leave for the Coast next Tuesday.

Weisberg Joins Young

May Weisberg, formerly of the New York Strand publicity office, has joined the staff of Harold Young Productions, makers of business films.

ASTOR PICTURES
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MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Oct. 26	CRIME DOCTOR'S MAN HUNT Warner Baxter D—61 mins. (816) (Rev. 9/20/46)	(October Releases) COCKEYED MIRACLE NO LEAVE, NO LOVE RAGE IN HEAVEN			TUMBLEWEED TRAILS Eddie Dean O—57 mins. (Rev. 11/11/46)		SISTER KENNY D—116 mins. (Rev. 7/16/46) LADY LUCK C—97 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) GREAT DAY (British) D (Rev. 5/11/46) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP D—63 mins. (Rev. 7/17/46) (Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS Cary Grant Ingrid Bergman D—103 mins. (Rev. 7/24/46)	(October Releases) THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE HOME SWEET HOMICIDE STRANGE JOURNEY THE BOWERY	(Stromberg) STRANGE WOMAN Hedy Lamarr George Sanders D—100 mins. (Rev. 11/4/46)	(October Release) DARK MIRROR D—85 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	
Nov. 2			WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D—73 mins. (605) (Rev. 10/31/46)								
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks D—65 mins. (818) (Rev. 11/1/46)		BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby			(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)		(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606) (Rev. 10/24/46)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563)		STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O	HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542) (Rev. 11/18/46)			(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)	WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644) (Rev. 11/11/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—(824)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		SANTA FE UPRISING Allan Lane Bobby Blake O—56 mins.	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)				
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue	(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd	(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERA-ZADE (Color) Brian Donlevy Yvonne de Carlo	
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)		(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)	(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce	MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)		SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan			(Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648)		TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova Allan Jenkins C—64 min.			BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev. 9/26/46)		(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)		(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru		THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) Dennis Morgan Jack Carson M—105 min. (610)
Jan. 4						(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunne Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)					

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily ***Review Date.***

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 103 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1946 TEN CENTS

Unions Facing Disaster, Says Donald Nelson

"Unless They Settle Own Intra-Mural Disputes"

Labor unions face the prospect of "bringing disaster on their own heads" unless they resolve their own intra-mural issues, such as those in Hollywood which have beset production "tremendously," Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, states here. He is visiting from Hollywood.



Donald M. Nelson

Studio strikes are mainly responsible for an increase in production costs of as much as 100 per cent, he said. Presumably, Nelson was

(*Continued on page* 11)

Rank Sales Meeting Called by Heineman

The newly-appointed sales representative of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal Pictures will hold their first sales meeting with William J. Heineman, Rank-division general sales manager, at the Blackstone Hotel, Chicago, on Dec. 5-6.

Highlighting the agenda of the two-day meeting will be the launching of

(*Continued on page* 11)

NCCJ in Tribute To Film Industry

Responsibilities and opportunities of the motion picture industry in portraying inter-group relations were emphasized last night in a tribute to the industry by the National Conference of Christians and Jews at a "Thanks for Thanksgiving" dinner at the Waldorf Astoria. Will H. Hays responded on behalf of the industry.

Tracing the development of the in-

(*Continued on page* 11)

Bishop Scully New Head of Bishops' Committee on Films

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Most Rev. William A. Scully, Coadjutor Bishop of Albany, N. Y., was chosen chairman of the Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures at a meeting of that group held here in connection with the annual general meeting of the Catholic Archbishops and Bishops of the United States.

Bishop Scully succeeds Bishop Francis P. Keough of Providence, who retired. Most Rev. Raymond A. Kearney, Auxiliary Bishop of Brooklyn, succeeds Bishop Keough as a member of the committee.

Other members of the committee are: Archbishop John J. Cantwell of Los Angeles, Bishop Joseph H. Albers of Lansing and Bishop Bryan J. McEntegart of Ogdensburg, N. Y.

(*Continued on page* 11)

2 Weeks to Agree On Goldman Decree

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 24.—After hearing arguments on Friday regarding a final decree in the damage suit brought by William Goldman and the Erlanger Theatre, here, against Warner Brothers and other film companies, Federal District Court Judge William H. Kirkpatrick gave the plaintiffs and defendants two weeks to

(*Continued on page* 11)

New Raise in Express Rates Affects Films

On Dec. 13, a new scale of express rates will become effective at all 23,000 offices of the Railway Express Agency. The motion picture industry is a large user of the REA.

New rates will represent an increase of 20 cents per 100 lbs. on first class and 15 cents per 100 lbs. on second class rates with increases in minimum and graduated charges for packages weighing less than 100 lbs.

Closed Shops End Soon in Nebraska

OMAHA, Nov. 24. — Closed shops will become illegal in Nebraska by mid-December, bringing up dozens of unanswered questions for the film business and all other industry in the state.

Voters favored an amendment ruling out the closed shop, and Governor Griswold will have 10 days after the result is certified to him to proclaim it law.

After this action, "denial of employment to any person because of membership or non-membership in or resignation or expulsion from a labor organization" is unlawful in Nebraska. Also unlawful will be "any contract to exclude persons from employment because of membership or non-membership in a labor organization."

US Foreign Service Will Facilitate Film Exports

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Expansion of worldwide business by the motion picture and other industries will be facilitated by a reorientation program under which officers of the U. S. Foreign Service has been instructed to place added emphasis on obtaining prompt knowledge of markets, sources of supply, agents and distributors, according to Eugene M. Braderman, the Department of Commerce's assistant deputy director for trade promotion.

"Where certain data cannot be obtained after diligent effort, Foreign Service officers are asked to report that fact, since knowledge of inability to obtain information is also of great importance to businessmen," Braderman said.

Expansion of this aid to the film and other industries by the Foreign Service will extend the work being done by the Office of International Trade, which was established last winter when all activities in the international field performed by the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce were consolidated with the peacetime functions of the Foreign Economic Administration, Braderman explained.

Henceforth, he added, the Office of International Trade, recognizing the necessity of giving Foreign Service officers full information, will provide missions with background material and unpublished studies from time to time, as well as to include with inquiries the reasons why the requested data are desired and how they will be useful and to inform the officers of any inadequacies in the reports received.

Exhibitors in Disagreement On Reissues

Companies Weigh Mass Of Conflicting Requests

Distributors appear to have been caught in the middle of a growing controversy among exhibitors and exhibitor organizations over the question of whether the number of reissues on the market should be increased or decreased.

Spearheading the movement against reissues, expressly on grounds that the public will rebel if offered too many of them, is the Independent Theatre Owners of Indiana, which has been strongly protesting since

(*Continued on page* 9)

Wisc. ITO Hears Industry Leaders

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 24.—Some 50 exhibitors representing 16 theatres were on hand for the opening session of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan two-day convention which began at the Schroeder Hotel, here, on Friday.

(*Continued on page* 11)

Dimout Tonight for Most U. S. Theatres

Washington, Nov. 24.—A sweeping dimout order from the Civilian Production Administration as a result of the coal strike, calling for a 25 per cent reduction in electricity used for lighting streets, buildings and other places, including theatres, and excepting homes, will be effective tomorrow night.

The states affected by the order are Connecticut, Delaware, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Vermont, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin, and the District of Columbia.

Personal Mention

NATE SPINGOLD, Columbia executive, is due to return here today from Hollywood.

•

JEAN BIRKHAHN, managing director in Bulgaria for the Motion Picture Export Association, will sail from here on Wednesday for Sofia.

•

SAMUEL WHEELER, Washington, D. C., manager for Film Classics, was scheduled to return there at the weekend following conferences here.

•

H. M. BESSEY, Altec Service vice-president, and P. F. THOMAS, treasurer, have been in Boston from New York.

•

MILTON FELDMAN, Columbia assistant director, and IMOGENE CARPENTER, radio and stage entertainer, were married recently in Los Angeles.

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CHIPS RAFFERTY, British actor, was scheduled to arrive here over the weekend by plane from London.

•

LEON SIRITZKY is due in New York from France on Thursday or Friday, accompanied by MRS. SIRITZKY.

•

GROVER C. SCHAEFER, newly-appointed home-office sales executive for PRC, will leave New York today for Charlotte.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warner Eastern sales manager, will leave here today for Albany and Gloversville.

•

AL SWERDLOVE, Film Classics' New England manager, has left for his territory following a visit to New York.

•

ARTHUR DE BRA, executive of the Motion Picture Association, here, had a birthday on Friday.

•

LEON BAMBERGER, RKO Radio sales promotion manager, is due back in New York today from Milwaukee.

•

JACK OSSERMAN, Latin America supervisor for RKO Radio, is due here today from Rio de Janeiro.

•

N. J. COLQUHOUN, Republic district manager, Dallas, visited in Memphis recently.

PCCITO, ITOA in Gov't Film Program

Both the Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners and the Independent Theatres Association of New York are to have representation on the committee of 12 which is to coordinate the industry's efforts to cooperate with the Government in film matters, as recommended here Thursday by the "study" group which developed the coordinating plan.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

PERHAPS more regional exhibitor association meetings have been held during the past six weeks than were held in any like period of time in the past five years. There was one subject that provided the liveliest type of discussion at all of the recent meetings. It superseded even the New York Federal court decision in the industry anti-trust suit as a discussion subject and in many instances generated more heat on convention floors than did the court decision.

The topic, as you no doubt are aware, is that of the use of local checkers at theatres.

It is apparent now that exhibitors everywhere are unalterably opposed to the use of local checkers at their theatres. If they refuse to accept them, such exhibitors are in danger of having an important part of their product supply denied them. That appears to be the most frequent response by distributors to affirmative or, if you prefer, arbitrary action by exhibitors who turn away local checkers.

At various exhibitor conventions, however, some exhibitors have been heard to relate that their protests against local checkers, or their refusal to accept them, not only evoked no retaliatory action but resulted in acquiescence to their requests that checkers from out of town be assigned to their theatres.

•

From time to time inquiries have been made to determine whether any official policy exists among the distributor members of Confidential Reports, Inc., in relation to exhibitor complaints against the use of local checkers and whether or not that practice can be abandoned.

It appears that in some instances where the cost of employing an out of town checker is not too far out of line, an exhibitor stands a fair chance of getting such a checker, providing, of course, he has made a firm stand against being checked by a local resident. Otherwise, the average exhibitor's chances of being relieved of a local checker are pretty slim.

The reason most frequently heard is that it is financially impractical to use non-resident checkers in most situations. It is not easy to doubt this explanation because it is absurd to assume that the great opposition by exhibitors everywhere to local checking would be deliberately ignored or more of it courted by distributors through refusals to change the system, if a practical substitute was at hand.

•

Since it appears that the principal reason for the continuance of local checkers is a financial one, it is obvious that the solution to the problem rests inside the financial sphere.

Exhibitor sentiment today is so strong against their theatres being checked by local residents that it would appear that most of them, if they are sincere in their opposition to local checkers, and not simply averse to checking as such, should be willing to make a deal with distributors.

If distributors are sincere when they say that the principal barrier to employment of out-of-town checkers is the financial one, they, too, should be prepared to come to some sort of an agreement with an exhibitor who is willing to pay part or most of the cost of an out-of-town checker's hire.

It would seem that any exhibitor whose objections to local checking are sincere should at least be given the opportunity to agree to the payment of, perhaps, the difference between the cost of hiring an out-of-town checker and the cost of hiring a local checker. Likewise, the distributor who is sincere in saying that his only objection to the assignment of out-of-town checkers is the increased cost, should be willing to pay at least the part which ordinarily would go to a local checker and should make a standing offer to provide an out-of-town checker on that basis.

It is easily recognizable that this is no ideal solution; in fact, it is no doubt no solution at all to many exhibitors who could not stomach the thought of paying anything, even though only a few dollars per week might be involved, for having their theatres checked. However, it suggests an area within which some agreement on the bitterly argued subject may be reached and, for those who are completely sincere in their objections and for those who are just as sincere in their expressed desire to see some solution found, it offers a starting point.

Exhibitor leaders could easily determine how many of their constituents would be interested in some such plan and whether it would be acceptable to CRI.

Newsreel Parade

THE coal crisis is highlighted in all current newsreels. Other items include rocket films of the earth from a distance of 65 miles high, news from Germany, Japan, India and Palestine, and the passing of former Mayor James J. Walker of New York. Movietone presents coverage of the world premiere of "The Razor's Edge" in New York. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 25—V-2 rocket camera photographs earth from 65 miles high. U. S. in showdown with John L. Lewis over coal strike. "The Razor's Edge" world premiere in New York. Movietone selects an "All-America" football team.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 223—Lewis in spotlight in coal tie-up. Earth filmed by camera in rocket 65 miles high. Overseas news from Germany. Wingless glider. Weight-lifters in Paris. "Hi-ho, Santa!"

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 26—Coal crisis: U. S. acts against Lewis. New York says "farewell" to Jimmy Walker. Tension in India. A new glider—no wings! Raymond Duncan comes home.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 28—Coal strike threatens U. S. Films of the earth taken from V-2 rocket. Zionist leaders freed by the British. Last Germans shipped from Czechoslovakia. Aviation groups join in fight against fog. Germans rebuild blasted cities. "GI's" rest in the Jap "alps."

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 557—Coal strike threatens U. S. economy. Earth seen from rocket 65 miles high. "Windmill" glider. Tropic topics. Ancient festivals. Wooden Indians.

Coast Independents to Honor Fredman

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24. — Ernest Fredman, editor and publisher of *London Daily Film Renter*, will be honor guest at a dinner tomorrow night to be given by the Independent Motion Picture Producers and Distributors, at the Hollywood Brown Derby. Fredman, who arrived here Nov. 15, plans to remain in Hollywood for another week before returning to England. I. E. Chadwick, president of the organization, will preside at the dinner.

Bellfort to Assist Lissim in Europe

Joseph Bellfort has been named to a new post in Europe as assistant to Wladimir Lissim, RKO Radio's European chief. Bellfort, who has been with RKO for 17 years, has recently been in charge of the Far East Division. He will leave for Europe on Dec. 5 and will have headquarters in the company's office in Paris.

Jack Kennedy, long a member of RKO's foreign staff, will succeed Bellfort as Far East manager.

Captions Transposed

A press error in Friday's *Motion Picture Daily* resulted in the transposition of the captions of Barney Balaban and Henry Ginsberg under half-tones appearing with stories concerning each.

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'Outlaw' May Await Result of New Suit

With both plaintiff and defendants apparently concurring that interpretation of the power of the city license commissioner and police commissioner is the focal point of the dispute over exhibition in New York City in Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," the outcome of United Artists' request for an injunction to compel Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer to show the film now appears to hinge on the result of the proceeding filed last week by Hughes in Supreme Court to enjoin the city officials from censoring the film, prosecuting any exhibitors or revoking the license of any theatre showing it.

Although no decision was reached Friday by the Appellate Division of the state Supreme Court in the hearing of arguments in UA's appeal from Judge Walter's decision refusing to force exhibition, the possibility that the future of "The Outlaw" in the city may have to await the decision of the latest court case, Hughes' request to have the city officials restrained, arose Friday when the court pointed out that it could only sit in equity and that only in rare instances could it issue the injunction sought by UA.

Edward C. Raftery, president, represented UA at the hearing, while the defendants were represented by Arthur Scheinberg. Also participating in the case as *amici curiae* were Hughes and the city corporation counsel.

Hughes Gets Extension in Anti-Trust Suit Move

Delay of the trial of Howard Hughes' anti-trust suit against the Motion Picture Association, possibly until the middle of next year, was seen here by some observers at the weekend when U. S. District Court Judge Alfred C. Coxe, acting with the approval of MPA attorneys, granted Hughes an extension until Jan. 21 to file answers to the association's counter-claims.

Although the counter-claims lost significance recently when Hughes complied with the MPA's request that he return the Production Code Administration seal originally granted to his film, "The Outlaw," the extension will give the plaintiff an opportunity also to reply to the defendant's answers to his complaint, according to counsel for the MPA.

Much delay of the trial after Jan. 21 may depend upon whether or not Hughes seeks examination of witnesses before trial, the MPA spokesman further explained.

To Show Film on Pope

"The Story of the Pope," a feature length film showing the daily life of Pope Pius XII, will open at the Republic Theatre, New York, Dec 19, according to Bernard Brandt's Chapel Films Corp., the producer. Francis Cardinal Spellman appears in the introduction. Narration is handled by Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen. Part of the film's earnings are earmarked for a relief agency.

Bresler to U-I

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Jerome S. Bresler, M-G-M shorts and feature producer for the past ten years, has joined Universal-International as producer.

UA Board May Act On Enterprise Deal

While the agenda for the United Artists board meeting, to be held here today, has not been formally disclosed, it is understood that consideration will be given to a projected domestic distribution deal with Enterprise Productions, headed by Charles Einfeld and David Loew. Closing of a contract with Story Productions has yet to be set, and may also be given attention at the meeting, which will be presided over by Edward C. Raftery, UA president.

As previously stated, action on the dispute with David O. Selznick has been put off until after Thanksgiving.

Production Up Five Despite the Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Although jurisdictional strike's end appeared as unpredictable as ever, operational conditions in studios appeared improving this week, with the production level rising for first time since picketing began. Five more features were in work at the weekend than were the week before.

Grand Jury indictments voted Friday against CSU president Sorrell and 13 other leaders did not diminish the determination of the strikers, who prepared to attend a mass meeting tonight to hear new instructions for intensifying pressures worked out by the strike strategy committee. Superior Judge W. R. McKaye continued bail under which indicted strikers are at liberty and set trial for January 7.

Serials Attacked at Delinquency Meeting

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—An attack on film serials which reputedly glorify crime, and particularly, violent death, was made here on Friday by Harry S. Wender, chairman of the District of Columbia Recreation Board, before the National Conference for the Prevention of Youth Delinquency, in progress at the Department of Justice.

Wender said he is not advocating censorship but that there should be more programs conducted by the industry which would help young people. He made no mention of the production code, which was considered adequate to regulate films by a majority of the conference participants.

Lawes Doubts Importance of Films and Radio in Crime

ALBANY, Nov. 24.—Lewis E. Lawes, former warden of Sing Sing, who appears in the prologue to RKO Radio's "San Quentin," has said here that he did not think motion pictures and radio the important factors in contributing to crime. Lawes declared that the influence of these media on youngsters is over-estimated.

Stone Names Villiers

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Andrew Stone, who is now in London, has appointed Sir Edwin Villiers as his British representative.

13 More to Attend Foundation Meeting

Thirteen additional representatives of various branches of the industry have accepted bids to participate in the New Orleans meeting, Dec. 3-4, when plans are to be formulated for the establishment of a film foundation for the needy, in the industry, Walter Vincent, circuit executive prominent in the movement, disclosed here on Friday. This brings to 59 the total of those slated to attend. Names of the first 46 were printed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 15.

The additional persons who will attend are: Norman Ayres and John Kirby, Warners; Sam Dembow, Edward Golden Productions; Sam Gillette, Inter-Mountain Theatres Association, Utah; Rotus Harvey, president of the Independent Theatre Owners of Northern California and Nevada; Sherwin A. Kane, editor of MOTION PICTURE DAILY, representing Quigley Publications.

Also: A. S. Johnstone, IATSE in New Orleans; Abel Green, editor of *Variety;* Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio distribution chief; John J. O'Connor, vice-president of Universal; Edward Zorn, president of the United Theatres of Illinois; C. B. Akers, Griffith Amusement, Oklahoma City.

Present indications are that the curtailment in rail transportation will not prove too much of a handicap to those going to the meeting. A number of executives already have made reservations with the airlines.

Pickford-Cowan Unit Slates 4 for 1947

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan have formed Artists Alliance Corp. Four pictures are to be produced by Cowan and released through United Artists during 1947: "One Touch of Venus," "Babylon Revisited," "Sorrel and Son" and "President's Husband." Combined budget will be $7,500,000. First production will be "Venus," in Technicolor.

Goldburg Firm Will Make Four a Year

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Jesse J. Goldburg has formed United Screen Associates, and plans to make four pictures annually over seven years. The first will be based on the radio program, "Policewoman." No releasing arrangements have been set.

New Matthews Unit Slates 'Floyd' Film

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Bret Matthews Productions has been formed by Bret Matthews and Jean Donnelly. First picture will be "Pretty Boy Floyd." No releasing arrangements have been set.

Ginger Rogers Reception

Ginger Rogers, star of the Jack H. Kirball-Bruce Manning production "Magnificent Doll," being released by Universal, played hostess to the motion picture critics of New York's newspapers and their children at a reception in the Stork Club, last Friday.

Kalmenson Names WB Drive Winners

Winners of approximately $35,000 in Government Savings Bonds, plus other prizes in the 1946 Warner sales drive, known as "Warner's Wild West Show," were announced by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager, at Friday's session of a district managers' meeting held at the home office.

In the district managers' contest, first prize of a Mercury sedan was won by Hall Walsh, Prairie District. Other prize winners, who received bonds, were Charles Rich, Central, and Harry A. Seed, Midwest.

Branch Office Contest

First place in the branch office contest was won by Des Moines, entitling manager George Lefko to a Ford station wagon. Other winners, all receiving bonds, were in the following order: Milwaukee, Don Woods; Omaha, Frank J. Hannon; Pittsburgh, F. D. Moore; Kansas City, Russell C. Borg; Cleveland, Jerry Wechsler; Salt Lake City, W. F. Gordon; Chicago, A. J. Shumow; Cincinnati, James S. Abrose; St. Louis, Lester F. Bona; Portland, Al Oxtoby; Denver, E. A. Bell; Memphis, Ed Williamson; Albany, Ray Smith, and New Haven, Carl Goe.

Top place in the salesman's contest was won by D. Webster, Salt Lake City, with other winners in the following order: W. A. Haefliger, Denver; J. Manfre, Kansas City; Leo Jacobi, New York; H. P. Decker, New York; L. E. Hobson, Denver; Paul Krumenacker, Pittsburgh; E. D. Perkins, Minneapolis; O. Cantor, Cleveland; W. B. Collins, Detroit.

Booking Dept. Contest

Booking department contest was won by the Los Angeles branch, followed in order by San Francisco, New Orleans, Albany, Memphis, New Haven, Toronto, Boston, Seattle and Minneapolis.

Special shipping department contest winners were, in order, Memphis, Milwaukee, Philadelphia, Oklahoma City, Charlotte, New York, Chicago, New Orleans, Buffalo and Dallas.

In Canadian branch results, the leaders were Montreal, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

The four-day meeting wound up Saturday.

Republic Dividend

A regular quarterly dividend of 25 cents per share on preferred stock, payable Jan. 2, to stockholders of record on Dec. 10, was declared recently by Republic's board of directors at a meeting held here in the home office.



MPEA Gets 41 More Japanese Accounts

Making headway in its drive to round up independent circuits and exhibitors in Japan, the Motion Picture Export Association has closed a deal with Nikkatsu circuit, whereby all 41 of its first-run houses will be opened to the American-made product of MPEA's member companies. This brings to 175 the number of Jananese-owned theatres signed up by MPEA since last October when it broke away from Japan's two powerful circuits, Toho and Shochiku after failure of the latter to provide a sufficient number of houses for MPEA product, the New York office of the MPEA reports.

Ross Williams Heads Cincinnati Cinema

CINCINNATI, Nov. 24.—Ross Williams has been reelected president of the Cinema Club of Cincinnati, formed several years ago for social purposes. John E. Eifert was named vice-president, and Peter Niland was retained as secretary and treasurer.

Directors elected were Harry Sheeran, Mannie Maegle, Nat Kaplan, Charles Palmer and Ed Salzberg. Williams, Eifert and Salzberg were chosen delegates to the St. Louis convention of the Coliseum of Motion Picture Salesmen, with which the club is affiliated.

Fine, Suspend Operator

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Nov. 24.—Suspended from membership in Local No. 186, motion picture operators union, for six months, and fined $180 for charging union leaders with diverting union funds to their own use, Joseph A. Girard, operator at the Paramount Theatre, has filed for a Superior Court injunction to compel union reinstatement and to stop interfering with the execution of his contract with the theatre. Judge William C. Giles has ordered union officials to show cause why the injunction should not be issued.

Review

"Abie's Irish Rose"

(Bing Crosby Prod.—United Artists)

SELDOM, perhaps, in the history of motion pictures has so much that is so good been combined with so much that is not so good as in this face-lifted version of the Anne Nichols play which years ago survived a loud spanking from the critics and ran practically forever. Believing that solid merit earns forgiveness of faults, in films as in people, this reviewer looks for audiences all over the land to take "Abie's Irish Rose" to their hearts. And hopes so. For the "message"—no other term can be used—which the Crosby production drives home is basic to the future of this world.

The theme, of course, is tolerance—slowly transcending racial and religious discrimination. It was inherent, but buried deep under horseplay, in Miss Nichols' old marathon of the stage, produced long before intolerance had brought tragedy to our times. Now, appropriately, that theme is underscored and developed, rescuing the story from its erstwhile fate of being a dramatized collection of Jewish and Irish jokes, until it builds, especially at the climax, an emotional content which dries the throat, wets the eyes and makes one want to stand up and cheer.

The fundamental plot is too well known to bear repeating here at any length. An Irish girl and a Jewish boy fall in love. Fearing opposition from their parents, each pretends that the other is not of a different nationality. The boy's father brings in a rabbi for the wedding; the girl's arrives with a priest. Crushed at discovering the truth, the old men battle to block the match and, failing, desert the kids—until finally grandparenthood and the powerful grip of human love bring about a complete reconciliation.

The count *against* the film, and a heavy one, may spring from the fact that Miss Nichols has written the screenplay and, while discarding some of her original material, she did not discard enough. This may have seemed wise, considering the stage popularity of her farce, but chances are that the world has been through too much since the days of that popularity to allow the joke to hold up. Intolerance still exists, to the point of universal alarm, but the lesson taught by Hitler has made most of its practitioners at least self-conscious and cautious. To see these two fathers on the screen openly insulting each other, even flying at each other's throats, is neither realistic nor funny—in 1946. Some patrons, chances are, will find it downright embarassing.

Nor is this great flaw redeemed by good acting from those who must take part in it. Michael Chekhov and J. M. Kerrigan, as the two bigots, possess and occasionally reflect the needed ability, but producer-director A. Edward Sutherland has had them so overdo everything that often they seem like puppet figures from a bygone age. George E. Stone and Vera Gordon, representing a vaudeville cross-section of the Jewish community, are only slightly more fortunate. The young couple, however, Joanne Dru and Richard Norris, were allowed to play straight and are quite all right.

It may be, though, that here, as in 19th Century melodrama, the exaggerated blacks and whites of characterization are helpful in creating the desired response, no matter how much they irritate. For by contrast with the senior Levys and Murphys of this yarn, the calm, broad understanding of the rabbi (Art Baker) and the priest (Emory Parnell) probably hold much of the secret of the ultimate impact which the picture produces.

And, further on the plus side, there is a sort of V-E Day prologue in London, where the two kids meet, which is very natural and nice.

Running time, 96 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 27.

TOM LOY

Regional Directors Of Indiana ATOI

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 24.—A complete list of regional directors of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, resulting from last week's convention here, follows:

District 1: Alex Manta, East Chicago; H. Lisle Krieghbaum, Rochester; T. C. Baker, Rensselaer, and alternate, Maurice Rubin, Michigan City.

District 2: Roy Kalver, Decatur; A. H. Borkenstein, Fort Wayne; Peter Mallers, Fort Wayne, and alternate, John A. Schwin, LaGrange.

District 3: Marc J. Wolf, Monon; William T. Studebaker, Logansport; Jack Alexander, Lebanon, and alternate, William G. Wallace, Veedersburg.

District 4: Sam W. Neall, Marion; V. U. Young, Muncie; S. J. Gregory, Anderson, and alternate, A. C. Kalafat, Gas City.

District 5: J. B. Stine, Terre Haute; Stanley A. B. Cooper, Brazil; A. H. Kaufman, Terre Haute, and alternate, Claude Flater, Spencer.

District 6: Roy E. Harrold, Rushville; Trueman T. Rembusch, Franklin; Walter F. Easley, Greensburg, and alternate, J. C. Schilling, Connersville.

District 7: Harry Kornblum, Evansville; Harold Hargis, Rockport; Oscar Fine, Evansville, and alternate, Bruce Kixmiller, Bicknell.

District 8: H. H. Johnson, Madison; A. B. Thompson, North Vernon; Sam J. Switow, New Albany, and alternate, H. P. Vonderschmitt, Bedford.

District 9: Fred J. Dolle, A. C. Zaring, Dudley Williston, and alternate, Ernest Miller, all of Indianapolis.

Officers elected by the organization were: Trueman T. Rembusch, president; Sam W. Neall, vice-president; and Marc J. Wolff, treasurer. Christine Kirk was re-appointed secretary, and William Carroll was named executive secretary, the latter succeeding Don Rossiter, who resigned after nine years with the ATOI.

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MONDAY, DECEMBER 2nd, 7 P. M.

RKO SCREEN ROOM

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NOTE: "THE SECRET HEART" will be trade shown with "LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY" previously announced for this date.

Zukor and Weltner To Scandinavia

Adolph Zukor, Paramount's board chairman, and George Weltner, president of Paramount International, left London by boat Saturday for Stockholm, where they will be joined by John B. Nathan, recently appointed division manager for Continental Europe, North Africa and the Middle East, and his assistant, Henri Michaud, who will go from Paris. The group will confer in Sweden with Carl P. York, district manager for Scandinavia.

On Thursday the Paramount executives will fly to Paris, where Zukor will officially inaugurate Nathan in his new post. Zukor and Weltner are expected to return to New York about Dec. 2.

Gastonia House Burns

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 24.—Fire in the Lyric Theatre at Gastonia has closed it for two or three months, according to Harry Hardy, district manager of the Wilby-Kincey Corp., who reports that a big afternoon audience filed out in good order and no one was hurt. The fire was caused by a short circuit in the theatre's wiring.

Bergman Campaigns Are Set for 'Lady'

Initial key city openings of the J. Arthur Rank production, "Wicked Lady," being released by Universal, will be backed by extensive campaigns, according to plans completed by Maurice A. Bergman, Universal Eastern advertising-publicity director.

With openings in Loew houses in many cities scheduled to take place in three weeks, "U" has organized a "Wicked Lady Flying Squadron" of home office promotional representatives, to be headed by William E. Danziger, advertising-publicity manager of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal. They will visit key cities to aid in the opening campaigns.

AMPA Luncheon Set

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers will hold its annual Thanksgiving luncheon-meeting tomorrow in the Villanova Restaurant. Attendance will be limited to members only. Plans for the forthcoming 30th anniversary dinner-dance will be discussed as well as means of replenishing the AMPA relief fund. Rutgers Neilson, president, will preside.

Reissues

(*Continued from page* 1)

current protests were first heard at the Boston convention of national Allied. Opposing this view with equal insistence is a group headed by the Independent Theatre Owners of Ohio, with secretary P. J. Wood asking companies to double the number of reissues.

ITO of Ohio's request that the M-G-M "Classics" reissue schedule be expanded from six to 12 films for the season is supported by its contention that it provides valuable relief in the product shortage of which exhibitors generally have been complaining, plus indications that the company's first under the "classics" program, "Rage in Heaven," has rolled up some surprisingly high grosses in various parts of the country.

Although moving with caution and still planning to limit its reissues to six per year, M-G-M is confident that exhibitors may be sold on the audience potentialities of these key films by the "almost sensational" $80,000 gross indicated for "Rage" this week at the New York Capitol, which is running the first "repeat performance" in its history. Behind this Metropolitan box-office experience lies a record of equally good business in the field. The picture grossed $13,762 during a recent week at the Poli Theatre in Worcester, Mass., compared with $5,449 in 1941; $23,207 at the Palace in Washington, against $14,004 at the Orpheum there five years ago, and $3,323 at a house in Altoona, where previous receipts were $988.

Rental Terms Issue

Digesting these figures, and others, M-G-M executives have concluded that fear of public disapproval is not the real reason for the clamor raised by those exhibitors who oppose the program. Rather, they believe, the root of the matter is a controversy over rental terms, fanned by the conviction that the company got back its production costs and made a reasonable profit on the films during their first time around and should, therefore, let them go for less now. On this point, M-G-M holds that a film is worth what it will earn and points to the fact that, although none of the reissues are being put in top percentage brackets, they should rightfully come in for "good second money."

Far from flooding the market, M-G-M's "Classics" schedule this year will fall at least one picture short of the six set as a maximum. With "Rage in Heaven" already launched, "Boom Town" now is beginning field engagements, to be followed by "Captains Courageous" and "The Great Waltz." "Gone With the Wind" is a possibility for next spring, although as yet it is uncertain whether sufficient prints of that one can be obtained.

In all instances, the company is following a policy of testing the reissues in key spots before their general release. Both the price to the exhibitors and the final advertising approach are determined by these experiments.

Spring's Mother Dies

Funeral services for Mrs. Fannie Spring Weiss, mother of Morton A. Spring, first vice-president of Loew's International, were held here Thursday at the Riverside Memorial Chapel.

Red Cross Promotes Eagle-Lion's 'Amy'

Eagle-Lion Films and the American Red Cross will jointly promote E-L's "Amy Comes Across," story of "GI" war brides. All publicity stills showing Red Cross workers will be released by the national information department of the service organization to special publications distributed to the 3,755 chapters of the group.

McGraw-Hill in Films

The McGraw-Hill Book Co. has entered the educational film field, and reveals that production has already started on 27 sound pictures and a like number of silent filmstrips to correlate with McGraw-Hill textbooks. The films, to be sold by the company, are being produced by Audio Productions, Caravel Films, and Pathescope Company, all of New York City. They will be ready for distribution in the spring.

CIO Surveys Film Pay

NEW HAVEN, Nov. 24.—Almost half of the motion picture office and professional employes here earn less than $30 a week, according to a CIO survey. The survey found that 44.5 per cent are paid less than $30 a week, 81.8 per cent earn less than $40; 91.9 per cent less than $50, and 99 per cent less than $73.

Schuette Joins M-G-M

Richard L. Schuette, who has spent many years in the theatre field, has been named M-G-M exploitation representative for the Seattle and Portland territories by William R. Ferguson, director of exploitation. Schuette replaces Norman Linz, recently assigned to that territory, who will again take over charge of the company's No. 1 "Showbuilder" unit.

Rin Tin Tin Returns

"The Return of Rin Tin Tin" will be released nationally early next year by PRC Pictures. The film was produced in Vitacolor and stars Rin Tin Tin III. It was produced by William Stephens, with Max Nosseck directing. It is the first film for which a national survey of 'teen-age and junior age groups was conducted by Gilbert Surveys of Chicago, to determine proper appeal, PRC discloses.

Lovering Joins Mono.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—Otho Lovering has joined Monogram as studio editorial supervisor, and will be in charge of cutting of all Monogram films. He recently edited the King Brothers' "Suspense." Lovering succeeds Richard Currier, who resigned last week.

Who's 'Us'?

"Have the Movies Failed Us?" will be debated over the New York Times radio station, WQXR, tomorrow afternoon by Jan Struther, MacKinlay Kantor, Arthur Rosenheimer and Bosley Crowther.

Warrick Luncheon

Ruth Warrick, who is featured in Walt Disney's "Song of the South," was guest of honor at a luncheon sponsored by RKO Radio at the Sherry Netherland Hotel, here, on Friday. Miss Warrick left New York for the Coast on Saturday.

New Iowa Complaint Names 5 Companies

A combination some-run and clearance complaint has been filed in the Des Moines office of the American Arbitration Association by Leo Bennis, operator of the Capitol, Dubuque, Iowa, against Paramount, Loew's, Warners, 20th Century Fox and RKO Radio, AAA reports here.

Bennis contends that the companies have not granted some-run within the meaning of section No. 6 of the consent decree and that "unreasonable" clearance is granted to six other theatres in the area.

'Canyon' Film Opens At Park After Suit

"Canyon Passage," distributed by Universal, opened yesterday at Walter Reade's Park Avenue Theatre, here. The picture went into the theatre on schedule after Judge McNally of the New York State Supreme Court refused to issue an injunction to restrain Universal and the Park Avenue Theatre from booking it ahead of Harry Brandt's Normandie Theatre.

Goodman Named to UA Branch Post

Matt Goodman has been appointed Cleveland branch manager for United Artists, succeeding William Shartin, resigned, by J. J. Unger, the company's general sales manager.

Goodman has most recently been a member of the Cleveland sales force. He has been with United Artists for more than 20 years.

CPA Halts 2 Theatre Building Projects

WASHINGTON, Nov. 24.—Throwing a book of government building regulations at two motion picture exhibitors, the Civilian Production Administration today ordered the construction of two theatres to halt immediately. The exhibitors involved were Albert Wakeman of Frankenmunth, Mich., and Robert E. Booth of Hollandale, Miss.

Wakeman was building a theatre on highway M-83 outside Frankenmunth. He started construction around Aug. 26, without CPA authorization, at a cost in excess of the $1,000 permitted.

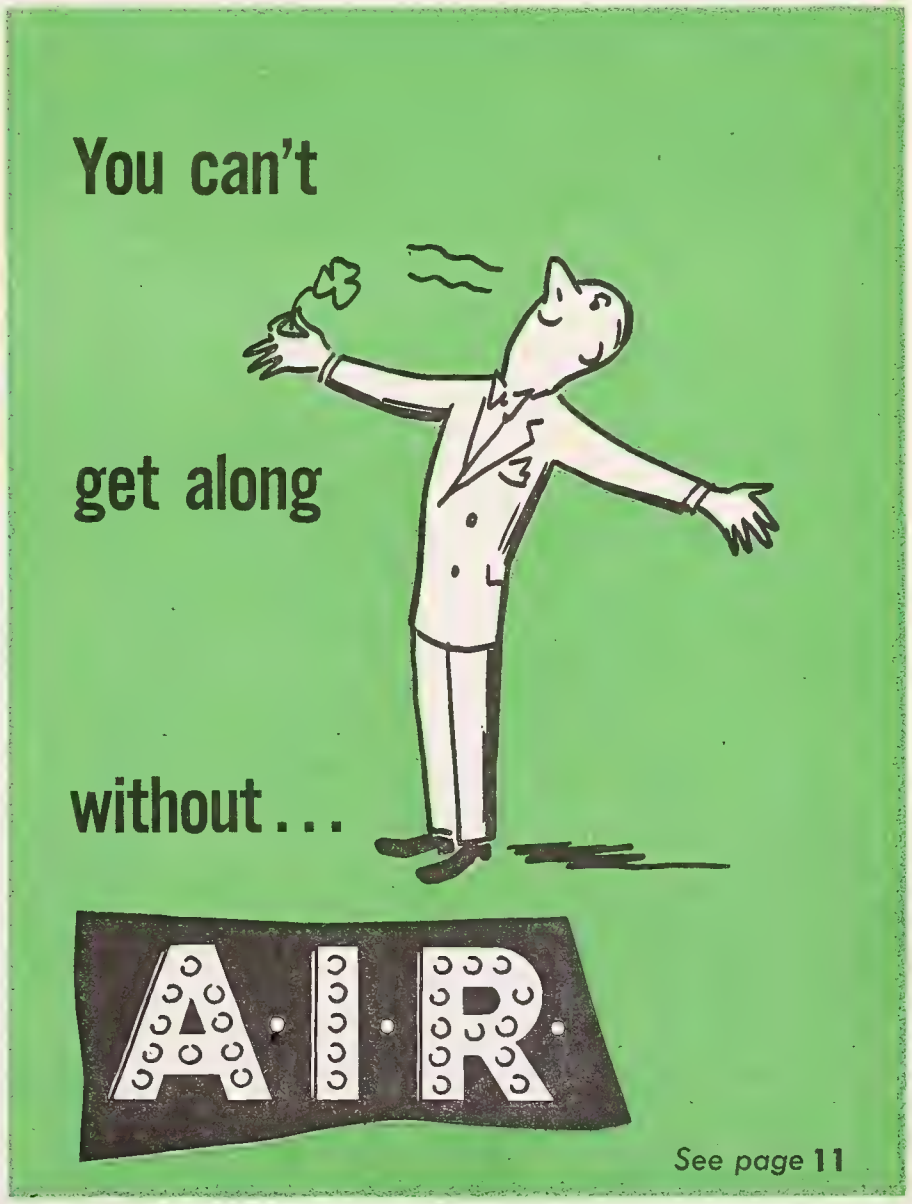
Booth was ordered to stop construction of a theatre on Washington Street in Hollandale, which was begun about June 6 at an estimated cost of $7,000. It was also started without CPA approval.

This is the first case where CPA has stepped in with a charge of a Federal violation on theatre building project. The unauthorized work was called a "violation which diverted critical building materials from the veterans' emergency housing program." The action was taken by the CPA compliance division.

No legal charges were preferred.

McPherson to Mono. As Winnipeg Mgr.

TORONTO, Nov. 24.—Joseph McPherson, branch manager here for RKO Radio, has left the company to return to Winnipeg, where he will assume the management of the Monogram exchange, succeeding Sam Pearlman.



See page 11

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Nov. 24

HELEN DEUTSCH, who was signed to a writer-producer contract at Columbia some months ago, plans to make a film based on Frank Stockton's tale, "The Casting Away of Mrs. Lecks and Mrs. Aleshine." A simpler title, "The Castaways," will be used for the picture. . . . Enterprise has arranged to borrow Richard Conte from 20th Century-Fox for a role in "The Other Love." Conte replaces Robert Stack, who has been forced to withdraw from the cast because of illness.

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It looks like a busy winter for Ben Hecht. He has been engaged by Jesse L. Lasky and Walter MacEwen to collaborate with Quentin Reynolds on the screenplay for "The Miracle of the Bells," forthcoming Lasky-MacEwen production for RKO Radio release. Hecht will also work with Charles Lederer on the screenplay for "Ride a Pink Horse," detective story by Dorothy B. Hughes, which Universay-International will bring to the screen.

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The charms of Catalina, famed island resort, are to be put in celluloid by Paramount, which plans a Technicolor musical with "Catalina" as the title and locale. Heading the prospective cast are Sterling Hayden, Billy De Wolfe, Olga San Juan and Cass Daley. . . . M-G-M has purchased from Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, author of "The Yearling," a story written especially for the screen, and titled "A Family for Jock." Claude Jarman, Jr., and Lassie will fill stellar roles.

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Larry Parks is set to star in Columbia's Technicolor feature, "The Swordsman," a story of a feud between two Scottish clans in the early 18th century. Ellen Drew and George Macready have been assigned leading roles, and Joseph H. Lewis will direct for producer Burt Kelly. . . . Ronald Reagan, Wayne Morris and Zachary Scott will portray the notorious Younger brothers in Warners' "Three Bad Men," which Owen Crump is scheduled to produce.

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Monogram has purchased two new story properties, "Son of the Tiger," by R. C. Wright, and "The Idol's Eye," by Thomas Benton. . . . Reorganization of Planet Pictures has been completed, and the company's new officers include Stanley Ceizyk, president, Fred W. Kane, vice-president and general manager, Jack Seaman, vice-president, and Hal Potter, secretary-treasurer. . . . Anna Q. Nilsson, star of the silent screen, has been engaged for a major role in the current M-G-M production, "The Rich, Full Life."

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Anthony Veiller has been signed by Liberty Films to a long-term contract as writer-producer. . . . Irving Pichel will direct "Mr. Peabody and the Mermaid," which Nunnally Johnson is slated to produce for Universal-International. . . . Vincent Price has been assigned a top role in the 20th Century-Fox mystery-drama, "Moss Rose," starring Peggy Cummins and Victor Mature.

Reviews

"Susie Steps Out"

(Comet Productions—United Artists)

A FAIR addition to the new season's product, "Susie Steps Out" is a mild little comedy with music.

David Bruce is a pleasant enough crooner, Cleatus Caldwell serves definite ornamental purposes, and Ann Hunter handles the high and low notes in a fashion that makes her the principal asset of the film. Others in the cast are Howard Freeman, Grady Sutten, Margaret Dumont, Percival Vivian, Joe Green and John Berkes. Buddy Rogers and Ralph Cohn produced and Reginald LeBorg directed. Leborg and Kurt Neuman wrote the original and Elwood Ullman did the screenplay.

The yarn might be said to be ultra-modern in that it regards television as a fully-blossomed new art form. Bruce is video's answer to radio's Sinatra. Miss Caldwell is big sister to Miss Hunter and all three are forever entangled in romantic complications while television executives try to figure out a way to sell bubble-bath soap on a new television program. The script is hard to take in spots but Miss Hunter's singing is a compensating factor.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

"Singin' in the Corn"

(Columbia)

PROVIDING a wide leeway for her antics, "Singin' in the Corn" gives us Judy Canova as an omiscient fortune-teller who gets her inside "dope" from a spirit-grandfather, whose will bequeathed her $250,000, on condition that she return McCoy's Gulch, a town which belonged to him, back to neighboring Indians. The hitch is that she has only 24 hours in which to do it and she's up against a gang of racketeers who stand to profit by her failure because the town, just an empty broken-down shell, will revert to her late grandfather's partner, Alan Bridge, leader of the gamblers.

Judy is aided by Allan Jenkins, her former carnival "spieler," in proving, finally, to the superstitious Indians that the town's spooks are only the fabrications of the would-be gamblers. The vehicle also steps aside for Judy to offer several song numbers, including "Ma, He's Making Eyes at Me." Others in the cast are Guinn Williams, one of the gambler's henchmen, who becomes enamoured of Judy, and Charles Halton, as her crooked lawyer in league with the gamblers.

Judy's fans will like it, but it is a hackneyed story, which fails to sustain much interest throughout. Produced by Ted Richmond and directed by Del Lord with an assist from Thomas Flood, the picture was written by Isabel Dawn and Monte Brice.

Running time, 64 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 26.

IRVING KAPLAN

"The Magnificent Rogue"

(Republic)

Hollywood, Nov. 24

LYNNE ROBERTS, Warren Douglas, Stephanie Bachelor, Gerald Mohr and Adele Mara are the top names in the cast of a frothy comedy that fills an hour very satisfactorily. Miss Mara, with the smallest role, manages nonetheless to overshadow her fellow performers.

It is a post-war story about a veteran who returns to the advertising agency whose affairs his wife has been administering in his absence, only to find that she prefers a business career to that of a housewife. The two make a bargain: if she succeeds in landing a coveted contract, she will continue her career; if not, she will retire to domesticity. Complications arise from the fact that the tobacco tycoon upon whom the contract depends has no idea that the young lady with whom he is dealing is married. Another hitch in the proceedings is supplied by the agency's chief artist, a determined woman who sees, in the impending break-up of her employer's marriage, a chance to grab off the soldier veteran for herself. And so goes Dane Lussier's screenplay, adapted by Sherman Lowe and based on an original by Gerald Drayson Adams and Richard Sokolove. Everything turns out all right in the end, due chiefly to the arbitrational efforts of Miss Mara, cast as a burlesque queen. Albert S. Rogell directed with a light, sure touch; William J. O'Sullivan produced.

Running time, 72 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

Beth Brown Named Broadcast Official

Beth Brown, author, has joined Broadcast Pictures, Inc., as vice-president replacing Richard Hancox who will remain as associate producer and who assumes a newly-created post of executive vice-president, it was announced here yesterday by Joseph Steiner, president.

Miss Brown, who has written many syndicated articles and stories, several of the latter having been transposed to the screen, will first take an active part in the production of "Rhythm Rhapsodies" which is slated to go before the cameras in January.

New Variety Tour Is Begun by McCraw

William McCraw, national director of the Variety Clubs, is scheduled to endof the Variety Clubs, arrived in Washington over the weekend on the first leg of a new 11-city tour of the clubs. Other visits are set for New Haven, today, to advise a group on the organization of a club there, and for Baltimore tomorrow.

He will attend an installation in Cincinnati on Dec. 9, Oklahoma City on Dec. 10, and St. Louis on Dec. 13. In January McCraw will stop at Des Moines, Buffalo, Mexico City and Toledo.

Short Subject

"The American Cop"

(March of Time—20th-Fox)

The municipal policemen of America have been confronted with a startling increase in crimes of violence since the war began, according to this latest "March of Time" subject. On that note the film undertakes to examine the intricate machinery of city police operations in general and New York City's highly specialized police force in particular. The emergencies which the average cop is called upon to meet—childbirth on his beat, attempts at suicide, quelling riots, and questioning of suspects—are forcefully dramatized in swift succession and with crashing impact. Additionally many little-known facts about a policeman's training, are revealed, and serve not only to instruct but to bring about increased confidence in the abilities of the American cop, a sincere public servant. Running time, 18 min.

MGM Will Produce 24 During 1947

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24. — With its production schedule now on a calendar-year basis, M-G-M will make 24 features in 1947, the studio announces following conferences between Nicholas M. Schenck, president; Louis B. Mayer, production chief, and other executives. M-G-M's releases during 1946 will total about 23. The company now has 31 features in its backlog. The decision to produce 24 next year is subject to change if conditions make more product necessary.

During recent weeks, "Green Dolphin Street," "A Love Story" and "The Birds and the Bees" have been placed before the cameras, while "The Hucksters," "Cass Timberlane," "The Pirate," "Speak to Me of Love" and "Song of the Thin Man" are scheduled to start soon after the first of the year.

Schenck plans to leave for New York over the weekend.

Legion Objects to Three New Pictures

Three of 10 new pictures are found objectionable in part by the National Legion of Decency. Five are rated acceptable for general audiences and two are classified as unobjectionable for adults. The new films and their classifications follow:

Class A-1: "Beauty and the Bandit," "Dangerous Money" and "Gentleman Joe Palooka," all Monogram; "The Falcon's Adventure," RKO Radio; and "Love Laughs at Andy Hardy," M-G-M. Class A-2: "Secret of the Whistler," Columbia, and "Wife Wanted," Monogram. Class B: "Never Say Goodbye," Warners; "The Welldigger's Daughter," Siritzky International, and "The Wicked Lady," Eagle Lion-Universal.

AVC Mass for Walker

A mass in memory of the late James J. Walker will be celebrated at St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church, here, Wednesday as requested by the motion picture chapter of the American Veterans Committee.

Nelson on Unions

(Continued from page 1)

speaking of the production cost increase of SIMPP member companies; Henry Ginsberg, Paramount production vice-president said here this week that production costs had increased 60 to 75 per cent, as reported Friday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Nelson emphasized that "good unions are a definite part of the American system," coupling this with the warning that the "American people will become fed up with unreasonable and unnecessary strikes and will look to the Government for relief."

Nelson hopes that labor finds the solution to its own problems, but if that does not come about, he said Government intervention should be used as a "last resort." The answer lies in arbitration of differences, he said, adding that he failed to understand why machinery could not be developed, particularly when Joseph Keenan of the American Federation of Labor, Chicago, had made himself available to assist in settling the current studio dispute.

Recommends MPEA

In a conversation covering the industry generally, but stressing the overall labor picture, Nelson also spoke of the matter of foreign trade, proclaiming the Motion Picture Export Association as being the only feasible approach to countries which have imposed barriers on U. S. films.

He lauded the MPEA's intents and purposes, and said that the organizations, through which distributors' product is channeled to certain markets abroad, is by far the best means of representing the industry, and the public, in its careful explanation through films of the American way of life. This was in reference to the MPEA's program of selectivity of product for showing abroad, and of screening out those pictures which might tend to create wrong impressions of the U. S. and its people.

Touching on United Artists' as yet undetermined position regarding MP EA, Nelson declared that the majority of UA producers are in favor of the association and only a few are wary of it commercially.

Rank Sales Meeting

(Continued from page 1)

a national sales policy for the Rank division and a general discussion on all matters pertaining to circuit and key city sales of the Rank product being handled.

Heineman will preside at the meetings, assisted by B. G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager. The special field sales representatives who will attend are: J. J. Oulahan, Lester Zucker, Joe Gins, Jules Weill and Nick Lamantia.

During the conference, screenings will be held on "Wicked Lady," "Stairway to Heaven" and "The Magic Bow," the initial three Rank releases being supervised by this division of Universal.

DeBra with MPA

Arthur DeBra, executive of the Motion Picture Association, was inadvertently mentioned in Friday's *Motion Picture Daily* as being associated with Young America Films.

Critics' Quotes . . .

"THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES" (Samuel Goldwyn-RKO Radio)

Sock-oh . . . Goldwyn's picture is, without doubt, the best to come out of the postwar . . . a really mounmental picture . . . an experience you'll long remember.—*Lee Mortimer, New York Daily Mirror.*

. . . the best picture to have come out of Hollywood since the end of the war. . . . The comedy touches are delightful . . . Fredric March has never been better on the screen . . . Myrna Loy gives one of her most enchanting performances . . . a satisfying, heart-warming, deeply-moving picture.—*Kate Cameron, New York Daily News.*

The screen unleashes a full measure of its latent power and wonder. . . . Most of three hours seems not too long . . . moves with variety and insistency to its climax . . . has the simplicity which is almost invariably the result of of sweat as well as inspiration.—*Howard Barnes, New York Herald-Tribune.*

. . . approximately wonderful . . . the most admirable film I have sat in on in the year 1946, and I cannot easily see how a better one is going to come along . . . has distinction without sacrificing in the least the mystic virtues that are supposed to make for popular appeal . . . I assume we have director William Wyler to thank, and I assume equally that an Academy award is being dusted off for him.—*John Maynard, New York Journal-American.*

. . . a picture on which the cunning hand of a great director is everywhere apparent . . . rings the bell of deep satisfaction and delight . . . all performances are exactly right . . . a top contender for the year's honors.—*Archer Winsten, New York Post.*

. . . when it is over, you have only begun to feel its impact . . . it is to the honor of those responsible for it that all the issues it poses, it faces straight down the line . . . must merit the gratitude of the whole country, of indeed every country that the War has maimed.—*Cecelia Ager, PM.*

An idea has grown, as ideas have a way of doing, into one of the year's outstanding pictures . . . a lively, lovely comedy as well as a drama of readjustment.—*Eileen Creelman, New York Sun.*

. . . can be wholeheartedly and enthusiastically endorsed not only as superlative entertainment but as food for quiet and humanizing thought . . . everyone gives a "best" performance in this best film this year from Hollywood. —*Bosley Crowther, New York Times.*

Samuel Goldwyn showed us the most impressive Hollywood achievement of 1946 when he unveiled "The Best Years of Our Lives." . . . The conversation of everyone who sees this picture will be full of it for a long time to come. —*Alton Cook, New York World-Telegram.*

Wisc. ITO Meet

(Continued from page 1)

Convention chairman George Langheinrich, of Milwaukee opened the proceedings, and was followed by president John Adler who made a strong plea for a big membership drive. "Manpower is the greatest necessity for organization," Adler said. "We must stand together stronger than ever to meet current and coming problems."

Among those present at the opening session were: Jack Kirsch, Sidney Samuelson, Abram Myers, Trueman Rembusch, Jack Stewart, David Palfreyman, Leon J. Bamberger, Claude Lee, Henderson Richey, Paul Mooney and others.

Adler praised the organization's directors for their "fine work," and also had words of commendation for secretary Harry Perlowitz. William Ainsworth of Fondulac explained Allied's desire to encourage independent producers.

Harold Fitzgerald, Fox-Wisconsin, complimented the organization for its "magnificent achievements" in civic affairs and war activities, and said that "we must improve ways to sell more seats with production costs soaring." He called also for a fight against discriminatory taxation.

Bamberger gave a thorough explanation of how audience research is utilized to determine the best advertising approach and selling elements. He described RKO Radio's policy on 16mm. films, and closed with a note of confidence as to the future of the business, whatever decrees might be handed down in equity suits.

Richey spoke on public relations, Rembusch on television, and Palfreyman on the work of the Motion Picture Association.

NCCJ Tribute

(Continued from page 1)

dustry, Basil O'Connor, president of the American Red Cross, declared: "The motion picture theatre has become the most potent single educational voice in America." He also lauded the industry for its "inventive, imaginative, generous and unselfish" contributions in the war.

"Now, in time of peace, the responsibilities and opportunities facing the makers of films must include the dramatization of inter-group relations," O'Connor said. "Every picture that can be made, every idea and emotion that can be portrayed, to help people of one group to understand and to appreciate human beings in another group, will lift mankind that much higher in the long climb of civilization. The maintenance of human brotherhood calls for super showmanship."

Other industries which were praised were newspapers, radio, magazines, theatres and advertising. Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt read the tribute of the NCCJ to the nation's newspapers and magazines, and Edwin S. Friendly, treasurer of the American Newspaper Publishers Association, and Walter Fuller, president of the National Publishers Associations, responded for those industries.

Henry Noble MacCracken, president emeritus of Vassar College, presided as toastmaster. Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, NCCJ president, also spoke.

Bren to RKO Radio

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 24.—RKO Radio has signed J. Robert Bren as producer. His first will be a bi-lingual film, "Mystery in Mexico," to be made in Mexico City.

Bishop Scully

(Continued from page 1)

Msgr. John J. McClafferty of New York, executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, reported to the meeting that of the films reviewed by the Legion between Nov., 1945, and Nov., 1946, there was an increase in the percentage of pictures rated A-I, or "unobjectionable for general patronage"; a decrease in pictures rated A-II, or "unobjectionable for adults," and "a striking increase" in those rated B, or "objectionable in part."

The percentage of pictures rated A-I increased from 38.1 per cent for 1944-45 to 39.64 per cent for 1945-46; class A-II pictures decreased from 50.4 per cent for 1944-45 to 45.01 per cent for 1945-46, and class B pictures increased from 11.5 per cent for 1944-45 to 15.35 per cent for 1945-46.

Reports on the work of the Legion in 73 separate dioceses throughout the U. S. were presented to the Bishops' committee by Msgr. McClafferty. The executive secretary of the Legion stressed the importance of the work being done by the Rev. John Devlin, executive secretary of the Legion of Decency for the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and representative of Archbishop Cantwell in matters relating to films and the film industry.

As executive secretary of the National Legion of Decency, Msgr. McClafferty expressed concern regarding the recent change of the narcotic film provision of the motion picture production code.

Goldman Decree

(Continued from page 1)

agree on a decree. If they fail, he will write it himself, he added.

Friday's arguments centered around whether interest is allowable in triple-damage suit awards, the plaintiffs in this case having received an awards of three times $125,000.

William A. Gray is counsel for Goldman. Joseph Proskauer is defense counsel.

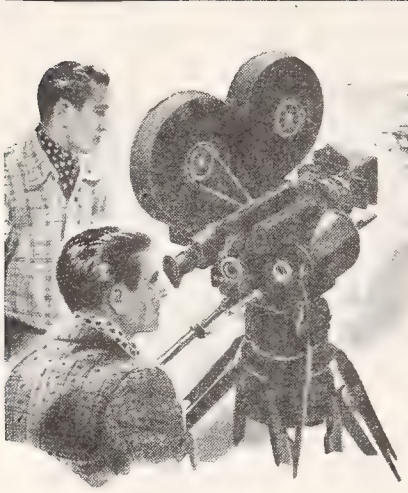
Sachar to Address B'nai B'rith Meet

Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, here, will feature a "Hillel Night" at the Hotel Astor tomorrow with Dr. A. L. Sachar, national director of B'nai B'rith's Hillel Foundations, as the principal speaker, Jack H. Levin, Cinema president, has announced.

The presentation of Dr. Sachar, who is an author, lecturer and radio commentator, will be preceded by a showing of the 12-minute color film,









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● Only a *model* wreck . . . but intensely *real* on the screen . . . thanks to the director of special effects.

Because of his ingenuity and inventive art, pictures are made that without him would be impossible. And when audiences exclaim, laugh, or sit in silence before stark drama, it's often an unknowing tribute to his imagination and technical skill . . . to his power to create reality.

But if he is to exercise this creative power to the full, he naturally requires superior film, perfectly adapted to the particular problem at hand. That's the reason why so many directors of special effects prefer to use Eastman Background-X, Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Negative, Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Positive, and other members of the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture films.

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 104 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 1946 TEN CENTS

Long View on Quotas Asked By Johnston

Would Bar Basing Them On 'Past Limitations'

LONDON, Nov. 25.—The American and British industries should be "guided by the possibilities of the future, not by the limitations of the past," Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, said in discussing the new film quota legislation which this country now is considering. Johnston, who has left for the U. S. on the steamship *America,* said his discussions here indicated a desire on both sides to try to find a way to avoid greater restrictions on the interchange of motion pictures. He will return in the spring to continue the talks.

"My suggestion for the formation of an International Flim Council is being canvassed by both British and American interests, and the coming

(*Continued on page 6*)

PRC Cancels Low-Budgets

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—In line with already-announced plans for an increase in high-budget productions and an "upgrading" of all PRC films, Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager of the company, today announced that no further low-budget product would be made by PRC.

During the past year, the company entered the field of high-budget films, among these being "The Enchanted Forest," "The Wife of Monte Cristo", most recently, "Her Sister's Secret,"

(*Continued on page 7*)

Independent Files In the NY Case

CHICAGO, Nov. 25.—Jim Booth's The Palace Theatre, in suburban Cicero, has requested the New York District Court for permission to file a memorandum as *amicus curiae,* with

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA Pact with Enterprise

United Artists' board of directors yesterday ratified a distribution contract with Enterprise Productions, headed by Charles Einfeld and David Loew, and, at the same time, extended its current arrangement with Jules Levey Productions to handle at least two more films from that company.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Enterprise officials said here today that the United Artists distribution contract, which was announced in New York, is not yet approved by them and will be submitted along with three other distribution deals offered, to the Enterprise board and to players and directors who have participation deals with the company. A choice from among the four offered deals will be

(*Continued on page 6*)

Move for New Trial In Seattle Suit

Seattle, Nov. 25.—Immediate action to obtain a new trial date in the case of Theatre Investing Co. and the Venetian Theatre Co. against eight producing-distributing companies, National Theatres and others, will be taken by the plaintiffs, following the

(*Continued on page 6*)

MPTOA Pledges Support in Crisis

St. Louis, Nov. 25.—Fred Wehrenberg, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, today wired President Truman the support of his organization in the current coal crisis.

"We strongly urge you to take a firm stand against the illegal walkout of the United Mine Workers of America," Wehrenberg added. He also sent Mayor A. P. Kaufmann of St. Louis a message pledging the support of local MPTOA members in the crisis developing here.

Kirsch Warns Of Legislation

MILWAUKEE, Nov. 25.—"Independent exhibitors, united in a solid front, no longer should fear distributors and unless certain trade practices are amended to agree with theatremen National Allied will embark on legislation to correct evils in the industry," declared Jack Kirsch, president of Allied, who came here to attend the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, last weekend.

He added that, "independent exhib-

(*Continued on page 7*)

One to Six Weeks' Supply Of Coal in Theatre Bins

Mayor Kelly Saves Theatres from Tax

Chicago, Nov. 25. — Mayor Edward J. Kelly today killed the proposed city tax on theatre admissions as well as on sports events and instead ordered City Budget Director Arthur G. Lindell to trim next year's budget by $2,500,000. The proposed tax called for a one-half cent tax on admissions of 30 cents and under and ranged up to three cents on admissions over one dollar. Theatre owners and circuits had protested.

With coal bins in many theatres containing a supply that will last only from one to six weeks, exhibitors whose houses are heated by this fuel await anxiously the outcome of tomorrow's trial of John L. Lewis, president of the United Mine Workers of America, on contempt charges brought by the Government. Prolongation of the current coal strike might cause numerous theatres to close.

This danger was seen here yesterday by both circuit operators and spokesmen for independent exhibitors as being the greatest facing the industry in the fuel crisis.

As theatres in New York, under a city and state proclamation, and many other parts of the country turned off their marquee lighting last night

(*Continued on page 6*)

No US Closing Of Theatres In Coal Crisis

Operation Saves Home Fuel Supply, CPA Finds

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—Top Government officials today made it plain that the Civilian Production Administration does not intend to shut down theatres. Their statements were motivated by reports that local governments throughout the East are attempting to close theatres and other places of amusement.

It was also pointed out here "actual" saving of electric power and coal results from keeping

(*Continued on page 6*)

Dispel Recession Talk, Warns Yates

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—"As the entertainment leaders of the world, it is the responsibility of the producers of Hollywood to buoy the spirit of the people and dispel the talk of 'recession' that is beginning to take root in this country," Herbert J. Yates, president of Republic Pictures stated here today. Yates spoke as Republic sound stages bristled with the greatest activity in the company's 11-year history, with three top-budget



Herbert J. Yates

(*Continued on page 6*)

McCoy, Beiersdorf In E-L Sales Posts

R. L. McCoy and Herman R. Beiersdorf have been named district sales supervisors by Alfred W. Schwalberg, sales vice-president of Eagle-Lion Films.

(*Continued on page 6*)

Zanuck Hits Wanger, Goldwyn Criticisms

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—"There is nothing wrong with Hollywood that cannot be cured by the liquidation of self-appointed oracles," Darryl F. Zanuck, vice-president and production head of 20th Century-Fox, said in a statement released here yesterday in reply to what he termed "critical pronouncements recently attributed to Samuel Goldwyn and Walter Wanger."

"It is remarkable that Mr. Goldwyn has only now discovered that the screen is a medium of enlightenment as well as entertainment," Mr. Zanuck said. "Most Hollywood producers discovered this long ago and practiced it both during and before the war."

"Where was Mr. Goldwyn," he asked, "when many of us were sitting in the witness box before the United States Senate Investigating Committee in 1941? We were charged with making anti-Nazi films and propagandizing in favor of Great Britain and her Allies. Mr. Goldwyn was not subjected to the indignities of this inquiry because Mr. Goldwyn had abstained from producing pictures in this category.

Defends Hollywood

"It is laudable of Mr. Goldwyn on the eve of his departure for England to compliment the British film industry for the remarkable progress they have recently achieved. However, I cannot believe that Hollywood has 'run dry of ideas' or that 'richness has led to laziness'," Zanuck said.

"As to Mr. Wanger," he continued, "he is a gentleman of high principles and lofty intentions, and a humdinger when it comes to popular oratory. He, too, can do a lot to lift Hollywood from the mythical mire by solemnly promising not to produce any more films like 'Salome, Where She Danced' as long as he lives."

"Hollywood welcomes international competition," Zanuck concluded, "but international goodwill will not be advanced by irresponsible criticism, much of which is obviously designed for personal aggrandizement."

Goodman Back in UA Post in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 25.—A. M. Goodman has been named United Artists branch manager, here, a post he relinquished in 1943 because of poor health, but who stayed with the company handling lighter duties of city salesman. He succeeds William S. Shartin, who resigned and will disclose future plans shortly.

EK Veterans Feted

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Nov. 25.—Some 138 employes of more than 25 years' service with Eastman Kodak, have wound up a three-day stay in Rochester as guests of the company. Following tours of local plants of the company they were honored at a banquet in Kodak Auditorium, along with Rochester employes who reached the 25-year service mark this year. They came from Kodak plants, branches, stores and laboratories scattered throughout the U. S.

Personal Mention

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, will leave New York by plane today for Havana and Mexico City, accompanied by WOLFE COHEN, vice-president of Warner International.

•

CLAIRE SORENSON, daughter of ART SORENSON, make-up editor of 20th-Fox Movietone News, was married last Saturday to LEE G. DORAN, Universal cameraman, nephew of GEORGE DORAN, news editor of Universal News, at St. Thomas Aquinas Church, Brooklyn.

•

LEO FORBSTEIN, head of Warners studio music department, has returned to his Hollywood office after an absence of three weeks due to illness.

•

ED ZORN, a regional vice-president of the American Theatres Association, left New York yesterday for his headquarters in Pontiac, Ill.

•

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, vice-president and treasurer of Loew's, will leave the Coast for New York by train on Thursday.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, vice-president of Loew's, Inc., will leave Hollywood by train for New York today.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, M-G-M Eastern publicity director, will leave Hollywood for New York next week.

NATE J. BLUMBERG, president of Universal, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

L. C. GRIFFITH, president of Griffith Amusement Co., who was stricken with paralysis two months ago, is reported to be improving continually at St. Anthony's Hospital, Oklahoma City.

•

A. L. PRATCHETT, Paramount division manager for Latin America, arrived in New York yesterday by plane from Rio de Janeiro. He will leave for Mexico City tomorrow and is due back here in two weeks.

•

RITA ELAYNE WYCKOFF, daughter of FRANK WYCKOFF, Buffalo branch manager of Confidential Reports, will be married to DR. ROLAND SURAN, in Buffalo on Thanksgiving Day.

•

LOU HART, group manager for Schine Theatres, Gloversville, N. Y., was in New York yesterday and returned to his headquarters last night.

•

IAN HUNTER, Eagle-Lion actor, is due to arrive here from London today.

•

JACK KEEGAN, United Detroit Theatres executive, is due to arrive here from Detroit today.

•

CHARLES SKOURAS, head of National Theatres, is in Mexico City.

Small Scores Soviet Rap at Hollywood

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Dire predictions of Serge A. Gerasimov, one of the Soviet's leading film producers, to the effect that Hollywood virtually is tottering on its last legs as a result of the star system and a lack of "progressive directors," brought a rebuttal from Edward A. Small here today, who countercharged that Russian films are "static, regimented and dull."

"A producer in Russia, where total regimentation has strangled initiative and imagination so crushingly that their pictures are uniformly uninspired and streotyped, puts himself in a peculiar position when he appoints himself to hold a wake over the American screen," Small said.

"Soviet producers have adopted all our technical advances and developments. The only thing they haven't adopted is our privilege of making good pictures like we want to, without being hammer-locked by bureaucratic edicts which have kept Soviet product at a low level of dull Marxist sermons," he concluded.

Don Black to Academy

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25. — Don Black has been appointed director of publicity for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. He succeeds David Bramson, who, after three months in the post, resigned to resume a writing career.

To Make Depositions In Percentage Suit

Monroe E. Stein, attorney for the defendants in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's suit charging percentage fraud, today will take depositions from three M-G-M executives here for filing in Federal Court. William F. Rodgers, vice-president in charge of distribution; Charles Moscowitz, treasurer, and Joseph Vogel, general manager of Loew's Theatres, are the executives who will make the statements.

George Stamatis, Argosy Amusement Corp., Apollo Theatre Corp. and Alda Theatre Corp., defendants in the action brought by M-G-M last week, filed a general denial of the allegations, maintaining that the licensing agreements between the plaintiff and defendants is illegal because it violates the anti-trust laws.

The suit, which is not yet on the court calendar, will have a jury trial in Federal Court, Brooklyn.

Plan 'Photoplay' Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25. — Fred R. Sammis, editorial director of *Photoplay Magazine,* and Herbert G. Drake, vice-president and director of promotion for Macfadden Publications, have arrived here to make arrangements for announcing winners of the *Photoplay* "Gold Medal Awards" when the results become known in January. The medals will be presented at a banquet in Hollywood on Jan. 13.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTATION

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
GEORGE RAFT · LYNN BARI
in
NOCTURNE
with
VIRGINIA HUSTON · JOSEPH PEVNEY · MYRNA DELL
RKO RADIO

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
MARK HELLINGER
presents
ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S
'THE KILLERS'
IN PERSON
BENNY FIELDS
EXTRA
WILLIE WEST & McGINTY

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
in Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's
production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The BEST thing that ever happened . . is
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

Capitol Staff Cited

On Thanksgiving night, at a Thanksgiving party backstage, the Capitol Theatre, here, will award gold and diamond service pins to 51 employees who have been with the theatre between 10 and 27 years.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

NCCJ Cites Films, Will Hays Responds

The motion picture citation of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, awarded Sunday evening at a dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, stressed the screen's "ethical code" and "the degree in which it has accurately presented life."

Basil O'Connor, president of the American Red Cross, reading the citation, declared:

"No art has ever come so quickly to its own as the motion picture. The epic sweep of photography encompasses all human conditions. From stark reality to wild illusion, the camera gives form and color and life wherever imagination ranges," adding:

Films' Role

"Motion pictures have become primarily an amusement industry. Its product entertains, diverts, and beguiles. This industry has been true to the development of its dramatic genius, which is the portrayal of the realistic truth about human nature and its problems.

"The war record of motion picture directors, producers, actors, distributors and exhibitors was as inventive, imaginative, generous and unselfish as any episode in American history. For this, and for the magnificent achievements of the War Activities Committee-Motion Picture Industry, the people of the United States have voiced their grateful appreciation."

Will H. Hays, accepting the citation for the industry, declared: "The public knows of the magnificent war service of the industry. It may not, however, realize the depth of the sincerity of the desire to serve that prompted the men and women of the industry who, at home and all over the world, did this service. That I do fully know, and to that and to them I pay tribute," adding:

"Motion pictures have been able thus to grow and serve, because they have grown in the soil of freedom, nurtured by freedom's processes. They have been free to develop by voluntary and not compulsory methods and have remained free because of the purpose of the industry first to recognize and discharge its duties."

Paley, Woods on Air To Discuss Radio

Radio's responsibility to the public will be discussed on programs of two networks, Columbia Broadcasting and American Broadcasting, by William S. Paley, CBS board chairman, and Mark Woods, ABC president.

Paley will launch a series of programs, "Radio and the Public," over the network Dec. 1, while Woods will argue the affirmative of the question, "Is Radio Serving the Public Interest?" on the ABC broadcast of "America's Town Meeting," on Dec. 12.

New Theater For Sale—
Over 400 loge-like seats!
Finest of equipment. Location offers no competition. $59,500, with $29,500 down. 45 miles N.E. of Fresno.
Realtor Woessner
4780 Grant Ave., Fresno 2, Calif. (Bus. 5-2902)

'Edge' Hits New High Of $163,000 at Roxy

"The Razor's Edge" grossed an unprecedented $35,100 on Saturday and a record $100,000 Thursday through Sunday at the Roxy, here, according to Homer Harman, publicity manager. The management of the theatre anticipates a total gross of $163,000 for the first week, which ends tonight. The house increased its admission scale to 80c-$1.50 for week days and $1.25-1.80 for week-ends and holidays.

68-Page Book for 'The Razor's Edge'

A 68-page, four-color, press book on "The Razor's Edge" is being distributed to exhibitors throughout the nation. The book has been designed in a style similar to class magazines. The cover features the Norman Rockwell painting, and was prepared by the 20th Century-Fox advertising-publicity staff under the direction of Charles Schlaifer, its director.

In all departments the book has been handled so that key and subsequent runs can build a campaign taking advantage of local and national exploitation outlets.

Schroeder on Staff Of 'Modern Screen'

Carl Schroeder has joined the staff of *Modern Screen* magazine as editorial consultant and special contributor. For the past 10 years, Schroeder has been with Triangle Publications, where he edited several magazines, including *Screen Guide,* and wrote a daily Hollywood column from the *Philadelphia Inquirer,* the *New York Morning Telegraph,* and other papers. Before that, he was on the staff of Fawcett Publications, editing *Screen Book, Hollywood,* and others.

S. T. (Pete) Neidlinger, formerly with Amos Parrish and the *Saturday Evening Post* has joined Triangle Publications as Research Director for *Seventeen* and *Screen Guide.*

Tugend, Paramount End Association

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Harry Tugend, for the past six years a Paramount writer, producer and production executive, today ended his affiliation with the company by mutual consent and left the studio. His last picture was "The Golden Ear Rings."

'Underground' Premiere

"Operation Underground," said to be the only authentic film record of the French underground network's efforts to aid American airmen escaping from the Nazis during the war, will have its American premiere as part of the "Dunkirk-to-Dunkerque Day" celebration on Thanksgiving Day at Dunkirk, N. Y.

Mayor Walter F. Murray of Dunkirk, N. Y., has proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day shall be set aside for a celebration in honor of the city of Dunkerque, and residents of Dunkirk will join in a celebration headed by Charles Boyer, as master of ceremonies.

C. of C. Urges Cuts In Corporation Tax

WASHINGTON, Nov. 25.—A gradual reduction in corporation taxes to reduce them from 38 per cent currently to less than 25 per cent in 1949 was urged today by the U. S. Chamber of Commerce in a report by its national finance committee, which also suggested immediate repeal of war excise taxes.

Asking for immediate diminution and eventual elimination of double taxation on earnings of corporations and dividends of stockholders, without resort to a tax on undistributed profits, the committee, which is headed by Ellsworth C. Alvord, declared: "The war increases on old excises (including admission taxes) should be removed or moderated and the special war excises discontinued."

Schussel Named PRC Division Manager

Seymour Schussel has been named New York district manager for PRC by Floyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager. Schussel will assume his new duties on Dec. 2, with headquarters at the New York exchange.

Schussel served for 14 years with Columbia Pictures' sales force in New York before resigning in April, 1945 to become New York branch manager of Film Classics, from which position he was elevated to the post of Eastern district manager, which he retained until his resignation to accept the post at PRC.

Weiner in N. Y. Post For Film Classics

Sid Weiner has been named Film Classics' New York branch manager by Jules K. Chapman, assistant general manager. Weiner, who succeeds Seymour Schussel, resigned, has been with the company since its inception, and prior to that was for many years with Warners as a branch operations executive.

Charlotte Variety Unit Elects Dillon

CHARLOTTE, Nov. 25. — Cy Dillon, Republic branch manager, has been elected chief barker of the local Variety Club, tent No. 24. Others elected are: George Roscoe, first assistant chief barker; Byron Adams, second assistant; Harry Haas, property master; H. F. Kincey, re-elected dough guy for the sixth consecutive time.

Waters to Pittsburgh

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 25.—Welden Waters, 20th Century-Fox manager here since January, has been transferred in a similar capacity to Pittsburgh, effective Dec. 2. Waters, who was recently elected first assistant chief barker of Variety Club, came here following his promotion from salesman. He will be feted by members of the local 20th-Fox staff. Sam Rosen has been named successor to the Albany post.

'Outlander' on PRC List

"The Outlander" has been added to the 1946-47 product list of PRC Pictures. The film was produced and directed by Ewing Scott, in Florida.

Producers Weigh New CSU Appeal

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—The major producers took under advisement today a telegram received from Conference of Studio Unions president Herbert K. Sorrell, following the mass meeting of strikers last night, urging resumption of discussions of the strike issues as a preliminary to contract negotiations.

Sorrell's wire, generally interpreted as conciliatory, said the CSU recognizes the Dec. 26, 1945, directive of the American Federation of Labor. The directive has been the key point in the current dispute, and reiterates a desire for permanent arbitration machinery to avert future work stoppages.

Although the CSU reported Sorrell as in a personal meeting with the producers' labor contact, Pat Casey, today, the latter's office said no announcement would be forthcoming tonight. Normal procedure requires that the labor committee and counsel pass on the CSU communication before a reply is made.

Routing of pickets continued today.

Scophony Case Action Is Off Until Friday

Hearing on a motion made by Paramount, Television Productions and General Equipment Precision Corp., for dismissal of the cross-claims made by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur Levey in the Scophony anti-trust suit has been postponed until Friday in U. S. District Court here. Originally set for Nov. 19, the hearing at that time was postponed until today.

Academy Sets Rules For Annual Award

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—All members of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences will participate by ballot in the nomination of pictures for the annual award, as well as in the final ballot to determine the winner, it was announced today following a meeting of the executive committee of the executives and producers branch.

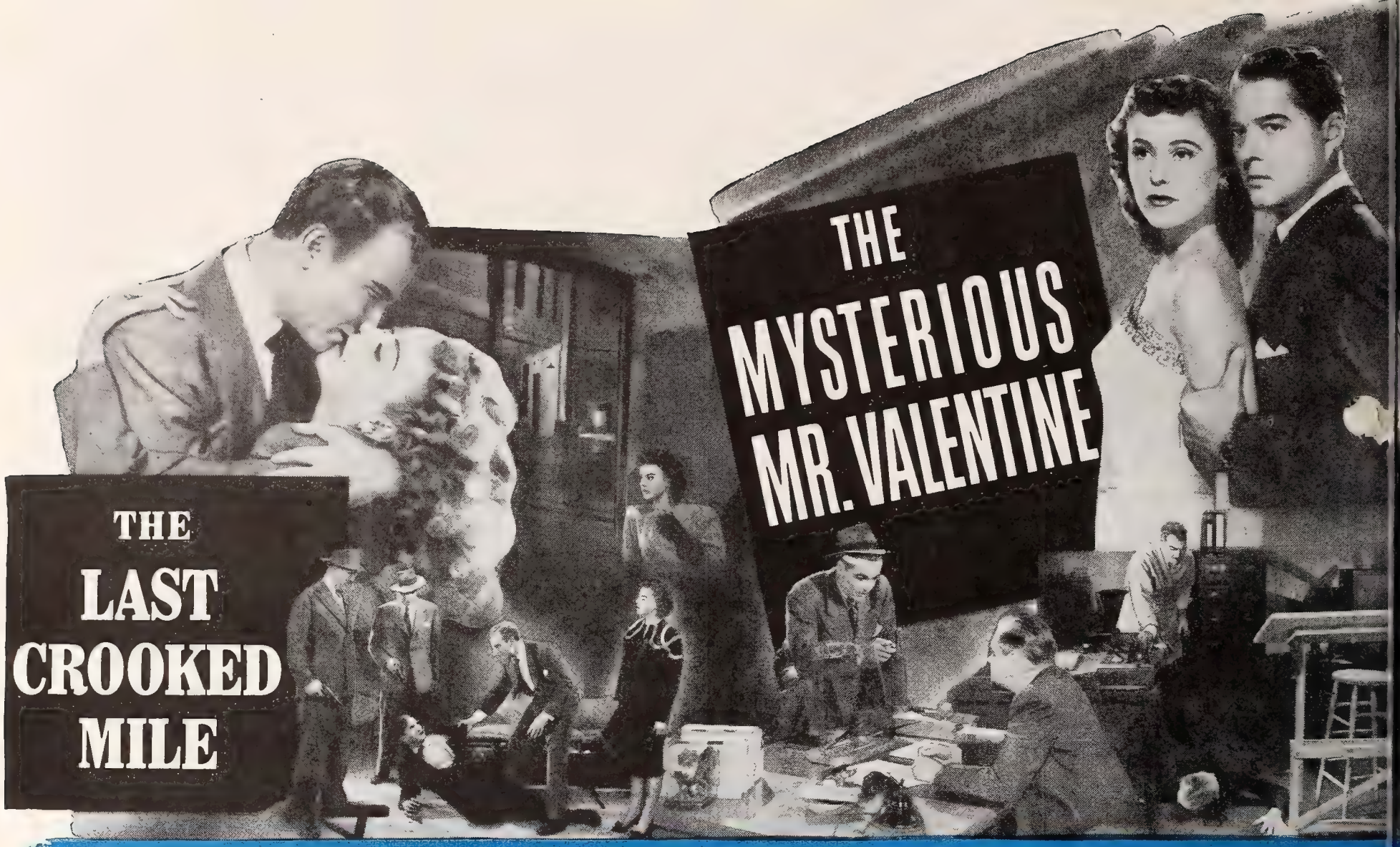
Under this ruling, all pictures from all sources eligible for the award will be listed on ballots circulated to the membership which will vote for five to be placed on the final ballot.

Drive-in Attack Fails

CINCINNATI, Nov. 25.—An injunction sought in a suit filed by residents of suburban Mt. Healthy seeking to restrain the Park-In Theatre Co. from constructing a drive-in theatre in the vicinity, on the contention that it would constitute a neighborhood nuisance, was denied by Judge Raymond S. Wilson, in Common Pleas Court, who ruled that there was nothing in the petition to show that the locality was exclusively residential, and that there is no zoning law for unincorporated areas in Ohio.

Besa Short Joins M-G-M

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Besa Short, formerly with Interstate Theatres, has joined M-G-M to handle short subjects promotion.



EVERY ONE PACKED WITH

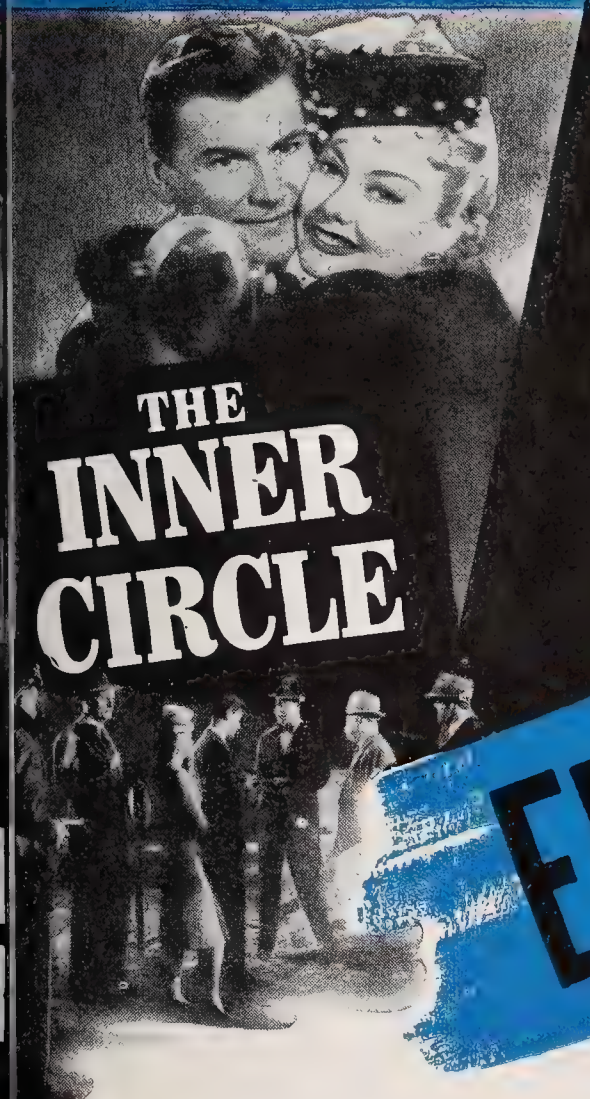




6

to add pep and variety to any program – and they're in release now!

SOLID



ENTERTAINMENT!

KEEP YOUR BOX OFFICE EYE ON

REPUBLIC

No Closings

(*Continued from page* 1)

theatres open. Home lighting is off when families attend the theatre; also, coal fires are banked, it was said. "The only intent of our curtailment order is to cut down on the use of outdoor lighting," according to Edward Falck, head of the CPA conservation drive.

Raymond Kerr, CPA fuels expert, expressed the belief that real power saving results from keeping the nation's theatres open. He pointed out that heating systems in homes are down when families are out. Also; he stated, reading lamps and other types of lighting in homes are greatly cut when a family leaves to attend a theatre.

C. G. Davidson, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, declared that while he has no actual statistics, the possibility that power is saved by keep-theatres open is almost certain. Davidson works with the CPA in the power conservation program, and represents the inter-department at conferences where power problems are discussed.

A high Justice Department official also expressed concern over the danger of local theatre shutdowns. "Our delinquency problems would reach an all-time peak if places of clean amusement are closed," the spokesman for Attorney General Tom Clark said.

Seattle Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

dismissal of the case because of a "hung" jury, according to William E. Ferguson, attorney for the plaintiffs.

The suit began Oct. 9 with the plaintiffs asking $518,235 for damages, charging that the defendant companies had acted to set admission scales and denied the licensing of some product. Theatre Investing and Venetian further seek to break up an alleged monopoly in the ownership of Seattle theatres and in the distribution of films. The defendants denied all charges.

After 56 hours of deliberation the jury was unable to agree on a verdict and Federal Judge John C. Bowen declared a mistrial.

$6,000 for 'Raider'

"The Raider," British-made production, which opened at the Warner Capital Theatre in Philadelphia with a $6,000 first-week gross, is claimed by Nat Sanders of English Films, Inc., its distributor, to be the first feature to play at that house for a fourth week, now current.

Johnston View

(*Continued from page* 1)

weeks will determine its feasibility and scope," Johnston declared.

Throughout his conversations with British industry, government and labor leaders, Johnston said, ran the fear that America's free economy might lead to another great depression, pulling Britain down with it, while Americans are afraid Britain's search for stability may lead to stagnation, thereby affecting the U. S. adversely. He found, however, a common desire to increase production and a common hope for enduring world peace.

Johnston had a long talk with Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the British Board of Trade, just before his departure.

McCoy, Beiersdorf

(*Continued from page* 1)

McCoy, whose appointment became effective yesterday, will supervise sales in Atlanta, Memphis and Charlotte, with headquarters in Atlanta. He has spent almost his entire film career with Warners, only recently resigning as Southern district manager for that company.

Beiersdorf, with headquarters in Dallas, will supervise that territory, besides New Orleans and Oklahoma City. Selznick began in the business in 1922 with the old Selznick company, joining Paramount in 1929, becoming Baltimore representative for Fox in 1933, Charlotte branch manager for that company in 1934, Dallas manager in 1936, Chicago district manager in 1942, and in 1944 was transferred to Pittsburgh.

Weill Becomes Rank Sales Representative

Promotion of Jules Weill from sales representative of the Prestige Pictures division of Universal to special field sales representative of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal has been made by William J. Heineman, general sales manager of the Rank division.

Weill will supervise sales of the Kansas City, St. Louis, Omaha and Des Moines branches and will assume his new duties immediately.

Young Joins Warners

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25. — Collier Young, formerly assistant to Arthur Hornblow, producer, joined the Warner studio executive staff today.

'Man' Tradeshow Dec. 23

National tradeshowing of "The Man I Love" has been set by Warners for Monday, Dec. 23.

UA Pact

(*Continued from page* 1)

made and announced next week, they said. The potential Enterprise-UA deal, providing for six pictures, would run for one year.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 11, the Enterprise deal is only for the domestic market. It was said at that time that the Einfeld-Loew product will be released by M-G-M.

It was said at the UA home office here yesterday that the Enterprise pact initially involves only "Arch of Triumph," but it is understood that all six of the producing unit's films on this season's program will go through UA.

A contract for Enterprise distribution by Universal was made earlier this year but was dropped by mutual consent.

It was reported yesterday that Mary Pickford, co-owner, will insist on "escalator" clauses in all UA contracts, present and future, as a safeguard against possible increases in distribution costs. Confirmation of this could not be obtained.

The UA contractual dispute with David O. Selznick will be taken up at another board meeting here on Friday.

Yates Warns

(*Continued from page* 1)

productions, costing over $4,000,000 currently rolling at the North Hollywood studio. They are: "Gallant Man," produced and directed by Frank Borzage; an untitled Nelson Eddy-Ilona Massey starrer, with Allan Dwan as associate producer and director, and "Wyoming," starring William Elliott, Vera Ralston and John Carroll, with Joe Kane as associate producer-director.

"The war proved that the screen is the greatest moulder of public opinion in the world today," continued Yates. "By the very content of our motion pictures, by the enthusiasm that we inject into our entertainment, we can virtually turn our people to right rather than wrong thinking, inspire them to make their lives everything that is rightfully theirs.

"The public reflects our attitudes. If we are fearful of the future, it is bound to evidence itself in our productions," he continued. "Anyone with any degree of common sense should realize that we are on the threshold of the most bountiful era in our history.

"Our responsibility is not only to the public but also to the exhibitor. He is nurtured by triumphs. He is inspired to go out and give full vent to his showmanship talents when he has the proper merchandise to exploit. And it is up to us to deliver it."

Coal Supply

(*Continued from page* 1)

in compliance with "brownout" orders, theatre operators reported that the loss of business because of this step was not expected to be great. Of more concern was the danger that unemployment resulting from the strike might cause theatre attendance to shrink as patrons begin to feel the economic pinch. During the first week of the walkout, however, grosses in the mining areas are expected to rise—because of the population's new leisure at a time when money still is relatively plentiful.

Larger circuits, according to their spokesmen here, filled the coal bins of as many theatres as possible last summer, but the storage capacity generally is too small to permit heating the houses far into the winter without replenishing the supply. One unit in the National Theatre group, for example, uses 10 tons per week and cannot store much more than that amount, it was pointed out.

Independent Stocks

Most independent operators likewise brought in as much coal as possible last summer, but most have been "less provident" than the circuits in this respect, according to an exhibitor widely experienced in this field.

It was agreed by all observers that few, if any, exhibitors could reduce house temperatures voluntarily as a fuel-saving measure, since this is regarded as a danger to public health.

Transportation curtailments also are expected to have some effect on film attendance.

Full Bins in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Nov. 25.—With a majority of local theatres having full coal bins, owners here are not yet too disturbed over the bituminous strike. Grosses, however, may be affected by unemployment, for the Republic Steel Corp. has shut down three of its five blast furnaces here. Although transportation has not as yet been curtailed, the public has been asked to be frugal in its use of the utilities.

Avert Dimout in Maine

AUGUSTA, Me., Nov. 25.—This state is not expected to be affected by the dimouts resulting from the soft coal strike, inasmuch as Maine's electricity is supplied by water-power generators.

Freeman to Mexico City

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 25.—Y. Frank Freeman, Paramount vice-president, will leave here by plane on Friday for Mexico City where he will attend the Mexican presidential inauguration ceremonies. He will return to Hollywood on Dec. 2.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

NEW HAVEN TRADE SHOWING

of

"DICK TRACY vs. CUEBALL"

TUES., DEC. 3, AT 2:30 P.M.

Fox Projection Room, 40 Whiting St., New Haven, Conn.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

TRADE SHOWINGS

of

"VACATION IN RENO"

BOSTON

TUES., DEC. 3, at 10:30 A.M.

RKO Projection Room

122 Arlington St., Boston, Mass.

NEW HAVEN

TUES., DEC. 3, at 10:30 A.M.

Fox Projection Room

40 Whiting St., New Haven, Conn.

Kirsch Warns

(*Continued from page* 1)

itors have built this business but have been pushed out by distributors."

The Milwaukee organization elected William Ainsworth, of Fondulac, as president to succeed John Adler, of Marshfield, who was named a director. Other officers elected were Russell Leddy, Green Bay, secretary; Charles Trampe, Milwaukee, vice-president; George Langheimreich, Milwaukee, treasurer.

Directors are: F. J. MacWilliams, Portage; Jack Yeo, Burlington; Floyd Albert, Mt. Horeb; L. V. Bergtold, Westby; George Fischer, Milwaukee; Sigmund Goldberg, Wassau, and George Panka, Praire du Chien.

Kirsch termed as a necessity the further building of Allied as an independent organization strong nationally. He did not elaborate further on his threat of "legislation to correct evils," but this is understood to mean a new Allied move against film companies if the final disposition of the New York equity suit does not provide for "sufficient relief" for the independents.

Distributors Back Out

Kirsch said he talked with "big men" of the business on the matter of establishing an overall industry program that would be beneficial to all. "The distributors backed out," he concluded.

Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, spoke on checking, and disclosed that his Pennsylvania unit will rubber stamp clauses on all contracts for percentage engagements to the effect that checking be done openly and by non-locals, that a copy of each checking report, signed by the checker, be given to the exhibitor and furthermore that in contracts involving more than one picture, although each is negotiaated separately, the distributor must license all of the films in the pact or the entire agreement becomes void.

H. A. Cole, head of Texas Allied, told the meeting of his unit's defeat of adverse taxation and legislation. He also stressed the necessity of unity among the Allied members.

PRC Cancels

(*Continued from page* 1)

said to be the first $1,000,000 film to come from the studio.

Further product in top-budget brackets include "Wild West," starring Eddie Dean, "The Devil on Wheels," "Born to Speed," "The Return of Rin Tin Tin," and filmed in Vitacolor, and the Cinecolor "Red Stallion."

Thomas's announcement disclosed that all affiliations with producers of low-budget films would be severed at the termination of current existing contracts. Sig Neufeld, top producer in the low-budget field, will, therefore, leave the studio at the end of his contract.

Bennett to PRC

George Bennett, formerly a member of Vanguard Film's home office and field exploitation staff, has been assigned to PRC's field force in the Pittsburgh area, by Arnold Stoltz, national director of advertising-publicity.

Film Charity Group Will Honor Rose

Billy Rose will be honored for his achievements as a showman, journalist and philanthropic leader at the 1946 dinner of the amusement and allied industries division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, division chairman Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, announces.

The dinner, to be held on Thursday, Dec. 12, at New York's Hotel Pierre, will climax the division's participation in the Federation's current drive to raise $12,000,000 to meet the 1946-47 budgetary needs of 116 affiliated hospitals and welfare agencies which annually serve 350,000 persons of all races and faiths.

"His great work in mustering our industry's support for charitable purposes proves that Billy Rose's genius for creating popular entertainment is matched by his compassion for human suffering," Mr. Kingsberg said. "It is fitting that we should do him honor at this event from which so many thousands of our sick and troubled neighbors will benefit."

Included among the amusement trades that will be represented at the industry's Federation dinner are motion picture producers, distributors and exhibitors; the legitimate theatre; concessionaires, music publishers, radio and recording artists; radio artists, bandleaders and artists' representatives; and trade publications.

Serving as Kingsberg's co-chairmen in the effort are: Barney Balaban, Paramount Pictures; Jack Cohn, Columbia; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox; Albert Warner, Warner Brothers.

Independent Files

(*Continued from page* 1)

"respect to that portion of the proposed decree which may relate to competitive bidding in the licensing of film."

The Palace's petition points out that counsel for various exhibitors' associations and for one independent exhibitor have already been granted leave to file *amicus curiae* briefs, and asked that its petition be passed upon *ex parte*.

Booth was for a long time Essaness circuit executive who resigned several months ago.

Filing for the Palace was Seymour Simon, one time Department of Justice attorney, now associated with the Schradzke and Gould law firm, here. It is believed that the Palace's motive for requesting permission to file as *amicus curiae* is based on the belief that auction selling is inevitable and if it is to become law, the Palace wants it to be under the supervision of the Government rather than in the hands of film companies.

The Palace also resigned today from the Illinois Allied, alleging that partiality is being shown members who are also members of Allied's local booking and buying organization. The Palace has been a member of Allied but not a member of the booking and buying organization.

'Quentin' Shown Nov. 29

Advance trade screenings on RKO Radio's "San Quentin" have been set for Friday, Nov. 29 in New York, Los Angeles, Boston, Buffalo, Albany and New Haven.



THE FIRST SIX DAYS OF

The Razor's Edge

AT THE ROXY, N.Y.C. WERE

THE BIGGEST SIX DAYS FOR ANY PICTURE, ANY DATE IN ALL ROXY HISTORY!

TYRONE POWER • GENE TIERNEY • JOHN PAYNE • Anne BAXTER • Clifton WEBB • Herbert MARSHALL in Darryl F. Zanuck's Production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S "THE RAZOR'S EDGE" with Lucile Watson Frank Latimore • Elsa Lanchester • Fritz Kortner • John Wengraf • Cecil Humphreys • Harry Pilcer • Cobina Wright, Sr. • Produced by DARRYL F. ZANUCK • Directed by EDMUND GOULDING • Screen Play by LAMAR TROTTI • From the Novel by W. Somerset Maugham

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS AUG. 25TH–DEC. 25TH

CENTURY-FOX

PRICE DUBY
NOT REMOVE

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 105 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1946 TEN CENTS

Impetus Given To UN's Film Program Here

Several Countries Are Organizing Committees

With France, Mexico, Chile and several other South American countries having taken the lead in establishing national industry committees to cooperate with the United Nations film program, a U. S. group is expected to be formed in the near future, probably soon after Dec. 13, when Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the film and visual information division of the U. N.'s department of public information, is scheduled to return here from Paris, it was stated by representatives of both the U. N. and the Motion Pic-

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO Seeks Latin Houses

Spurred by a Latin-American market characterized as "booming" but deficient in theatres, RKO Radio expects to establish a "showcase" in every "good-sized" city which can assure a good weekly gross, Jack Osserman, RKO's Latin American supervisor, disclosed yesterday. He recently approached the Brazilian government with a plan for construction of 16mm. theatres which would be made available for government use, but action was forced into abeyance by the lack of prefabricated materials.

Observing that the Latin American scene in general is reminiscent of the American film industry 35 years ago,

(*Continued on page 12*)

In This Issue

In addition to the review of "The Yearling," which begins on this page, reviews of the the following pictures also appear in this issue: "Lady in the Lake," "Wake Up and Dream" and "Silver Range," all on page 10; "The Mighty McGurk," "The Return of Monte Cristo" and "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi," all on page 11. On pages 8 and 9 are listed estimates of key city grosses.

Ask Vigorous US Dimout

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—Vigorous enforcement of the compulsory federal dimout order nationally, has been urged by Edward Falck, director of the Office of Emergency Controls of the Civilian Production Administration. Falck said that he is invoking the assistance of utility companies throughout the United States in enforcing the order.

If a violation is found, and it continues, the utility company serving the customer will be forced to immediately discontinue power service to the commercial user.

Falck stressed that in addition to the elimination or dimout of all exterior lighting, the order calls for an over-all cut of 25 per cent in indoor illumination in theatres, and other commercial, industrial non-residential establishments.

(*Continued on page 6*)

$150,000 Raised at Dinner for Balaban

More than $150,000—three-fifths of an industry $250,000 goal—was contributed to the fight against anti-Semitism at the Nov. 21 testimonial dinner to Barney Balaban, president of Paramount Pictures, and held by the motion picture and entertainment division of the Joint Defense Appeal, it was announced here yesterday by Jack Cohn, vice-president of Colum-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Pledge Not to Pay 50 Per Cent Rentals

Minneapolis, Nov. 26.—Some 20 Central Nebraska exhibitors, meeting today at Ord, Neb., have unanimously pledged themselves to refuse to purchase any and all pictures for which a percentage of 50 per cent is asked by a distributor. The meeting was one of a series of regionals sponsored by Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa and Nebraska.

Also discussed were advertising and trailer costs, problems of local and "blind" checkers, admission prices and theatre overhead, film deals to increase rentals, and film buying. Dick Lysinger of Ravenna was named chairman of the next meeting, which will be held at Loup City, Neb., soon after Jan. 1.

Canadian Firms Explain Contract

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—The Canadian Motion Picture Distributors Association, Toronto, formal reply to the Ontario Motion Picture Theatres Association in the dispute over the new 1946-47 Canadian license agreement, declares there "is nothing to which any fair-minded exhibitor can take legitimate exception" in the revised rental contract which, it was stated, by

(*Continued on page 12*)

'The Yearling'

[*M-G-M*]

IF IT is true that a thing of beauty is a joy forever, there will be millions to whom "The Yearling" will be bringing joy for many a year to come, not to mention the joy which the millions it will bring to Metro is likely to occasion.

"The Yearling" is a wonderful motion picture. It has a beauty and simplicity not often encountered on the screen and they are implicit in a story that will charm, excite and deeply move the emotions of audiences everywhere. It is near to being the perfect picture for women and children, and no man convoyed by them within your theatre is likely to regret, or forget, the experience.

Its setting is the wild, unspoiled interior of Florida in the year 1878. Photographed in Technicolor and acted superbly by Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman and a hitherto untried but now proven juvenile discovery, Claude Jarman, Jr., it delights the eye equally as much as it captivates mind and emotions.

It will be a cold audience indeed that does not thank you for bringing it to town, and a rare one that does not ask you if you are hesitant

(*Continued on page 12*)

Ready 16mm. Expansion by US Companies

To Service Theatres on Worldwide Basis Soon

Full-scale 16mm. distribution in markets throughout the world will become a reality for nearly all film companies within the next six months, home office executives indicated here yesterday following a report from M-G-M, pioneers in the field, to the effect that the program at present is being hampered by lack of sufficient Hollywood product to service many sub-standard theatres.

Statements from RKO Radio, Warner Brothers, 20th Century-

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO Sets up Film Auction

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—One of the few instances of auction film sales under the decree action on record has been reported here by RKO Radio, with a block of 10 pictures being offered to the Bartelstein Circuit's Annetta Theatre and James Booth's Palace Theatre, both in Cicero.

Sam Gorelick, RKO branch manager, says the films will go to the highest bidder and that the terms of

(*Continued on page 12*)

High Court Denies St. Louis Appeal

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26. — The United States Circuit Court of Appeals, here, today ruled on the decision handed down in Kansas City that the appeal of the St. Louis Amusement Co. et al, in its $285,000 damage suit against Paramount, et al, was "prematurely taken." The lower Federal Court had

(*Continued on page 6*)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Thanksgiving Day and a legal holiday.**

Goldwyn

Using his own inimitable manner of expression, it must be recognized that when the subject of Hollywood is under discussion, by anyone, anywhere, Samuel Goldwyn should be included in.

This observation is prompted by repercussions to the recent Goldwyn statement in which he opined that Hollywood has become fat, lazy and sterile of the kind of ideas that make the motion pictures go. These repercussions, of course, received some cynical stimulus from the fact that at the moment of the release of the statement Goldwyn was not indifferent to press mention in view of the proximate date of the opening of a new and important Goldwyn production.

* * *

But Goldwyn, the complex character that he is, is not properly subject to various of the stereotyped observations that have been offered in connection with his recent statement. Goldwyn is of, for and by Hollywood and a grievous mistake would be made if anyone assumed that he was setting himself apart from Hollywood or that he did not wish for Hollywood and the American motion picture every possible advance and success. It is an entirely safe bet that when the British press sees him upon his arrival in London next month he will be found to be a crusader for the American motion picture.

While it is the writer's opinion that a statement such as the recent Goldwyn utterance is calculated with respect to the sensitive public relations status of the motion picture industry to do more harm than good it is also the opinion that Goldwyn, the perfectionist, now and always will be found on the side of arguing, in his own characteristic manner, for better and finer motion pictures. His many individual contributions in this direction leave no doubt that he sets his sights at a high level and will not be content with anything that falls short.

* * *

Goldwyn is an institution of the business of motion pictures. His stake is deep and important and apparently for this reason he feels he is entitled to exercise the patriarchal prerogative of administering a spanking—a spanking even though it hurts the spanker more than the spanked.

But Goldwyn of Hollywood, whatever he may be saying about Hollywood at the moment, is an entertainment genius who has made and is making an indelible impress on motion pictures which have created happy hours for untold millions of people all over the world.

—MARTIN QUIGLEY

Crystal Names Sastre

Antonio Sastre, a veteran of 27 years in the industry, has been appointed vice-president and general manager of Circuito Teatral Paramount, S.A., in Cuba, by Clement S. Crystal, theatre department head for Paramount International, here.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Nov. 26

HOLLYWOOD partnerships don't seem to be doing so well these days. There is the Chaplin-Pickford-Seiznick-UA situation, which was aired in two parts in this space last week. There is also the Goldwyn-Selznick blood-count to take into reckoning over the Astor Theatre squabble in New York.

Goldwyn must have won since "The Best Years of Our Lives" is now polishing off its first week there. But by no means has Selznick given up arms, nor has he receded a single iota from his position. His position is that it's the final victory that carries off the spoils.

■

Exactly what shape this will assume is the subject of speculation. And the speculation lends countenance to talk of a legal action for hypothecated damages allegedly saddled on "Duel in the Sun."

This appears to override the cold fact that Selznick could not have opened after "Caesar and Cleopatra," because not a single print is ready and is not likely to be for some weeks, or as long as labor troubles haunt Technicolor's output.

Between UA, Goldwyn, Technicolor, roadshow plans for "Duel" and possibly early birth of his own distributing company, Selznick undoubtedly is one of Hollywood's busiest men.

■ ■

Joe Schenck has been in Mexico City for some weeks. Charlie Skouras is there now. In the balance hangs the outcome of a long-pending deal for the Jenkins circuit, operating about half a hundred theatres, of which 21 are in Mexico City proper. First objective: Control. Handicap: The presidential decree limiting foreign interests to 49 per cent of any Mexican corporation. Second objective: Management control. Outcome: In high doubt. The Jenkins group seems to be looking the other way now.

■ ■

It happened:

A big-scale production conference was called to discuss the rough draft of what was designed as an AAAA attraction. Said the presiding producer:

"They're calling one of the characters a mountebank. We'll have to change it. The public won't get it."

Chorus of protests: "That's silly. Of course, the public will."

Producer: "You guys are wrong and I can prove it."

Getting his general manager on the telephone, he asked: "What's a mountebank?"

Answer: "A what? Never heard of him."

Producer: "See?"

■ ■

On the outskirts of Santa Barbara is a mountain road carving its way through San Marcus Pass.

"Look," remarked a visitor. "One of our boys made it."

"Look," deprecated a New York ex-patriate now long resident in California. "It's *San* Marcus. Not Sam."

■ ■

They tell a good-natured story about Mike Curtiz whose quaint English is accepted as part of the Hollywood scene. Like the footprints in the lobby at Grauman's Chinese theatre.

"Has Mike's new production company improved his language?"

"Improved it? His English is more confused than ever."

■ ■

The night "The Razor's Edge" unfurled for critics at the Academy Award Theatre, eyebrows shot up almost visibly when the dialogue had Elsa Lanchester remark to Tyrone Power, "And I thought you came here to attack me."

■ ■

He produces, and he's very good at it. But when he wants to create conflict between his two major characters, he puts it this way:

"Let's antagonize the scene."

■ ■

She's blonde and, of course, she's young. She also has a contract at Paramount where the usual hopes ride high. Incredible as it may seem, her name is Blossom Plumb.

Capra Premiere Dec. 21

"It's a Wonderful Life," Frank Capra's first production since retnrning to Hollywood from the war, which marks as well the return to the screen of James Stewart, co-starred with Donna Reed, will have its world premiere at New York's Globe Theatre on Dec. 21. This is the first of the pictures to be made by Liberty Films.

Vincent Lawrence, 56

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Funeral services for Vincent S. Lawrence, screen writer for the past 10 years, will be held in Los Angeles on Friday. The 56-year-old writer, who went to Hollywood by way of playwrighting, died Monday in Corpus Christi, Texas. He leaves his widow, two sons and a daughter.

Personal Mention

PAUL N. LAZARUS, JR., United Artists advertising-publicity director, will fly to Hollywood on Friday; he will remain in the West for two weeks.

●

HAROLD MIRISCH, RKO film buyer-broker, Monogram executives EDWARD MOREY, MOREY GOLDSTEIN and NATE FURST, and Victoria Theatre managing director MAURICE MAURER, have left New York for a week's stay at MIRISCH'S Miami home.

●

ARTHUR MAYER, owner of New York's Rialto Theatre, is in Europe on an Army inspection tour for BASIL O'CONNOR of the American Red Cross, visiting Germany, Austria and Italy.

●

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S trip to Europe has been set to start on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Dec. 14; he will visit his son and will sail for New York on the ship's return voyage.

●

JOHN R. CLARK, JR., assistant to DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, Technicolor president, will leave New York for his Hollywood home today.

●

DOROTHY MALONE, Warner player, will arrive in New York today from England and the Continent.

●

MENIFEE JOHNSTON, Hal Roach casting director, has arrived back in Hollywood, from New York.

●

ROBERT SISK, M-G-M producer, is here, at the Astor Hotel, for a week, from Hollywood.

●

HAL WALLIS and JOSEPH HAZEN are due back in New York next Wednesday from Florida.

●

IRVING MAAS, MPEA vice-president, is due back in New York from Europe in mid-December.

●

HENRY GINSBERG, Paramount production vice-president, has delayed his return to the Coast until Friday.

●

WILLIAM BRANDT will relate old exhibition anecdotes on New York station WNBC, tonight.

●

IRVING BERLIN returned yesterday to New York from Boston and Atlanta.

●

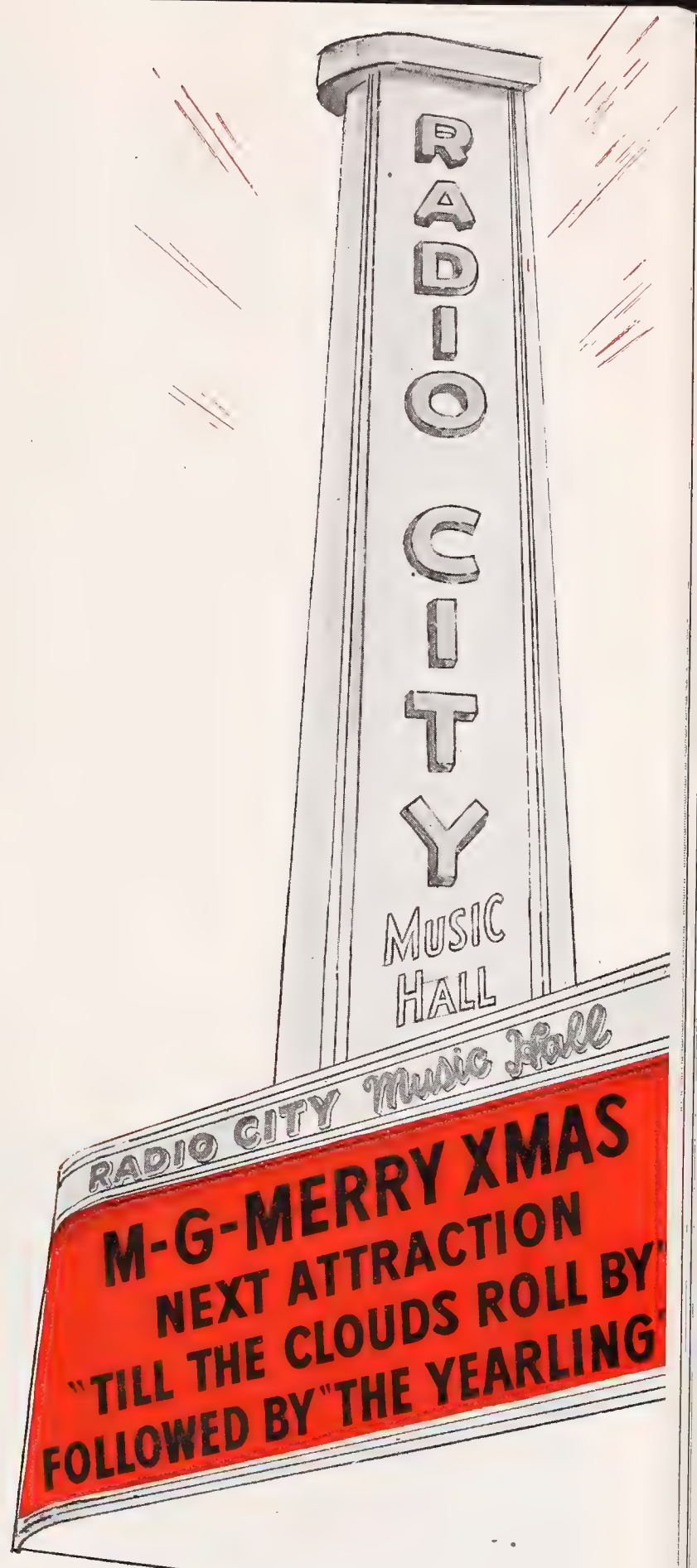
EDWARD GOLDEN will leave Hollywood for New York on Saturday.

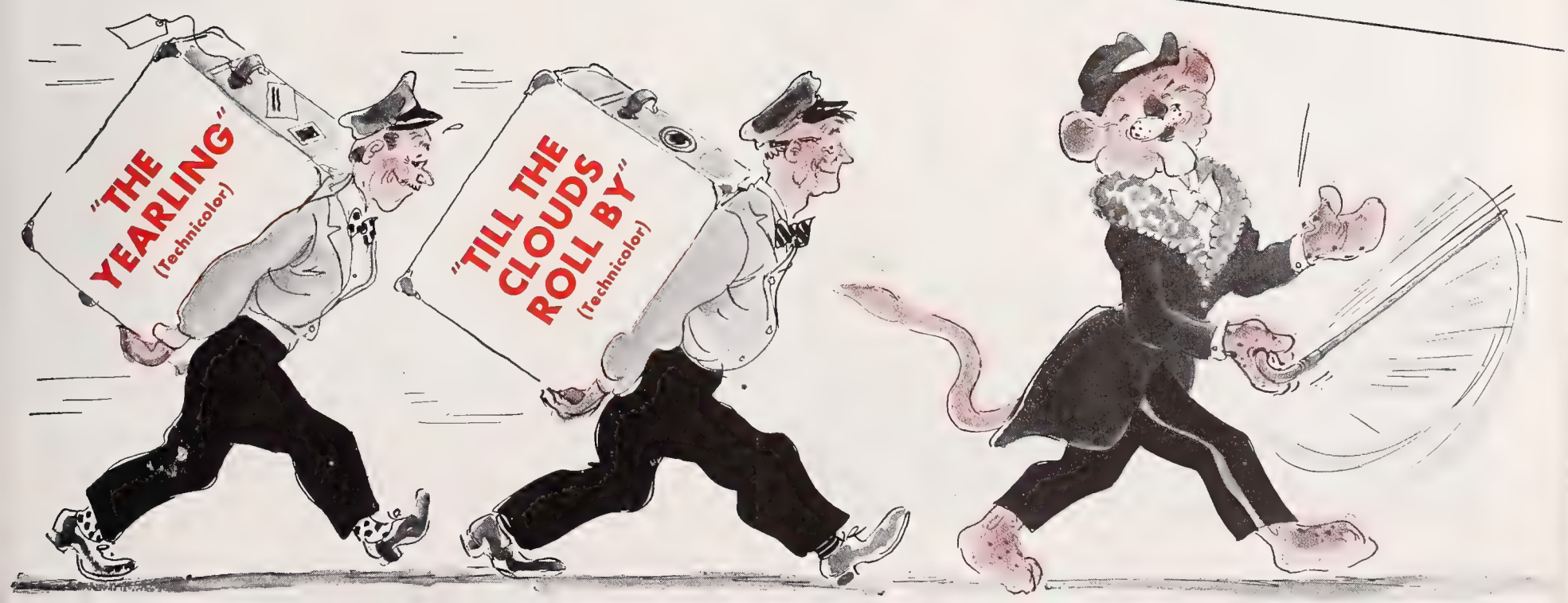
Walker Memorial Mass

A memorial mass for former Mayor James J. Walker, who died on Nov. 18, has been arranged by the local stagehands union, Theatrical Protective Union, Local 1, to mark Broadway's renewed tribute to him. The mass will be celebrated at St. Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday at 12:15 P. M. by the Rev. Thomas F. Marr, who is a son of a late member of the union and the grandson of a former president.

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LEO'S MOVING INTO THE MUSIC HALL FOR A TECHNICOLOSSAL WINTER!





Newsreel Parade

THE soft-coal strike is highlighted in three of the five current newsreels. Chile's inauguration of a new president and Britain's memorial to Franklin D. Roosevelt also are treated; football runs through all of the reels. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 26—John L. Lewis stands trial for contempt. British leaving Egypt. New president of Chile. Sculpture, astronomy, engineering. Football: Notre Dame-Tulane, Yale-Harvard, UCLA-Southern California, Illinois-Northwestern.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 224—Highlights of coal strike: John Lewis goes to court. British to build F.D.R. memorial. U. S. honors war correspondents. Desert auction. Chile's new president. France rededicated. Football: UCLA-Southern California, Illinois-Northwestern.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 27—Bowl fever: UCLA-Southern California, Illinois-Northwestern War on intolerance. The days are flying toward Christmas.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 29—Inaugurate new Chilean president. British plan memorial to F.D.R. War correspondents honored by Army. Supplies by plane to weather station in Alps. Football: UCLA-Southern California, Yale-Harvard.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 558—Lewis cited for contempt in mine strike. Cattle-boat capsizes. Chile's new president installed. Britain's Roosevelt memorial. Animals in the news. Football: Yale 27, Harvard 14.

QP Basketball Tonight

Quigley Publications' basketball team will meet National Broadcasting's quintet at the Rockefeller Center Institute gymnasium here tonight.

Warner Prizes to 16 of its Field Men

For outstanding field public relations work in the company's 1946 sales drive, as well as in connection with the "20th Anniversary of Talking Pictures," 16 Warner field men have been presented with prizes, distributed by Mort Blumenstock, vice-president in charge of advertising-publicity, as follows:

George Bannan, Dallas; George Fishman, Philadelphia; Allan Kohan, Omaha; Glenn Ireton, Toronto; Art Moger, Boston; Richard Stephens, Buffalo; Edward C. Benjamin, Minneapolis; Vernon Berg, Cincinnati; Ira Epstein, Indianapolis; Tom Gorman, San Francisco; Jack Leewood, Seattle; Lucia Perrigo, Chicago; Herb Pickman, New York; Don Walker, Kansas City; George Wood, St. Louis; J. D. Woodard, Atlanta.

Trans-Lux Starts Post-war Expansion

Trans-Lux's first new theatre in its post-war expansion program will be called the Trans-Lux Prado Theatre, situated in the New Prado Hotel in Mexico City. The hotel, which has the theatre as an integral part, was built at a cost of over $4,000,000 by the Mexican Government.

P. N. Furber, chairman of the board of Trans-Lux, and Norman Elson, vice-president, left New York yesterday for Mexico City; they plan to return about Dec. 15.



Famous Players in Last of 5 Meetings

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. is winding up its country-wide series of regional conferences for managers and partners with a two-day rally of its Central Ontario forces in the Royal York Hotel, here, today and tomorrow, which is also being attended by a large contingent of headoffice executives.

The same agenda is being followed throughout the conferences, which originally got under way one month ago at Winnipeg where Western division general manager Larry I. Bearg conducted sessions, while Eastern division manager Morris Stein called the managers together at Halifax, Montreal and Windsor, before taking over the Toronto meeting.

At Windsor, where a two-day program has just been concluded, there were round-table talks on theatre operations and a presentation of company policy, plus discussions on advertising, children's shows and theatre confection sales.

Stein's Assistants

Assisting Stein were district managers Jack Arthur and Dan Krendel; James Stevenson and Neil Troy of Theatre Confections, Ltd., a Toronto subsidiary of Famous Players. A forum on advertising was conducted by James R. Nairn, headoffice director of advertising-publicity, while Bert Brown covered children's shows.

The Windsor assembly broke off for entertainment diversions for which the host was Simon Meretsky, managing director of Windsor Paramount Theatre. A special visitor there was Earl Hudson, managing director of United Detroit Theatres.

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—Famous Players Canadian Corp. has declared a dividend of 20 cents, plus an extra five cents for the final quarter of 1946, payable Dec. 31, on its newly-split common shares, the total payment being an increase of 10 cents over previous quarterly dividends and amounting to 70 cents for 1946. Early in the year the company split its common three-for-one and the annual rate on the old stock stood at $1 so that the first-year's payment on the new common represents an increase.

Famous Players issued 375,000 shares of new common early in 1946 to retire its bonded indebtedness. It is stated the company is in a strong position for the extensive expansion program contemplated.

Sachar Urges More Campus Foundations

Dr. A. L. Sachar, national director of B'nai B'rith's Hillel Foundations, urged expansion of the organization through the establishment of more chapters on the campuses of American colleges and universities, in a talk last night at the Hotel Astor at a meeting of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith. An audience of several hundred from the motion picture and allied entertainment industries attended the lodge's "Hillel Night."

A 12-minute color film, entitled "There Is So Much to Do," preceded the talk by Dr. Sachar.

More Screen Time To UK Independents

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Speaking as honor guest at a Independent Motion Picture Producers Association dinner here last night, Ernest Fredman, publisher of the *The Film Renter,* London, told IMPPA members that the British trade and the government are determined to increase the apportionment of screen time to independent product in the United Kingdom, both by practice and tacit agreement, if not by legal regulation. He said American independent producers should visit England personally to gain a full understanding of the character of the rapidly expanding market in order to fashion pictures to earn maximum grosses in England.

IMPPA president I. E. Chadwick, presiding at the meeting, was highly praised by representatives of Monogram, PRC and SGP, for maintaining labor relations which have kept independents out of the current studio strike.

Canadian Pioneers To Frolic Tonight

TORONTO, Nov. 26.—The Canadian Picture Pioneers will gather at the Royal York Hotel, here, tomorrow night for a ball and carnival to aid its benevolent fund. With thousands of tickets sold for the function, the fund is expected to attain substantial proportions after being established last year with a $10,000 basis.

A ticket-selling campaign was directed by Oscar R. Hanson and champion seller was Ray Lewis, only woman member of the Canadian Pioneers, who has been secretary of the organization since its start five years ago. Trustees of the fund are Charles Mavety, Ray Lewis, Hanson and George H. Beeston and under their care come those in Canadian film circles who experience problems of age, illness or distress.

Universal To Take Reade's 'Park' Theatre

Universal will take over the operation of Walter Reade's new Park Avenue Theatre in a deal which in all probability will be closed by next Monday, and thus will put Reade in the unique position of having monies paid in advance on a subscription basis by customers, for a theatre which he no longer operates.

When negotiations first began it was understood that Reade was not interested in leasing the house, but rather in providing the film company with a first-run outlet for its British product.

The subscription revenue will, of course, be returned to the customers, when "U" takes over.

Six from Wurtzel For 20th in 1947

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Sol M. Wurtzel will produce six features for 20th Centpry-Fox for release during the coming year, under a contract completed after conferences with Spyros Skouras, company president, yesterday. Wurtzel produced the same number for the distributor this year.

UNIVERSAL-INTERNATIONAL

Announces

that the Jack H. Skirball-Bruce Manning production, "Magnificent Doll," is now available. Prints are now ready for screening in our exchanges...

JACK H. SKIRBALL and BRUCE MANNING *present*

GINGER ROGERS DAVID NIVEN

Magnificent Doll

and BURGESS MEREDITH

with PEGGY WOOD • HORACE McNALLY • ROBERT H. BARRAT

Director of Photography, Joseph Valentine, A.S.C. • Copyright by Hallmark Productions, Inc.

A UNIVERSAL RELEASE

Directed by
FRANK BORZAGE
Original Story and
Screenplay by IRVING STONE,
author of "Immortal Wife"
Produced by
JACK H. SKIRBALL

Keegan Named Head Of Northio Circuit

Jack Keegan, associate of Earl Hudson, president and general manager of United Detroit Theatres, has been named general manager of Northio Theatres Corp. Leonard H. Goldenson, Paramount vice-president in charge of theatre operations, discloses.

Keegan, who will take over his new duties officially on Jan. 1, will succeed Harry David, whose resignation was announced last week by Goldenson, although he will continue to serve the Paramount theatre affiliate in an advisory capacity. Keegan joined United Detroit Theatres in 1941, prior to that having served as city manager for Warners in Milwaukee. His new headquarters will be Cincinnati. Northio consists of 20 theatres in Ohio and Kentucky. Among the towns in which its theatres are located are Marion, Hamilton, Middleton and Fremont, Ohio, and Danville, Ky.

St. Louis Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

ruled in favor of Paramount. St. Louis Amusement appealed, but this appeal likewise was disapproved because of a technical flaw, the same reason for disapproval today.

Council for the plaintiff says it will withdraw the petition and retrace its steps to correct whatever defects there are in the petition, and appeal once more. The action grows out of a complaint involving the Princess Theatre, competitor to Amusement.

Time Extension For Skouras' Bond Deal

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—Charles Skouras, head of Fox-West Coast, seeking to regain control of the Ambassador and Missouri Building Corporations in St. Louis, and through them gain control of the St. Louis Amusement Co. circuit of 35 theatres, has extended the deadline indefinitely for bond holders of the corporations to accept his offer of 100 cents on the dollar for all bonds. The deadline was this week. Skouras also announced he reserves the right to withdraw his offer at any time.

Harrison to U-I

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Universal-International has signed Joan Harrison to a long term contract as a producer, effective Jan. 15, following her return from Europe. Her first picture will be selected thereafter.



UN Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

ture Association.

While abroad, principally as a delegate to the U. N. Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, Benoit-Levy will assist in the formation of a British industry committee, as well as others in several countries on the Continent, it is understood.

U. N. film officers, here, hope, however, that the committee movement will be more or less spontaneous throughout the world, and indications are that this hope will be fulfilled so far as the U. S. is concerned, for there has been a unanimity of sentiment within the industry here on "mobilization to win the peace." Objections on grounds of "propaganda," raised recently with regard to the U. S. Government's film program, have been conspicuous by their absence whenever the international subject has come up, it is said.

Likewise, U. N. and industry spokesmen feel that financial difficulties will not hamper the program, as they have threatened to do in the case of the U. S. Government's plans. The U. N. general assembly is expected to approve an adequate appropriation for the production of films explaining the aims and operations of the international tribunal, and observers believe the U. S. industry will not balk if called upon to contribute some of its facilities to help with distribution. While the pictures are intended primarily for non-theatrical use, they will be available for commercial exhibition also. The U. N.'s initial subject, showing how the organization came into being, is now in the editing stage and will be released around Jan. 1.

Meanwhile, work is going forward on compiling a catalogue of existing films showing the way of life in the various nations that make up the group, with a view to demonstrating that the differences between peoples throughout the world are not great enough to prevent their effective organization to preserve the peace.

$150,000 Raised

(*Continued from page* 1)

bia Pictures, Leonard H. Goldenson, vice-presidnt of Paramount, and Sam Rinzler of Randforce Theatres, co-chairman of the division. They pointed out that the motion picture amount raised to date exceeds by 50 per cent the sum obtained at the 1945 industry dinner.

The three chairmen explained that the JDA finances the fight maintained by its two beneficiary agencies, the American Jewish Committee and the Anti-Defamation League of B'nai B'rith. The JDA has a total goal of $5,000,000 for 1946—a sum 43 per cent more than the amount raised last year—in order to finance the expanded programs of the two defense agencies.

Columbia Signs Gosch

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Columbia has signed Martin Gosch formerly with Warners, Paramount and 20th-Fox, as a producer.

'So Dark' Opens Dec. 6

"So Dark the Night," Columbia, will have its New York premiere at the Rialto Theatre Friday, Dec. 6.

16mm. Expansion

(*Continued from page* 1)

Fox, Paramount and Universal show those companies proceeding rapidly with plans to enter the field in instances where that has not already been done and to expand operations already started. Columbia, although withholding official comment, is understood also to be making good progress on its 16mm. preparations.

Among the companies which have not yet begun sub-standard operations, 20th-Fox appears to be one of the busiest with its blueprints for such activity. Emanuel Silverstone, foreign department home office representative, has been spending much time on the program since the recent return from Europe of Murray Silverstone, president of 20th International. He states that the company's product will be on 16mm. screens "fairly soon after the first of the year," following current studies of film selections and negative costs. Although a deal whereby 20th-Fox might join with Paramount in such distribution is understood to be still in the talking stage, 20th is going ahead on its own.

Paramount Ready

Although at Paramount the 16mm. program is described as being "still in a nebulous stage," awaiting a decision of policy when George Weltner, president of Paramount International, returns from Europe next month, a spokesman for the company emphasizes that executives have developed no wariness about entering the field. "It's just a question of method," he explains, possibly indicating the likelihood of a tie-up with 20th-Fox.

Universal, which recently set up a subsidiary, United World Films, to handle all phases of its 16mm. operations, announces that substantial showings will start "in a month or 60 days." Beginnings have been made in some countries, prints have been delivered to others. Within six months, 'U' expects to be active all over the world, using both theatres and mobile units, although the latter for the present have been dropped from the M-G-M program.

RKO Radio, claiming to be as far advanced as M-G-M everywhere except in France, and to be surpassing M-G-M in some instances, promises still further expansion. The company now has prints in Palestine and soon will make a beginning in Belgium, it was said.

Warners, already active in Central America, South America and the Philippines, has begun making preliminary deliveries of 16mm. prints to Europe and expects to add distribution in India, Australia and New Zealand in the near future.

U-I Names Sistrom

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Universal-International has assigned Joseph Sistrom to produce the next Deanna Durbin feature, following the recent resignation of Felix Jackson. Due to the clogged condition of the Technicolor laboratory, brought on by the strike, the studio will defer production of "Up In Central Park," originally announced as Miss Durbin's next, in favor of a black-and-white subject yet to be chosen.

100 N. England Runs In 'Quentin' Tieup

BOSTON, Nov. 26.—World premiere of RKO Radio's "San Quentin" has been set for Dec. 5 at the Boston Theatre with over 100 houses in the Boston area participating. Lawrence Tierney, star of the picture, will make an in-person tour of surrounding cities as well as being present at the premiere ceremonies. Barbara Hale and Bill Williams, RKO Radio contract players, will also be on hand, together with Mike Mazurki, Dewey Robinson and George E. Stone, all in behalf of the film "San Quentin."

Harry Reiners, of Terry Turner's exploitation staff, under S. Barret McCormick, RKO Radio director of advertising-publicity, has lined up a radio schedule which will have 33 stations on the Yankee Network for 10 days preceding the premiere.

$600,000 Trust Suit Names 7 Companies

WASHINGTON, Nov. 26.—A suit asking $600,000 damages and a clearance injunction was filed in Federal Court here today by Sidney Lust Theatres against Louis Bernheimer Theatres Co. and Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, United Artists, Loew's and Columbia.

The plaintiff charges conspiracy to restrain trade and violation of the Sherman anti-trust act on the part of the defendants by agreeing to regulate and hold back features which otherwise would be available on a neighborhood first-run basis to the Lust Kaywood Gardens Theatre, rather than the Village and Newton houses.

US Dimout

(*Continued from page* 1)

MOTION PICTURE DAILY today published a statement by Falck in which he points out that the CPA does not desire to have theatres closed completely, Falck making his statement on complete shutdowns because several reports have reached Washington that municipal governments are attempting to close places of amusement.

'Bernhardt' and 'Tess' On Selznick Schedule

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—David O. Selznick today announced placing "Sarah Bernhardt" and "Tess of the D'Urbervilles" on his 1947 production schedule, the former budgeted at $5,000,000, the latter to be in Technicolor. Both scripts have been completed.



Ask Modification of Portuguese Quota

By J. de M. PALMEIRO

LISBON, Nov. 23 (By Airmail).—Although the production branch of the industry in this country has expressed approval of the government's new, drastic film-quota law, scheduled to become effective in January, exhibitors have petitioned that the regulation be modified.

Following action taken at a meeting of the Portuguese Exhibitors Association, Dr. Campos Figueira, its chairman, presented a special note to Prime Minister Oliveira Salazar, suggesting principally that the exhibition license for features should be proportional to the number of screening weeks for each picture during its first run. The new quota legislation, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 7, would compel theatres to exhibit at least one week of native product for every five weeks of foreigin pictures, except when the local output could not compete quantitatively.

Fear Government Program

This move by exhibitors springs from fear that the government's program for increasing the quality of production here cannot succeed quickly. Dr. Figueria explained that the costs of raw stock are very high, as are prices for laboratory work, and that the national market is quite restricted, with no possibilities of getting foreign markets, except Brazil. Moreover, the country's technicians are few and badly trained, he said, adding that it will be necessary to send technicians abroad, chiefly to the United States, to learn fundamentals of the business. Portuguese directors generally are incompetent, he concluded.

The exhibitors' note also urges the building of more theatres of an economical type, principally in the rural zones, and objects to "exaggerated salaries" being asked by film artists.

Meanwhile, distributors here are of the opinion that, under the new law, all but a few distributors of a very limited number of foreign films will be forced out of business by high costs, including licenses, taxes, import duties and fees for subtitling, translation and publicity. The law provides that certificates costing from $200 to $400 must be obtained for each feature and forbids the screening of any foreign picture dubbed in Portuguese at a foreign laboratory.

All nine Portuguese producers, however, give their approval to the government decree. They seek, ultimately, the entire nationalization of the industry, an ever growing production of Portuguese films, more local markets, deals with foreign countries so as to be in a position to negotiate under the most convenient circumstances with the industry from abroad, facilities to promote this country's propaganda by means of short documentaries and immediate nationalized exploitation of the 16mm. field. To these ends, it has been decided to create a new Portuguese Producers Association.

Dunn Names Wilson

MEMPHIS, Nov. 26. — Lynn Dunn, manager of Kay Film Exchange, has named Cliff B. Wilson, formerly with Columbia and Monogram as booker and office manager, as a special sales representative for Kay here.

France May Escape Nationalized Films

The film industry's status as an entertainment medium, and, hence, its freedom from classification as specifically a "public service" institution, is the factor which may continue to save it from nationalization in France where radio, coal mines, banks, insurance companies, gas and electric industries and an automobile concern have become state-operated enterprises since the war's end. This is the opinion of Joseph Siritzky of Siritzky International Pictures, here, owners of a large circuit of theatres in France, who currently are engaged in legal negotiations for recovery of a number of houses there which were confiscated by the Germans and then taken into sequestration by the incoming French government. Thus far, Siritzky reports, his company has been successful in recovering 18 houses in the South of France. Those remaining to be restored, he said, include important first-runs in Paris and in other large French cities.

The motion picture's stature as a propaganda medium does not argue so well against it for socialization as would a "public service" status, Siritzky said, adding that, from the same standpoint, this applies to newspapers which, in France, continue to be independently operated. Whereas, other French industries have been, and probably will continue to be pressed into socialization as part of an open "nationalizing" campaign, the newspapers and the film industry thus far have not been openly included in the drive, he added.

French Organizations Now Centered in One

PARIS, Nov. 23 (By Airmail).—A bill adopted by the French Assembly establishing a National Center for Cinematography has become a law of the French Republic. This Center will take the place of previous trade organizations. But the actual application of the bill awaits an official decree. Currently the French trade organizations are preparing this decree together with the Information Department and the General Director of the Cinema. It appears that the National Center will not be a practicable, workable organization before the end of the year.

RKO Making French Film with Chevalier

PARIS, Nov. 23 (By Airmail).—Some 26 French features are now in production, the most important being the RKO-Pathe French production, "Silence Is Golden," written and directed by Rene Clair and starring Maurice Chevalier.

Two French features have been completed in French Morocco and studios are to be built at Agadir. The first French feature in color, "Le Mariage de Ramuntcho," is nearly completed.

New Century Researcher

Ruth Samberg, formerly with the Whitehall Pharmacal Co.'s market research and analysis department, has joined Century Theatres here as assistant to Harriet Lubin, head of the research and survey department.



Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Two Years Before the Mast" did phenomenal business at the two Paramount theatres in a week handicapped generally by severe rains. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,200. (Average: $8,900)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $19,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $14,000)

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films) — EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $7,700)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,200. (Average: $12,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $23,700)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $11,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $26,200)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,600)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,100)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hawaii (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,800)

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $23,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $40,500. (Average: $24,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) — PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,300)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,110) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross, $13,500. (Average: $15,100)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,500)

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CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $2,600. (Average: $8,000)

DECEPTION (WB) — WARNER (Downtown (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,250. (Average: $21,600)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $16,100)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

Conclusion of the 50-day bus strike more than offset any possible box-office losses incurred during the inauguration of the dimout, with the result that business is showing slight improvement. "Nobody Lives Forever," with Lena Horne on stage at the Chicago, is proving the top attraction. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $12,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c). On stage: Lena Horne. Gross: $73,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40). Twice daily, 16th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $13,00)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 9th week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

ADAM HAD FOUR SONS (Col. reissue)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Francis Langford and Jon Hall. Gross: $50,000. (Average: $45,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $35,000. (Average: $24,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $29,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (U)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 5th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $20,000)

ST. LOUIS

Impact of the coal strike is being felt at the box-offices. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and CRACK UP (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.) — LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $4,500. (Average: $9,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and WILD BEAUTY (U) — MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $16,500. (Average: $12,500)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 7th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and CAUGHT IN THE DRAFT (Para. reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500)

PHILADELPHIA

Personal appearance of the Ink Spots, plus three new bookings, is helping overcome the pre-holiday slump. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 26-28:

SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average, for 7 days: $14,000)

A NIGHT IN CASABLANCA (UA)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $7,250)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $22,800)

CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—EARLE (3,000) 60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring the Ink Spots. Gross: $40,000. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $28,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 6 days, 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average, for 7 days: $26,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $7,800)

THE KID FROM BROOKLYN (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $6,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $28,300)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $24,900)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $22,800)

SALT LAKE CITY

All grosses are running above average. Cold, unsettled weather prevails. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28:

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, on a moveover. Gross: $8,500). (Average: $7,900)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,900. (Average: $13,500)

SUSPENSE (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,600)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RIALTO (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $3,800. (Average: $3,600)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $4,700)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—(1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $6,900. (Average: $5,800)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

ATLANTA

The weather continues cold, and business generally is good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $13,500. (Average: $13,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (44c-60c-80c) 2nd week on a moveover from Fox. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,200)

NOTORIOUS (RKO Radio)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c) 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $5,600)

JOE PALOOKA, CHAMP (Mono.) and ROMANCE OF THE WEST (PRC)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $7,000. (Average: $4,200)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

KANSAS CITY

Business has been spotty. The weather has been mild and clear except for one short cold spell. Competition has been furnished by the "Skating Vanities of 1947" and several musical events. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 26-28:

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,750)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissues) and **SHADOWED (Col.)** — MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: [illegible]000. (Average: $11,000)

CAPTAIN CAUTION (Favorite Films) and CAPTAIN FURY (Favorite Films)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $10,000)

EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—TOWER (2,100) (39c-45c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,500)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Openings failed to click, and grosses, with few exceptions, slumped off. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28:

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on moveover from Radio City. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $7,500)

WELLS FARGO (Para. reissue) — GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,300. (Average: $3,400)

DECEPTION (WB)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE HOUSEKEEPER'S DAUGHTER (Favorite Films) and ONE MILLION BC (Favorite Films)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $13,500)

THEY WERE SISTERS (U-International)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $2,500)

BALTIMORE

Local department stores are staying open late on Monday and Thursday nights until Christmas, and most of the downtown theatre managers notice a drop in attendance on those evenings. Cold, crisp weather is just right for picture-going, and nothing is offering outside competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 27:

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,500)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $12,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $10,750)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $17,500)

VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205)(35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days. With stage show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,500)

(*Continued on page 9*)

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NY 1st-Run Grosses Slip

Although a few of the principal New York first-runs this week are running up tremendous grosses the overall picture clearly depicts a continuing decline in box-office revenue. Theatremen in many cases pin the responsibility on competition from the shopping district where an early pre-Christmas buying spree is in evidence. Some contend that certain attractions have been "played out" after lengthy holdovers. The dimming of marquee lights, prompted by the current fuel conservation program was said to have had no noticeable effect on business as yet.

As reported yesterday, "The Razor's Edge," with Rosario and Antonio, and others on the stage, is claimed to be setting an assortment of box-office precedents at the Roxy. Business for the first week, which ended last night, amounted to a record $163,000, according to the theatre.

'Years' Excellent

The Astor is also doing excellent business, with "The Best Years of Our Lives," which figures to bring in $65,000 for its first week. This is a near-record. The admission scale for the house is now 95c-$1.80 for weekdays and climbs to $2.40 top on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays.

"The Jolson Story," with a stage show, is holding impressively at the Music Hall, where the seventh week's income should reach $112,000; "Till the Clouds Roll By" is tentatively booked to open on Dec. 5 at the house.

"Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra, drew in the neighborhood of $80,000 in a sixth week at the Paramount, which is fairly good, while the ninth week of "Two Years Before the Mast," at the Rivoli, is fair at $27,000. "Never Say Goodbye," at the Strand, with Ray McKinley's orchestra, is doing modestly in its first week, which should bring in $52,000. The sixth week of "Deception," at the Hollywood, is not too impressive, at $19,000.

'Rage' Slips

"Rage in Heaven," with Enric Madriguera's orchestra on the stage, slipped to $51,000 in a third week at the Capitol, after grossing $61,600 in a second week, and will be replaced by "Undercurrent" tomorrow. "Notorious Gentleman" is on its way to a profitable $30,000 for its second week at the Winter Garden.

"Song of the South" will open at the Palace today, following "Nocturne," which, in the final four days of a third week drew a moderate $17,000. "It's a Wonderful Life" is slated to open at the Globe on Dec. 21; "The Chase," now current at that theatre, probably will take in a fair $21,000 in a second week.

"Man from Morocco" is doing rather poorly at the Gotham where the first week's business is expected to amount to $9,000. "Henry V" is still close to the $12,000 mark in its 12th week at the John Golden; originally the film played 10 weeks at the City Center.

"The Time of Their Lives" will bow into the Criterion today, succeeding "Dark Mirror," which raked in about $18,000 in its final five days; the film ran short of a six-week engagement by two days. The seventh and final week of "The Westerner" brought the Victoria $11,000, not too substantial, and the re-issue of "Kings Row" will open at that house today. "Fantasia," in a ninth week at the Republic, is good for $7,000. "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" is slated to finish a first week at the Rialto with $8,000, good enough to warrant a holdover.

Warners Tie-up Three Broadway First-Runs

Warner releases will be holding forth in three first-run Broadway houses, here, from now until beyond the holidays as a result of bookings just concluded with the Victoria Theatre.

Following "Kings Row," which will open today, this house will present another Warner release, "The Beast with Five Fingers," starting Christmas Day. With "Humoresque" opening on Christmas at the Hollywood, and "The Time, the Place and the Girl" making its bow on Dec. 26 at the Strand, Warners will have three premiere engagements running.

Key City Grosses

(Continued from page 8)

ADAM HAD FOUR SONS (Col. reissue)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)
I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

PITTSBURGH

Counter-attractions and holiday shopping cut deeply into grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,700)
THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)
TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $25,000)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 6 days, 3rd week, on moveover from Warner. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)
A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE VERDICT (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

OMAHA

Business is running close to average. The weather has been mostly cold and windy. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28-29:

MARGIE (20th-Fox) and THE UNKNOWN (Col.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week for "Margie," moveover from Paramount. Gross: $11,600. (Average: $8,600)
IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $9,400)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN (Col.)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 6 days. Gross: $6,600. (Average, for 7 days: $6,800)

CINCINNATI

Regardless of brownouts and other restrictions imposed by current conditions, new arrivals and holdovers are giving good accounts of themselves, with the RKO Albee zooming to a terrific gross. Weekend weather was clear and cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 26-29:

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Stage: Andrews Sisters and acts. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $22,000)
DECEPTION (WB)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $10,000)
GAS HOUSE KIDS (PRC) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,800. (Average: $1,600)
TERROR ON HORSEBACK (PRC) and SECRETS OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)
THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE PLAINSMAN (Para. reissue) and THE JUNGLE PRINCESS (Para. reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $5,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)
ADAM HAD FOUR SONS (Col. reissue) and MR. SMITH GOES TO WASHINGTON (Col. reissue)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $5,000)

TORONTO

With the Santa Claus parade heralding the approach of the shopping season, downtown managers admitted a slackness in matinee attendance, which was expected to become more pronounced. There was only one football counter-attraction, while hockey was in full swing, coupled with two days of harness racing and pro basketball. The mild fall started to break up. Estimated receipts for the week ending Nov. 28-29:

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and GREAT DAY (British)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,200. (Average: $4,700)
THE STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $15,300. (Average: $14,300)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $13,300)
CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $14,600)
THE DARK MIRROR (International)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400)
HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and GREAT DAY (British)—VICTORIA (2,761) (18c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

AMPA Plans Benefit For Relief Fund

A theatre benefit show for its relief fund will be given by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers shortly it was decided at a meeting here yesterday, presided over by Rutgers Neilson, president. The group also elected to held regular meetings every two weeks at the Town Hall, here.

'Edge's' $164,701 Breaks All Records

"The Razor's Edge" grossed $164,701 for its first seven days at the Roxy Theatre, here, the Roxy management reported last night with the assertion that the figure tops all records for seven days in any part of the world at any time—exceeding even the generally-accepted seven-day "all-time high" record of "The Cockeyed World," established at the Roxy in 1929.

Objections Suspend Deposition-Taking

Objections raised yesterday by William F. Rodgers, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer vice-president, over the line of interrogation pursued by Monroe E. Stein, attorney for four theatre defendants in M-G-M's suit alleging percentage fraud, has caused the suspension of questioning until the Federal Court in Brooklyn rules on a motion to be filed next week by Stein. Charles Moscowitz, treasurer, and Joseph Vogel, general manager of Loew's Theatres, had also consented to make depositions. Stein is representing George Stamatis, Argosy Amusement Corp., Apollo Theatre Corp. and Alda Theatre Corp., all of whom have denied the charges made by M-G-M.

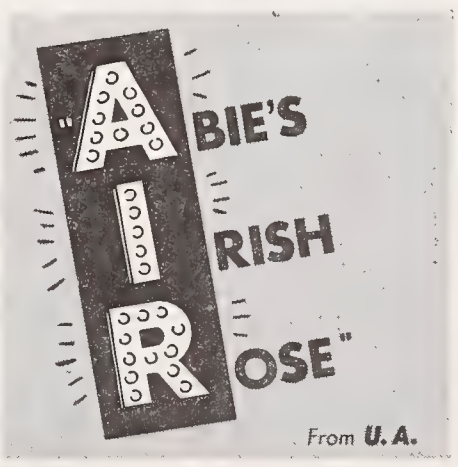
Picket RKO Radio Construction Unit

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Pursuant to policy against permitting permanent construction by studios during strikes, the Conference of Studio Unions today placed pickets around RKO Radio's ranch, where storage buildings were being started. Spokesman said this is twenty-fourth major construction job halted.

Routine picketing continued elsewhere with strikers awaiting a reply from the producers to the CSU telegram offering to discuss a basis for resumption of contract negotiations.

Shartin Becomes E-L Representative

William Shartin has been appointed special sales representative for Eagle-Lion Films by Alfred W. Schwalberg, the company's vice-president and general sales manager. He will have headquarters in Cleveland and in addition to that branch, will supervise sales in Cincinnati, Albany and Buffalo.



Balaban-Katz Steps Up Video Programs

CHICAGO, Nov. 26. — Chicago's Balaban and Katz television station, WBKB, has launched into a production schedule, aided by acquisition of new facilities, which its owners hope will permit the achievement of the top regular operational television record in the country, and eventually lead to a stabilized weekly operation of 35 air hours.

Constructed in space only recently relinquished by the Navy, a new studio permits greater mobility for technical operations. In addition, WBKB now will be able to produce types of shows heretofore impossible owing to limited quarters.

Arthur Robinson Heads Variety Club

DETROIT, Nov. 26.—Arthur Robinson will assume the duties of chief barker of the local Variety Club in January inaugural ceremonies, and his associates will be: Robert Dunbar, first assistant; Lew Wisper, second assistant; Jack Zide, secretary; Paul Broder, treasurer; Larry Becker, Carl Burmele, Irvin Pollard, Ralph Raskin, Raymond Schreiber and Ed Stuky, canvassmen; Arvid Kantor, present chief barker, national canvassman; Joe Busick and Jack Zide, delegates to the national convention; Harry Gilbert and Harold Sandleman, alternate delegates.

Bookers to Have Forums

The Motion Picture Bookers of New York are inaugurating a series of open meetings and forums for the discussion of current events. The first is scheduled for Monday evening, Dec. 2, with radio commentator and news analysst, George Hamilton Coombs as guest speaker. The meeting will be held in the Piccadilly Hotel, here.

Waters, Rosen Promoted

Weldon Waters, Albany, N. Y., manager for 20th Century-Fox, has succeeded Herman R. Beiersdorf, who resigned recently as Pittsburgh branch manager to join Eagle-Lion as district manager covering Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans. Joe Rosen, a New Jersey salesman from 20th-Fox's New York exchange, replaces Waters in Albany.

Rename WAA Unit

To avoid confusion in the public mind between the regional War Assests Administration office of information, which primarily serves the press, and the regional sales information office, which serves buyers, the latter office has been renamed the customer service division. It handles many items used in the film business.

Gidaell Back to Para.

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Sidney Gidaell, former assistant to Cecil B. DeMille, has rejoined Paramount as a producer after an absence of a year, during which he produced two films for Columbia.

Edinson Joins PRC

Julius (Red) Edinson, formerly with Essaness Theatres, Chicago, has been named exploiteer for PRC in the Minneapolis area, by Arnold Stoltz, director of advertising-publicity.

Reviews

"Lady in the Lake"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood. Nov. 26

NOVELIST Raymond Chandler's private detective, Phillip Marlowe, portrayed by Dick Powell in "Murder, My Sweet," and by Humphrey Bogart in "The Big Sleep," is enacted this time by Robert Montgomery in a film that contains all the elements of those other successes plus a distinct novelty of handling which is something the fans will talk about whether exhibitors do so in their exploitation or not. "Lady In the Lake" is, therefore, in the opinion of this addict of the Chandler melodrama, better than its predecessors by the margin of that additional novelty. It is a cinch to do top business where melodrama is what the customers buy.

The novelty consists in the fact that Montgomery, who also directed the picture, appears as Marlowe only in the opening sequence and briefly at intervals thereafter, being present the rest of the while as the camera is present, with the result of making the audience seem to occupy the position of the detective. To clear that up a bit, the camera moves into and out of scenes as the detective would be seen to do if he were seen, sees what he would see and speaks, in Montgomery's voice, as he is supposed to speak. This device, expertly maneuvered by cinematographer Paul C. Vogel, has the effect of making the audience seem to be in fact the detective, and a most successful device it is for intensifying interest and suspense.

Chandler's story, from a script by Steve Fisher, is laid in Los Angeles and surrounding areas, and concerns a secretary to a wealthy publisher, a body found in a lake near San Bernardino, a tough cop, various others, and the detective's adventures in finding out who murdered the dead woman and her identity. It's not a story for telling in a synopsis—being a Chandler plot, full of twists—but it is very much a story for seeing.

Montgomery plays Marlowe a little less bloodily than Powell and Bogart played him, but no less forcefully, and he has the able assistance of Lloyd Nolan as the tough cop, Audrey Totter as the publisher's secretary, Tom Tully as a police captain, Leon Ames as the publisher, and several other players who turn in fine performances. Production by George Haight is perhaps the best he has done.

Running time, 105 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Wake Up and Dream"

(20th Century-Fox)

SEVERAL years ago, Robert Nathan published a gentle, fanciful little novel entitled "The Enchanted Voyage." It told of a middle-aged dreamer's adventurous escape from prosaic reality. The man built a sailboat-with-wheels and sailed out of his back yard on long, happy overland journey. "Wake Up and Dream," produced in eye-filling Technicolor by Walter Morosco, and directed by Lloyd Bacon, is a considerably augmented screen version of Nathan's book. The original has been expanded by script writer Elick Moll to include John Payne-June Haver heart interest, songs, a river, and a berth for precocious, wistful-eyed little Connie Marshall. Added to this star strength are Charlotte Greenwood, Clem Bevans and a host of other competent performers.

Bevans plays a somewhat older dreamer, and he has for company on his partly-overland, mostly-waterways sailboat voyage Miss Haver (who seems a little too glamorous-looking in the role of a small-town waitress), John Ireland, who plays an eccentric young would-be dentist who hitches the ride, and Miss Marshall, who regards the unplanned voyage (an unexpected gale carries the occupied wheeled vessel out of Bevans' back yard and on its way) as a searching trip for her farmer-boy brother, Payne, who had been reported missing-in-action with the Navy. The craft ultimately becomes stranded in an isolated Louisiana bayou, and its occupants almost despair of receiving help when they are rescued by a Coast Guard searching party which has been joined by Payne who had escaped death in the Pacific and returned home. Miss Marshall believes that actually she and her friends have found her brother in the bayou.

This whimsical, occasionally comical, but inherently slow-moving film lapses a bit too frequently into long sieges of uninspired dialogue designed to air the homespun philosophies of its characters, and Miss Marshall's histrionic abilities are somewhat too obviously directed toward tugging at the customers' hearts. However, on the credit side we have generally pleasing performances by all (with Bevans' eccentricities and Miss Greenwood's sarcasms providing laughs), and some very acceptable singing by Payne and Miss Haver, both starry-eyed in love. Top tune: "Give Me the Simple Life."

Running time, 92 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Silver Range"

(Monogram)

Hollywood. Nov. 26

HIS fans demand a certain standard from films starring Johnny Mack Brown, and this one, unfortunately, falls below that standard. J. Benton Cheney's original screenplay is the same old stuff: this time a tale of silver smugglers operating on the Mexican border. In the course of their nefarious pursuits, they kidnap an elderly rancher. His daughter, portrayed with a singular lack of conviction and talent by Jan Bryant, calls in a range detective who, with his partner, tracks down and exposes the criminals.

Lambert Hillyer's direction lacks verve. Charles J. Bigelow supervised. In the supporting cast are such familiar Western players as I. Stanford Jolley, Terry Frost, Eddie Parker, Ted Adams and Frank LaRue.

Running time, 53 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 16.

THALIA BELL

Tax Fight Over, 3 Theatres Reopen

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 26.—The three theatres in Sedalia, Mo., whose population is 6,000, closed for three months because of a dispute with the City Council, have reopened. The dispute started when the council placed a five per cent tax on theatre's receipts. The owners, terming the tax "exhorbitant and discriminatory" closed their houses in protest. Last week the council rescinded the ordinance. By agreement the three houses will pay a occupational tax of one cent on each ticket.

Ginger Rogers in Ohio

CINCINNATI, Nov. 26.—Ginger Rogers, star of the Universal release, "Magnificent Doll," will make a personal appearance at Keith's Theatre here, tonight, a day before the film opens as a territorial premiere at the formal reopening of this house as a Universal theatre. Admission to the performance Wednesday will be by contributions of $5, $10 or $15 to the War Nurses' National Memorial Fund. The Keith is Universal's first "showcase" acquisition outside of New York.

Britannica Elects

CHICAGO, Nov. 26.—C. Scott Fletcher, executive director of the Committee for Economic Development, has been elected president of Encyclopedia Britannica Films, Inc., to succeed E. H. Powell. Other executives include: Dr. V. C. Arnspiger, executive vice-president; Dr. Melvin Brodshaug, vice-president in charge of research; James A. Brill, vice-president in charge of production; H. R. Lissak, vice-president in charge of domestic sales, and Dr. Theodore M. Switz, vice-president in charge of foreign sales.

New Philco Dividend

PHLADELPHIA, Nov. 26. — The board of directors of Philco Corp. has declared the regular quarterly dividend of 93¾ cents per share on the preferred stock, series A. The dividend is payable on Jan. 1, to stockholders of record on Dec. 14. The board also declared a dividend of 20 cents per share on the common stock payable on Dec. 12, to stockholders of record on Nov. 30.

Mrs. Erdmann Dies

CLEVELAND, Nov. 26.—Mrs. George W. Erdmann, wife of the secretary of the Cleveland Motion Picture Exhibitors Association, died suddenly of heart attack Friday, at her home in Cleveland Heights. Besides her husband she is survived by a son, George Jr. and a daughter, Florence.

Harper with M-G-M

CLEVELAND, Nov. 26.—Dick Harper will cover the river territory for M-G-M, succeeding Lou Marks who has been appointed district re-print and foreign film sales representative for the company.

Unusual Films Chartered

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 26.—Unusual Films, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct business in New York.

Filming Is Up On the Coast, Despite Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26.—Despite the tangled labor situation, production activity has increased at Hollywood studios. While two films were completed, work started on seven, and the shooting index rose from 38 to 43; production scene follows:

Columbia

Started: "The Swordsman," with Larry Parks, Ellen Drew, George Macready, Edgar Buchanan; "Stranger from Ponca City," with Charles Starrett, Smiley Burnette, Virginia Hunter.

Shooting: "Blondie's Holiday," "King of the Wild Horses," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Eagle-Lion

Finished: "Amy Comes Across."

Enterprise

Finished: "Arch of Triumph."
Shooting: "The Other Love."

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "A Love Story," "The Birds and the Bees," "Undercover Maisie," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge," "Cynthia's Secret" (Formerly "The Personal Touch").

Monogram

Shooting: "Fall Guy," "Drifting Through," "The Guilty" (Wrather).

Paramount

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl."

PRC

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Started: "Seven Keys to Baldpate," with Phillip Terry, Jacqueline White, Eduardo Ciannelli, Margaret Lindsay.

Shooting: "Build My Gallows High," "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw," "Magic Town" (Riskin); "The Long Night" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser.)

Republic

Shooting: "Wyoming," "Gallant Man," "Nelson Eddy Production."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "Jewels of Brandenburg" (Wurtzel) with Richard Travis, Micheline Cheirel, Leonard Strong.

Shooting: "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights."

United Artists

Shooting: "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg).

Universal-International

Started: "Time Out of Mind," with Phyllis Calvert, Robert Hutton, Ella Raines, Eddie Albert; "Buck Privates Come Home," with Abbott and Costello, Tom Brown, Beverly Simmons, Nat Pendleton.

Shooting: "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "Dark Passage," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night unto Night."

Reviews

"The Mighty McGurk"

(*Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer*)

Hollywood, Nov. 26

A REMAKE of "The Champ," which M-G-M filmed in 1931, with gratifying results at the box-office, this later version promises less well than its predecessor. True, there is Wallace Berry in the title role, as he was in the initial film, and young Dean Stockwell replaces Jackie Cooper as the orphan boy who adopts the ex-heavyweight champion of the world. For added marques value, there are the names of Edward Arnold and Aline MacMahon, the latter, as always, in an outstanding performance. On the whole, however, the story has not worn well, and the sentiment is laid on with a trowel rather than a teaspoon.

The setting is the Bowery, at the turn of the century, and the characters, for the most part, the flotsam and jetsam of that neighborhood. Berry, employed as a bouncer at a locale cafe, by a series of circumstances finds himself saddled with a small English orphan, an immigrant just off the boat. He keeps the lad with him, in the hope that the child's uncle will reward him for his pains. The remainder of the story, by William R. Lipman, Grant Garrett and Harry Clork, deals, chiefly with the bouncer's growing affection for the child, and the consequent alteration of his character. There is also a romance in minor key between the saloon-keeper's daughter and a young captain in the Salvation Army. These latter roles are played by Dorothy Patrick and Cameron Mitchell. Direction, by John Waters, is a trifle heavy-handed. Nat Perrin's production stresses the local color inherent in the period and setting.

Running time, 87 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 18.

T. B.

"The Return of Monte Cristo"

(*Columbia*)

THE adventuresome freedom-loving aristocrat, Edmond Dantes, known to us more recognizably as the Count of Monte Cristo, is back again, this time in the guise of a grand-nephew of the late Count who must undergo the tortures, the trials, the cruelty visited upon his illustrious ancestor before he recoups his rightful inheritance. In the course of the years, the Count has built up a respectably-sized following and his fans will now have an opportunity to watch the cinematic strivings of the heir. Box-office potential of the film on the strength of the story alone is a matter largely of chance, but with Louis Hayward giving a smooth performance in a difficult role it will probably set the coins jingling in the till.

Hayward, the heir who is swindled out of his inheritance at the beginning of the picture and is sent to Devil's Island, reappears in France by tricking his way off the island and from that point on is called upon to assume several disguises in order to win back his fortune and avenge the death of his friend, played by Henry Stephenson. Barbara Britton is charmingly fetching as the stepdaughter of Ray Collins, one of the conspirators. The other conspirators in the plot are George Macready, as a vicious police commissioner and suitor for the hand of the innocent Miss Britton, and Ludwig Donath, as a spineless judge. Add applause for Steven Geary as the anti-monarchist actor who assists Hayward. The only item missing in this screenplay, written by George Bruce and Alfred Neuman, from a story by Curt Siodmak and Arnold Phillips, is swordplay. Grant Whytock produced and Henry Levin directed.

Running time, 91 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Sweetheart of Sigma Chi"

(*Monogram*)

Hollywood, Nov. 26

THE names of Phil Regan, Elyse Knox, Tom Harmon, the Slim Gaillard Trio and Frankie Carle and his orchestra give showmen an exploitation means of interesting the so numerous members of the junior generation in this college story with music, which figures, therefore, to cut more box-office ice than most offerings in its category. When it's musical—which means when the Gaillard combo is at white heat, or Carle is caressing the ivories, or Regan is singing a song—it's a brightly entertaining picture, and when the trite tale about gangsters trying to fix a boat-race is being dealt with there is always the next tuneful interlude to look forward to. There are seven such interludes in the film.

The scene is a fictitious college, co-educational, which has a rowing team coached by Harmon, and is located hard by a soft-drink nightclub operated by Regan, whose brother is a student. Racketeer pals of his earlier years attempt to get Regan to fix things so the home crew will lose, but their sinister aims are frustrated in a manner suitable to the need. While this is going on in the background, there is romance and a reasonable amount of comedy in the foreground.

Jeffrey Bernerd produced the picture, and Jack Bernhard directed it, from a screenplay by Michael Jacoby, based on an original story by George Waggner. "Five Minutes More," "Cement Mixer" and "Penthouse Serenade" are among the songs sung.

Running time, 75 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 21.

W. R. W.

Receipts Level Off in the West: Nace

Enabled by the return of "the element of predictability" following the closing down of military installations in Arizona and a general return to normal conditions, Arizona exhibitors can estimate once again the probable gross of a motion picture by pre-war standards, according to Harry Nace, Jr., district manager for Paramount-Nace Theatres of Phoenix as well as an independent theatre operator.

Nace, who was in New York recently, with his assistant buyer-booker, Vincent Murphy, to discuss plans for designing and rehabilitating Paramount-Nace theatres with new fronts and interiors, said that exhibitors can formulate their judgments of potential gross by such factors as the size of production, story, stars, etc.

"We know that an 'A' picture can again do just so much and a 'nervous A' slightly less," Nace explained, pointing out that pictures "are falling into their particular slots now that the air forces have vacated." The day when any film shown in Arizona drew good business, no matter what it was, is gone, he added.

Rehabilitate Nace Houses

Rehabilitation of the four Paramount-Nace theatres, three of which are in Phoenix and one in Tucson, awaits the go-ahead from the Civilian Production Administration, Nace declared. For his own theatres, Nace said, he plans nothing in the way of modernization at present.

Commenting on the proposal for auction-booking, Nace said: "Naturally, I don't like auction booking. It is impractical in our business. No two theatres are alike and, moreover, competition in our territory isn't as terrific as it is in the East."

In the past four or five years, Nace observed, admission prices, generally, "have been raised only about 15 per cent." He is not considering any boost. He said: "The motion picture theatre was built for the masses and should be kept for them."

Asked if he expected theatres to return to the practice of giveaways, bingo and dish nights, now that business has leveled off, Nace said that they would probably be back. "We don't use them now, but—," he added.

Judgment for ASCAP In Washington State

A declaratory judgment finding that the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers had complied with provisions of a Washington state law, requiring that ASCAP and similar organizations file a list of copyrighted works with state officials, has been granted by Judge J. F. Wright of the Circuit Court of Washington, the organization announced here yesterday.

The society and several copyright holders and publishers brought suit in Thurston County court in Jan., 1942, asking for the judgment so that they could legally collect fees for the use of their copyrighted musical compositions, by radio stations, theaters, restaurants and other groups.

Committee Named To Honor Rose

Additional executives were named here yesterday to committees to honor Billy Rose, producer, at the 1946 dinner of the amusement and allied industries division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies of New York, on Dec. 12 at the Hotel Pierre, here. Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, is division chairman.

Vice-chairmen are: Matthew Fox, Emil Friedlander, Henry Jaffe, Eugene Picker, Rose, Fred Schwartz and Nate B. Spingold.

Members of the division executive committee are: Jack Bregman, Jack Robbins, Harry Brandt, Si Fabian, Sam Rosen, Leopold Friedman, Leonard Goldenson, William Klein, Sam Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Murray Silverstone, Walter Reade, Jr., and Benjamin S. Moss.

Other Participants

Others participating in the drive are: Ben Sherman, Edward N. Rugoff, Budd Rogers, Alfred W. Schwalberg, Lawrence Langner, Marcus Heiman, Emanuel Sacks, and Herman Starr. Also: Jack Alicoate, Martin Quigley, Nat Kalcheim, Robert Weitman, William Brandt, Arthur L. Mayer, David Weinstock, Max A. Cohen, Leo Brecher.

Also: Abe Schneider, Max Seligman, Eugene Arnstein, Dan Michalove, Irving Greenfield, Joseph Vogel, Nat Furst, Arthur Israel, Lou Novins, Ed Hyman, Harry Thomas, Ralph Poucher, Charles Boasberg, Sol Schwartz, Sumner Bernstein, Harry Mandel, Edward Schnitzer, Joseph H. Seidelman, Sam Machnovitch, Adolph Schimel, Samuel Schneider, Harold Rodner and Sam Shain.

Explain Contract

(*Continued from page* 1)

the CMPDA, has been in effect in the United States for years.

The dispute hinges on provisions for percentage films, with a protest committee of the exhibitors association claiming that the new clause gives distributors the right to share in confection sales, sub-rentals of real estate and other theatre revenue during a participating engagement. The committee is headed by N. A. Taylor, head of 20th Century Theatres, an affiliate of Famous Players Canadian Corp.

In its reply, however, the distributors' spokesman said there is no intention on the part of film companies to collect percentages on confections and other subsidiary receipts during a participating run.

With regard to the plan for auditing the exhibitor's books and records, the answer was that the procedure was to be followed by distributors during a period when complete operation records are required by the government.

Altec Anniversary Dec. 5

George L. Carrington, president of Altec, arrived in New York yesterday, for a two weeks business trip during which he will preside at the ninth anniversary meeting of the Altec board of directors on Dec. 5 in the motion picture field.

'The Yearling'

(*Continued from page* 1)

about doing that. But why should you be? You're in business to make money, aren't you?

And make money for you "The Yearling" will. It will make friends for you, too. It is one of those rare pictures, so good in both quality and box office strength, that it deserves a special playing policy. The exhibitor who does not consider extra playing time, choice dates and even increased admission scales for it, may well be doing himself and his theatre a disservice.

It is said that M-G-M made this picture more than once, discarding the earlier efforts because it was not satisfied with the results, largely with the handling of the all-important juvenile role. The wait and the effort which finally produced this distinguished picture surely were worthwhile.

"The Yearling" is based on the Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' Pulitzer Prize novel of several years ago. To it has been brought the exquisite craftsmanship of Clarence Brown, producer; Sidney Franklin, director; Paul Osborn, who fashioned the screen play; superb camera work and the best talents of a fine cast. It is craftsmanship and talent that are on the same plane with Pulitzer Prize, or any other kind, of prize material.

IT is the story of a family, three in number, and their struggle for existance in the lush Florida wilderness, against the wild things of the forest that in a single foray can destroy a whole winter's meat supply; against the relentless elements that in a few days can wash out and rot the fruits of a season of hard labor, the growing food on which the lives of the family and its farm animals depend. Even more than that, it is the story of a boy becoming a man; a boy who, despite the love and understanding and patience which rule his home, and despite his isolation from human kind of his own age which has made him more a child of nature than of civilization, inevitably confronts the painful trial that leaves him more man than boy.

An almost idyllic comradeship exists between Peck, as Pa Baxter, and Claude Jarman, as Jody, the son. The mother, played by Miss Wyman, has been sobered by the endless drudgery of the farm and warped by grieving for three children who have died. She denies Jody her permission to bring any of the wild creatures of the forest, his only companions, into the home as a pet to ease his loneliness.

There is a day when the father is bitten by a rattler and shoots a doe that the son may remove the heart and liver from the animal to draw the venom from the wound. A fawn was left beside the dead doe and when the father recovers, the boy wins permission to search for the fawn and bring it to the home as the long desired pet.

The boy and the fawn become inseparable. The animal learns something of domestication from the boy and the boy much more of the wilderness from the fawn. There are scenes of genuine beauty and spectacularly fine photography as boy and fawn run through the countryside together and deer unseen by them race with the strange pair, with the rhythm of poetry in their graceful movements, caught by the camera.

THE deer grows quickly, soon becomes a yearling with an appetite now for tender green shoots rather than milk. Once it destroys a "money crop" of tobacco plant shoots on which rested the hopes of the family for the wherewithal to provide a much needed well. Again it devours the young corn which must be planted anew. A bargain is struck. If the boy replants the corn field and builds about it a log fence too high for the yearling to hurdle, he may keep his pet but if another crop is destroyed he must rid himself of it. The field is replanted, the fence built, but the yearling hurdles it and destroys another crop.

The boy is unable to shoot his pet, as he had been ordered to do. He leads it to the forest and turns it loose and when it follows him home it is shot by the mother, but only wounded. The father orders the boy to finish it off. He obeys, but turning on them in anguish and hatred, reviles them and runs into the forest. He follows the course of a stream until, exhausted, he falls into a small boat which is carried by the current to the river where he is rescued after three days, near starvation. The lesson of the eternal struggle for existence learned, the boy understands why the yearling that could not be restrained from destroying the family's means of substance, itself had to be destroyed.

He returns to the farm home, no longer a boy.

Mention needs to be made of another juvenile, Donn Gift, who plays the crippled fey-like boy of the neighboring family, close to the things of nature and filled with bright, exciting visions. His is a bright gem embedded in the brilliant whole. Other members of the Forrester family are colorfully played by Chill Wills, Margaret Wycherly, Forrest Tucker and Clem Bevans. Henry Travers, Jeff York and June Lockhart contribute good bit parts.

Listed as directors of the exceptional photography are Charles Rosher, Leonard Smith and Arthur Arling.

Running time, 134 minutes. General classification. Release date, not set.

SHERWIN KANE

Crosley Names Callahan

CINCINNATI, Nov. 26.—Walter Callahan, executive assistant to James D. Shouse, president of Crosley Broadcasting Co., has been appointed vice-president of WLW Transcriptions, Inc., a new division of Crosley.

Leistikow to RKO Radio

DENVER, Nov. 26. — Edwin C. Leistikow, assistant booker for Paramount, here, has been named office manager of the RKO exchange, Sioux Falls, effective Dec. 1. He is succeeded at Paramount by Don Foster.

Latin Theatres

(*Continued from page* 1)

Osserman said the major difficulties derive from the shortage of efficient equipment, the condition of antiquated machinery in use, the low standard of living, which is reflected in the low admission prices, and the poor situation in theatres.

Although predicting a "great future" for 16mm. pictures and pointing out that RKO now has about 50 films ready for distribution, RKO is actively engaged in negotiations for 35mm theatres, Osserman stated. Because of the local situations, he added in allusion to restrictive legislation by many South American countries, RKO is encouraging local capital to go along with it on its deals.

As another indication of RKO's role in spurring the Latin American industry, Osserman revealed that while the company is not in the equipment business, it has been instrumental in having many dual-operation machines shipped there as a service to the exhibitors.

Osserman, who expects to return to Rio de Janeiro about the second week in January, said RKO distribution of Spanish and French pictures in Latin America, its first venture in this field, will get under way shortly, with six films, plus Rene Clair's "Golden Silence," now in production. He added that pictures being filmed in Mexico for strictly Latin American exhibition are "Five Came Back," "Hat, Coat and Glove" and "Winterset" and that John Steinbeck's "The Pearl" and John Ford's "The Fugitive" are in process for the bi-lingual market.

Film Auction

(*Continued from page* 1)

the winning bid will be disclosed to the losing theatre.

Decision to hold the auction came after a dispute between the two houses over which should have prior run. Until now the Palace has had clearance over the Annetta and has been playing in the first week of general release, or 13 weeks after Loop runs, while the Annetta has been playing in the second week of general release or 14 weeks after Loop runs.

The Bartelsteins claim they are willing to pay more for the films than the Palace and should receive clearance over the Palace. The dispute has ramifications reaching into the New York anti-trust suit, with Seymour Simon of the Schradzke and Gould law firm, Chicago, petitioning the New York court to file a brief as *amicus curiae* for the Palace. It is understood that the Palace's motive is to ask that if the auction method becomes a reality, it be conducted under auspices of the Government rather than under the auspices of distributors.

7,000 SAG Members in Academy Balloting

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 26. — Although final voting for Academy Awards to actors will be limited to Academy members, in keeping with the new general rule inaugurated this year, all members of the Screen Actors Guild, numbering about 7,000, will participate in making the nominations, by ballot, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences announced today following a meeting of the executive committee actors branch.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 106 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29, 1946 TEN CENTS

MR. JOYCE O'HARA,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.

Nine-Months' Earnings up By Over 100%

Eight Companies' Total Net Near $100,000,000

Film company net earnings, mounting generally to an all-time high, have reached a total of $93,437,342 for the first three quarters of their present fiscal year, which is more than double the corresponding figure for a year earlier, a survey of current financial reports discloses.

After deducting allowances for Federal taxes and all other charges, the $93,437,342 net profit of the eight companies issuing financial reports for the nine months ended, in most instances, with this past Septem-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Dividends at An All-Time High

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Film stock dividends reached an all-time high in September, amounting to $9,003,000, three times the sum paid by industry companies in Sept., 1945.

Indicating one of the biggest earning years in history for the industry, dividend payments during the third quarter of 1946 reached $12,008,000: third quarter payments in 1945 amounted to $5,002,000.

Compared with the $9,003,000 Sept., 1946, payments, the Sept., 1945, totaled only $3,009,000.

Kalmenson to Hold 7 Field Meetings

Seven regional conferences on current conditions and forthcoming product will be conducted by Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warners, starting tomorrow, in Atlanta. Division sales managers, district managers and branch managers in the respective areas will attend the meetings.

Following the Atlanta conference, sessions will be held in Dallas, on Dec. 5; Los Angeles, Dec. 9; Kansas

(*Continued on page 7*)

Johnston to Lead Quota Fight in Int'l Trade Bid

The Motion Picture Association's participation in the preliminary discussions and hearings which will lay the groundwork for the establishment next year of reciprocal trade agreements between the U. S. and 18 nations, will find MPA president Eric Johnston personally leading the American industry's bid to the State Department for sweeping reductions of film quotas abroad against U. S. product.

Johnston, who will return to New York from London tomorrow, is expected to launch the preparation of briefs and applications for submission to the Department's division of com-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Compromise is Seen In UA-Selznick Row

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28. — Sources close to David O. Selznick yesterday credited the belief that United Artists' board of directors, meeting in New York tomorrow, will seek to compromise in the inter-mural dispute centering around the company's charges of breach of contract by producer-partner Selznick, because of UA reluctance to relinquish distribution of Selznick's "Duel In the Sun." Harmony therefore may develop at

(*Continued on page 5*)

First Capital Meet For MPA on Dec. 11

Washington, Nov. 28.—The next quarterly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Motion Picture Association will be held in Washington on Wednesday, Dec. 11, Kenneth Clark, public relations representative for Eric Johnston, discloses.

It will be the first MPA board meeting to be held in Washington.

Foreign Firms Shun 'Big Board' Offer

British and other foreign film companies are being slow to take advantage of liberalized requirements for listing their securities on the New York Stock Exchange, an official of the Stock Exchange has reported here. Although the new rules, lifting a number of restrictions, were published on Oct. 3, no applications for listings have been received as yet.

Chief among the changes in the requirements are: elimination of the rule that the currency of the country in which the applicant is located must be on a gold basis; opening of the door to listing foreign shares in the form of their original certificates, provided these are fully negotiable, and acceptance of even small companies where they are international in character

Light Beam Will Replace Cable in Video: DuMont

WASHINGTON, Nov. 28.—Transmission of pictures and sound by way of a light wave instead of coaxial cables or radio beams, a new development claimed to revolutionize television broadcasting, was revealed here Wednesday evening by Dr. T. T. Goldsmith, director of research of the Allen B. Du Mont Laboratories of Passaic, N. J., at a meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers. The new development, named "photovision" by its inventor, Dr. Du Mont, operates in light or darkness, transmits color as well as black and white images, and is free of interferences inherent in radio.

Describing the new invention as a boon to network television broadcasting, Dr. Goldsmith disclosed that the company in the near future will demonstrate the transmission of sound and pictures over a distance of five miles.

Whereas the recently announced all-electronic color television system will operate on so-called ultra high frequencies, he pointed out, the transmission by light beams would be 600,000,000,000 cycles per second. This high-intensity energy source eliminates shadow effects or "ghost images," he added.

Dr. Goldsmith said that photovision will not work satisfactorily in fog, but maintained that this is only a temporary obstacle. One of the possibilities inherent in the new system, he declared, is a method of transmitting television programs from a central transmitter to motion picture theatres for showing on theatre television screens.

Big Jump Due In Pre-decree Auction Sales

Companies Adopt Plan For Dispute Situations

Although exhibitor organizations from all over the country have flooded the three-judge statutory Federal Court in the industry anti-trust suit with objections to the competitive-bidding method of selling films, as outlined in its June 11 decision, and although the five decree distributors have placed before the court an alternative method for consideration in the drafting of its forthcoming decree, the film companies are understood to be planning to institute so-called "auction" sales in many com-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Post-deadline Brief Filing Is Denied

Indications that Judges Augustus Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright are too far advanced with their work on a final decree in the industry anti-trust suit to consider further *amicus curiae* briefs was given on Wednesday, when they denied a motion for the filing of one on behalf of James Booth's Palace Theatre, Cicero, Ill.

Following the close of decree arguments in Federal District Court here on Oct. 24, the judges allowed a 10-day period for the filing of further

(*Continued on page 7*)

Eagle-Lion Sales Meeting Tomorrow

Sales supervisors of Eagle-Lion Films will start arriving in New York today for a series of meetings to discuss sales plans and policies, to be held at the Warwick Hotel, tomorrow and Sunday, with A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, presiding.

E-L sales representatives present will be L. E. Goldhammer, West Coast; Mark Raymon, Kansas City; Harry Mandell, Chicago; Herman Beiersdorf, Dallas; Joseph Minsky, Philadelphia; R. L. McCoy, Atlanta;

(*Continued on page 7*)

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

THE motion picture industry has a two-fold interest in the current innovation of railroading which eliminates the necessity of businessmen and others of standing in line for train reservations. The Pere Marquette and the Chesapeake and Ohio lines have both adopted the system whereby a traveler simply telephones his local railroad station, reserves a coach or Pullman seat, boarding the train later and paying while on the way to his destination.

Film-industry interest in this startling innovation in railroading comes, firstly, from the extensive traveling done by film-folk, and, secondly, from the fact that the idea stems from the brain of one Robert R. Young, stormy petrel of American railroading, whose railroad money is four-square behind Pathe, PRC Pictures and their various film affiliates.

Not overlooked in the pay-as-you-go plan, it is understood, are the old days of train holdups, and, to guard against them, the Young interests are installing a strong safe in one car of each train (we won't tell which one), in which a trainman can deposit the potential thousands of dollars collected on a trip. Armored cars will collect at each terminal.

▽

Paul L'Anglais's Quebec Productions has commenced production at St, Hyacinthe, Quebec from where it is broadcasting temptations to Hollywood talent, via the trade press, to join the company — Paul Lukas is already up there.

"Hollywood executives," says the company, "working on Quebec Production's first film, are glad to be in picturesque French Canada. It's not only the scenery that rejoices their hearts," Quebec continues, "but the whipped cream and plank steaks which are available any day and all day."

"Lukas is worried about his waistline," the company adds, "since he has been living in St. Hyacinthe."

▽

Newsreels earlier this week contained scenes of a flying laboratory at the Army Ordnance Proving Ground at White Sands, New Mexico. The rocket was fired 65 miles into the air, and a 35mm motion picture camera in it automatically filmed the earth's surface at altitudes from 100 feet to 65 miles high, from which distance the camera took pictures of an area of 5,500,000 square miles, from San Diego to Salt Lake City, and Kansas City to San Antonio.

The rocket reached the 65-mile height in three minutes, traveling at a maximum velocity of 4,000 feet per second. When the warhead containing scientific instruments was severed by an explosive charge, on its way downward, the camera was blown clear about 25,000 feet above the earth. Equipment from the rocket was scattered over an area of five square miles, and while the camera was also destroyed, the film-magazine, made with one-inch walls of armored steel, was not.

Personal Mention

SPYROS P. SKOURAS, president of 20th Century-Fox, has returned to New York after a week on the Coast.

•

GENE BIRKHAHN, Motion Picture Export Association managing director for Bulgaria, will leave Baltimore today for Europe by steamer.

•

JAMES POPE, Memphis office manager for Columbia, and MRS. POPE are parents of a daughter, born at Baptist Hospital, Memphis.

•

STANLEY W. HIGGINSON, general manager for Warners in Australia, is en route to Sydney by steamer from San Francisco.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount Northeastern and Southern division sales manager, is due to return here today from Boston.

•

E. T. (TEDDY) CARR, executive of the J. Arthur Rank Organization in London, has arrived in New York.

•

NAT D. FELLMAN, Warner Theatres executive, and MRS. FELLMAN, are en route to Florida from New York.

•

RICHARD LLEWELLYN, British author, has returned to the M-G-M studios after a European tour.

•

WILLIS DAVIS, Georgia theatre executive, has gone from Atlanta to Florida on a fishing trip.

•

ROBERT O'DONNELL, general manager of Interstate Theatres, Dallas, has arrived in Hollywood.

•

L. J. PATTON, engineering supervisor for Altec, has returned to New York from Detroit.

•

PHIL LONGDON, 20th Century-Fox district manager, has been visiting in Memphis from Dallas.

•

HARRY PAUL, branch manager in Atlanta for Wil-Kin, has gone to Florida on business.

•

HAL MARSHALL, M-G-M Indianapolis exploiteer, has arrived in New York on vacation.

•

KEENAN WYNN and PETER LAWFORD are in New York from the Coast on vacation.

•

SAM LEOKOWITZ, Warner district manager, has been visiting in Albany.

•

JOE FELDLER of Favorite Films has left New York by plane for Hollywood.

JACK WARNER, Warners vice-president, LILLI PALMER, actress, and IAN C. JAVAL, managing director of Gaumont British, were scheduled to sail for Europe on the *Queen Elizabeth* this morning.

•

ALFRED KATZ, of the New York publicity firm of Friedberg and Katz, is due back in New York from Coast conferences, and will leave Dec. 3 for Mexico City.

•

GRADWELL L. SEARS, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, is scheduled to leave here today by plane for London.

•

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's vice-president and treasurer, left Hollywood by train for New York yesterday.

•

HOWARD DIETZ, Loew's vice-president, left Hollywood by plane for New York on Wednesday.

•

E. L. MARTIN, theatre relations manager of Alexander Films, Denver, has been visiting in Atlanta.

•

ADOLPHE MENJOU and his wife, VEREE TEASDALE, have arrived in New York from Hollywood.

•

R. V. GRABER, special representative of Monogram in New York, has been visiting in Atlanta.

•

CHARLIE MOORE of the Wil-Kin Supply Company, has returned to Atlanta from Chicago.

•

HERMAN TEMPLE has resigned from the RKO Radio art department here to join Warners.

•

JIM PARTLOW, Universal's Atlanta branch manager, has returned to that city from here.

•

BILL DUNBAR, of the Dawn Theatre, Knoxville, Tenn., was an Atlanta visitor this week.

•

PAUL ROBERTS has been named assistant manager of the Center Theatre, Hartford.

•

OTTO ESPOSITO has been appointed manager of the Capitol Theatre, Bridgeport.

•

BARNEY GERARD, Monogram producer, has left New York for the Coast.

•

JOHN PAXTON, screen writer, has returned here from a trip to England.

•

HOWARD REIF, Cleveland circuit owner, is in Miami.

Peckham To Manage For Film Classics

Ralph Peckham, formerly with Columbia's exchange in Philadelphia and branch manager for the same company in Omaha, has been named manager of Film Classics' exchange in Indianapolis, by Jules K. Chapman, assistant general manager.

Allied of Western Pa. Will Meet Jan. 22-23

PITTSBURGH, Nov. 28.—The new dates of Jan. 22-23 have been set for the 26th annual convention of Allied Theatre Owners of Western Pennsylvania, with a banquet to be held on the evening of Jan. 23, both events to be held at the William Penn Hotel.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTAG ou films

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

PARAMOUNT PRESENTS
"Two Years Before The Mast"
Starring ALAN LADD
Brian DONLEVY William BENDIX
Barry FITZGERALD
RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St. - Doors Open at 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
MARK HELLINGER presents
ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S 'THE KILLERS'
In Person
Ralph SLATER
(World's Greatest Hypnotist)
THE MURTAH SISTERS
plus OTHERS

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The BEST thing that ever happened . . is
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

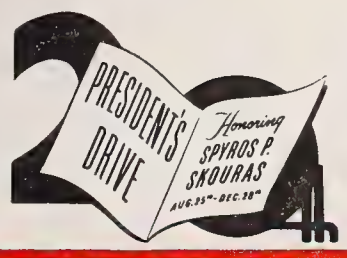
William H. Lancaster, 34

Funeral services will be held here today for William H. Lancaster, 34, who died last Friday at the home of his brother, Burt Lancaster, screen star, at Malibu Beach, Cal.

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THE BIGGEST WEEK IN THE HISTORY OF THE MOTION PICTURE BUSINESS! "THE RAZOR'S EDGE" AT THE ROXY, N.Y. SMASHES EVERY KNOWN RECORD FOR ANY PICTURE, ANY THEATRE, ANY WEEK, ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD!

(And the greatest audience reaction of any picture ever to play the Roxy!)



CENTURY-FOX

'Hopalongs' to Get Percentage Gross

Strongly critical of poor production techniques displayed in the "average" low-budget Western, which pays little attention to realism or fidelity and, thereby, creates a stigma which hovers over all Westerns, William Boyd and Lewis J. Rachmil, who have formed their own company to revive the Hopalong Cassidy series, revealed Wednesday that their distribution arrangement with United Artists not only has expanded the number and nature of bookings but also provides for a percentage of the gross in first-run houses. This is the first time, they claimed, that low-budget Westerns have been given a percentage.

Insisting that the generally limited reception accorded Westerns can be attributed to the fact that the average Western picture "seems to be made for children and for adults of children's intelligence," the co-producers, who now have the first five of the new series ready for exhibition, declared that they expect to reach 12,000 theatres with their films and securing better dates.

Boyd and Rachmil both said that by cutting overhead costs and other efficiencies, they have been able to hold the line on production costs. Comparing estimated costs of a Hopalong Cassidy picture in 1943, which involved about $123,000, with the amount it would take today, under the impact of an approximated 50 per cent increase, Rachmil said they have managed to maintain the 1943 expenditure.

Boyd filmed 54 "Hoppy" stories for Paramount before severing his relationship in 1943 over story lines. Rachmil pointed out that Boyd has not been on the screen for three years.

Their contract with UA, which runs for three years, provides for the distribution of six pictures annually.

Academy Ruling Delays 'Best Years'

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Due to a change in Academy Award rules eliminating the necessity of commercial screenings in Los Angeles inside a calendar year to attain eligibility, the roadshow run of "The Best Years of Our Lives," set for the Four Star Theatre, starting Dec. 11, has been cancelled on orders from producer Samuel Goldwyn in New York. The film will be screened seven times for Academy voters, as allowed under the new rules, instead, and will open here at an undesignated date following the holidays.

New WB 7-Year Pact For Joan Crawford

Joan Crawford has signed a new seven-year contract with Warners, it was announced here Wednesday by Jack L. Warner, vice-president and executive producer, prior to his sailing for Europe today. Miss Crawford is now vacationing in New York and will attend the premiere of her latest film, "Humoresque," at the Hollywood Theatre next month.

First W. B. '47 Release

First Warner release for 1947 will be "The Man I Love," set for general distribution starting Jan. 11.

Reviews

"The Secret Heart"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Nov. 28

WITH Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson, Lionel Barrymore and Robert Sterling to talk about on the marquee, and with the fact that it is a Robert Z. Leonard production, for mention as a guarantee of professional excellence, showmen hardly need wonder where to start in exploiting this drama, produced by Edwin H. Knopf. Almost anywhere is a good place. Whether to mention additionally that the film falls in the psychological category depends, of course, on how films of that bent have been standing up locally, but it is to be understood, in any case, that psychiatry in this case occupies a proper place in the story and is not dealt with in terms of shudder and shock. Mentioned or not as in the psychological vein, the film figures to pull strongly and to gratify the womenfolk particularly.

Miss Colbert plays the stepmother of a young lady (Miss Allyson) who worships the dim recollection of her father, who died years before in what she believes to have been an accidental fall, and she plays the piano in private for the departed parent, shunning other company. Pidgeon plays the father's friend, with whom the stepmother has been in love for years, but who has remained away from the family until the money embezzled by the dead husband (the cause of what actually was a suicide) has been restored through the widow's success in real estate. Barrymore is seen effectively as the psychiatrist whose advice to the stepmother leads, after complications involving three separate romances, to the cure of the daughter's neurosis. The story is well told, admirably acted, and contains material of interest to all age levels. The time is the present, and the psychiatric content is dealt with in terms understandable to everybody. Whitefield Cook and Anne Morrison Cjapin wrote the script, from a story by Rose Franken and William Brown Meloney.

Running time, 98 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Betty Co-ed"

(Columbia)

EXCLUSIVE, undemocratic college sororities are not nice, it is pointed out in this caricature of campus activities, produced by Sam Katzman and directed by Arthur Dreifuss (who also collaborated with George H. Plympton on the screenplay). There has been something of a dearth of "college" films lately, and, business-wise, that might well work in this one's favor; however, if the customers aren't willing to take "Betty Co-ed" with a grain of salt, the afore-mentioned possible advantage stands to be nullified. It is an unpretentious story about a snooty school run by absurdly snooty folk.

Socially-warped Upton College is where a pert, pretty carnival trouper, played by Jean Porter, matriculates. The mainspring of the institution (as far as the co-eds are concerned) is its sole sorority which is led by smug, "exclusive" lassies who make life pretty tough for any newcomer of lowly origin. Shirley Mills is satisfactorily hateful as the president of the sisterhood, who resorts to every imaginable unfair tactic to have Miss Porter expelled from the school. William Mason is passable as Miss Porter's heart interest; Rosemary LaPlanche does her best as the principal champion of the newcomer, and Jan Savitt and his orchestra appear in the final footage to accompany Miss Porter in some neat vocalizing that proves to the other undergraduates that show people are very desirable people after all.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 28.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Man from Morocco"

(Associated British-English Films)

MIXING enough realistic touches with the cloak-and dagger compound to enhance the plausibility of this action-filled story, "The Man from Morocco," an Associated British film produced by Warwick Ward, is a sincerely-conceived and exciting war story which has as its theme the assistance rendered the Allies by a dispirited and defeated band of volunteers who fought with the Spanish Republicans. Although the pace falters occasionally over an inadequately-realized love plot, this picture nevertheless holds up well against its Hollywood counterpart, cut from the same cloth, especially since the love angle serves as an implement for sustaining the action in spite of the fact that it receives equal emphasis with the main theme.

Anton Walbrook, who is familiar to American theatre-goers, gives a good account of himself in the role of a Czech lieutenant with the International Brigade. The story follows him from the retreat of the volunteers to France and internment in a French concentration camp. Aided by a sympathetic Army doctor, a "Free Frenchman," Walbrook escapes to England, his pre-war home, where he must deliver the names of 1,000 Free French in Africa who will aid the Allied invasion. The love angle involves Margaretta Scott, who gives a reserved performance as a Spanish noblewoman who falls in love with Walbrook, despite her antipathy to his cause at the beginning. Familiar to the American audience are Reginald Tate, as the pro-Vichy commandant of the concentration camp who, love-smitten, pursues Miss Scott.

Directed by Max Greene, the film is based on a story by Rudolph Cartier; it was adapted by Warwick Ward, the producer. Edward Dryhurst wrote the screenplay, with additional dialogue by Marguerite Steen.

Running time, 89 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Nov. 23.

IRVING KAPLAN

CBS Guild Pact Sets 22½% Raise

Salary increases of 22½ per cent, with allowances for earlier cost of living raises of approximately 12 per cent given voluntarily by Columbia Broadcasting, on Sept. 1, and an additional two-and-one-half per cent for individual merit increases and other cases deserving special consideration are among the terms of the new contract signed by CBS and the Radio Guild-United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, according to Frank K. White, CBS vice-president and treasurer.

The pact, which will expire Dec. 1, 1948, permits reopening of the wage clause after one year, with arbitration of any differences, and provides for maintenance of the present proportionate union membership in a compromise on the guild's original demand for a union shop.

Continuance of the 40-hour week and clauses of the old contract for vacation, sick leave and similar policies, except that an addtional week's vacation has been granted to employes who have been with the company more than five years, are also among the terms in the agreement.

Critics at Universal Railroad Premiere

The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad will hold what Universal describes as the first world premiere of a top motion picture aboard a regular passenger railroad train when it screens the new International Picture, "Temptation," a Universal release. The railroad premiere will be held on "The George Washington" on its regular run from Washington to Cincinnati, on Dec. 10.

As guests of the railroad for the premiere, 35 film critics from Washington, New York, Philadelphia, Norfolk, Richmond, Cincinnati, Chicago and Detroit are being invited to make the trip.

Curtiz Gets Talent for His New Company

Following their performances in Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," Michael Curtiz has signed Dana Andrews, Virginia Mayo and Cathy O'Donnell for the principal roles in his first independent production, "The Unsuspected," which will be released through Warner Brothers. The deal for the three has been in negotiation between Curtiz and Goldwyn for several weeks.

Dana Andrews is now in Vermont on a skiing vacation, Virginia Mayo is in St. Louis visiting her family and Cathy O'Donnell is in New York.

NBC's Sink QP's

National Broadcasting's basketball team defeated the Quigley Publications' quintet by a score of 39 to 18 in a game at the Rockefeller Center Institute gym, here, on Wednesday evening. The game was one of a series in the current Rockefeller Center tournament, Advertising Division.

Raskoff to Paramount

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Max L. Raskoff, former Goldwyn and Technicolor counsel, has joined the Paramount studio legal department.

Strike Grip Holds Firm on the Coast

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28. — Although the Producers' Labor Committee has been in session studying proposals from the Conference of Studio Unions for discussions preliminary to resumption of contract negotiations, the strike appeared destined to continue into next week without important change.

Among the major impediments to settlement, although infrequently mentioned, is the IATSE's stand against withdrawing replacement workers installed in jobs vacated by the strikers. Last year's strike entitled stand-by salary for replacements, amounting to $7,000,000.

The IATSE has maintained it will not withdraw workers under any terms this time.

Keenan Says Walsh, Sorrell Have Solution

CHICAGO, Nov. 28. — Joseph D. Keenan, secretary of the Chicago Federation of Labor, who served as arbiter of the Hollywood studio jurisdictional strike, said here following his recent return from Hollywood that settling of the strike could only be affected by bringing together the leader of each of the unions in the conflict, presumably meaning Richard Walsh of the IATSE, and Herbert Sorrell of the Conference of Studio Unions. Keenan said that on that basis he felt the strike could be settled in two weeks, or perhaps a month.

He said he still had not decided whether to accept the post of permanent arbiter which has been offered him at a salary of $25,000 per year.

Two Are Chartered At Albany, N. Y.

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 28.—Faustina Orner International, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in manuscripts, dramas, films and literature. Incorporators are: Rose Braverman, Montrose H. Mesaler, Ralph Cohn, all New York. Gins and Messler were incorporating attorneys.

Dixie Realty Corp. has also been incorporated to deal in realty and operate theatres and places of amusement. Groh and McCourt, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Tradeshow for 'Millions'

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has set a tradeshowing of "Dangerous Millions" for Dec. 6 in all exchange centers except Boston where the picture will be screened today, and Los Angeles on Friday. It Portland and Seattle it will be shown on Dec. 9.

'Reno' Shown Dec. 3

RKO Radio will hold a trade screening of "Vacation in Reno" on Dec. 3 in Boston and New Haven. The latter exchange will also have a trade showing of "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" on the same day.

'Clementine' Opens Tues.

"My Darling Clementine," 20th-Fox, will have its New York premiere at the Rivoli Theatre, here on Tuesday.

Cowen of Fabian's Cites Better Public Relations

ALBANY, N. Y., Nov. 28. — "Public relations in the motion picture business has become a much subtler proposition than it was years ago," declares Larry Cowen, upstate director of publicity for Fabian Theatres and managing director of Proctor's in Troy. "It is now more refined, more thorough and more intelligent. The days of the flamboyant press agent and of the loudly-dressed house manager are over. The effective film public relations man and the competent manager keep fingers on the pulse of the community and know its most sensitive reactions. Showmanship as it is practiced today requires these men to be an integral part of the community, not a colorful fringe of it."

Cowen has been a publicist and theatre manager for circuits in New York, Boston, Albany and Troy during the past 20 years, and is public relations director for the American Theatres Association in the Albany area.

"I arranged colorful exploitation stunts in the 'good old days'," said Cowen, "but I think the present quieter, subtler approaches pay off much better." Continued Cohen: "I do think that activity in veterans organizations—like the American Legion—and in service clubs—like the Kiwanis—is desirable for a theatreman. I work with both, the former on such things as Saturday matinee shows for orphan children and the latter on the recent presentation of the Broadway stage hit, 'Life With Father.' I also tie in with the schools and with Parent-Teacher Associations."

Cowen estimated that "three times as much money" is spent in advertising a motion picture now as formerly. "The newspapers, radio, magazines and display stands are among the media now used," he continued. "You also work through influential organizations, and the net result is incomparably better than in the 'stunt' era."

Kalmine, Robert Coyne, Ned Shugrue, Gil Nathanson, Nat Williams, Herman H. Hunt, William F. Crockett, J. J. O'Leary, Edward Lachman, Lee Newbury, Frederick Pride, Jack Alicoate, Ben Schlyn, Abel Green.

UA-Selznick Row

(*Continued from page* 1)

least on a temporary basis to accommodate this circumstance.

If this develops, it may affect the pending UA-Enterprise deal and oft-reported roadshow plans for "Arch of Triumph," unless Enterprise should seek court exception, thereby giving UA two roadshows in one year.

Mack Names Lambert Advertising Manager

CHICAGO, Nov. 28.—Stanley Lambert has been appointed advertising director of Filmack Corp. by Irving Mack, sales manager. The company's advertising department is being enlarged to handle both special trailers and the forthcoming prevue trailer service, according to Mack.

Lambert was formerly with Warner Theatres in Chicago and Wisconsin, and prior to joining Filmack was with Alexander Film Co. of Colorado Springs, Col.

Crouch on 'U' Series

William Forest Crouch, independent producer, and formerly with the Chicago bureau of Quigley Publications, is producing a series of "Juvenile Jury" short subjects, Edward L. McAvoy, 'U's' short subject sales manager, has set the first showing of the first reel for Sunday evening at Children's Village in Ardsley, Westchester County.

Carillo to Inauguration

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—Leo Carillo will fly to Mexico City with Gov. Earl Warren of California and Mayor Fletcher Bowron of Los Angeles to attend the inauguration, on Sunday, of Miguel Aleman as president of Mexico. Carillo then will report in the Mexican capital for work on "The Fugitive," which John Ford is making for release through RKO Radio.

British Short for U. S.

CHICAGO, Nov. 28. — International Film Bureau has acquired United States rights to "The Story of Money" from the British Information Services. It runs 16 minutes, and is now in 16mm.

Directors Guild in Academy Balloting

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—The directors branch of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, duplicating the action taken by the actors branch, has decided to poll the entire membership of the screen directors Guild by ballot for nominations for this year's Academy Award.

Final Voting Limited

Voting for final choice, however, will be limited to Academy members, in conformance with the new rules adopted this year.

The music branch will make its own nominations again this year as heretofore.

New Film Company Sets 'Race' Series

First of a series of 16mm. films on race relations produced by VFT Productions, and released through Award Films, has been completed. The picture, 20 minutes long, on the work of neighborhood committees on the West Side of New York, after a number of racial incidents, is entitled "Whoever You Are."

William Van Praag, Frances Fink and Joseph Taylor are the officers of VFT, and with Robert Snyder, formerly with the U. S. State Department and also with the Office of Strategic Services as a film officer, and Milt Goldstein, are directors of Award Films.

Just what the doctor ordered!



See page 7

Short Subjects

"Jasper in a Jam"

(*Paramount*)

The jam in this Technicolor Puppetoon is the jam and jive of Charlie Barnet and his orchestra, plus the hot vocalist, Peggy Lee. The instrumental story takes place in a pawnshop where, just as the clock strikes midnight, every musical instrument in hock comes to life. Miss Lee sings "Ole Man Mose Is Dead," Charlie plays "Pompton Turnpike," and then everbody gets together for "Cherokee" while Jasper dreams he is trapped by a totem pole. Running time, seven minutes.

"Mousemerized Cat"

(*Warner Brothers*)

A pair of rats, Babbit and Costello, set out to find some cheese but there's none to be found. Babbit, an amateur hypnotist, tries to put Costello in a trance, but the tables are turned and Babbit is the one sent into dreamland. There he thinks he is a dog and so chases the cat while Costello eats all the cheese he eventually finds. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"The Lazy Hunter"

(*Warner Brothers*)

In this Sports Parade short, Howard Hill, a leisurely though good hunter, sets out to kill a hawk and a coyote which are killing his chickens and his livestock. Instead of taking a shotgun he starts out with a bow and arrow and, with this unusual equipment, succeeds in bringing bad animals to a good end. In Technicolor. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Big Snooze"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Bugs Bunny's straightman, Elmer, is fed up with playing second fiddle to a rabbit in those Warner Brother Technicolor cartoons and so tears up his contract with Bugs. He regrets the move later and he and Bugs patch up their differences. Running time, seven minutes.

"Three Loan Wolves"

(*Columbia*)

The Three Stooges are back again —this time in the pawn brokerage business. A gun moll, fleeing the police, leaves her baby with the Stooges. The baby musses up things in general and the Stooges in particular. Running time, 16½ minutes.

"Winter Holiday"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

Lake Placid is the scene of this "Sports Review" which shows activities of winter sports enthusiasts at New York State's famous resort. The accent is on skiing and ice-skating. Mel Allen narrates. Running time, eight minutes.

'The Lonesome Stranger'

(*Speaking of Animals-Paramount*)

Jerry Fairbank's latest makes people out of monkeys. The all-talking monkey short recounts the tale of Little Orphan Fannie, saved from eviction at the paws of Dirty Dawson, by that mighty monk, the Lonesome Stranger.

Reviews

"Wild West"

(*PRC*)

ALTHOUGH long on talk and short on action, "Wild West" overcomes a slow-paced script in building up to a climax in which four men hold off a mass of gunmen and Eddie Dean handles three or four thugs single-handedly. Photographed in Cinecolor, the picture, which is one of PRC's upper caliber Westerns, concerns the machinations of Terry Frost and his gang of henchmen in trying to prevent the march of civilization, via telegraph communications, which would also bring law and order and usher in their demise. Dean, aided by Al Larue and Roscoe Ates, are rangers sent to maintain the vigil over the telegraph outpost.

Neighboring Indians, led by Chief Yowlachie, are stirred up by the racketeers, but Dean enlists the help of Sarah Padden in quieting the redskins. The film winds up not only with the frustration of the racketeers, but also the unmasking of Frost as the murderer of Sarah Padden's late husband, who was probably killed for making a pact favorable to the Indians.

Others in the cast are Robert (Buzzy) Henry, Miss Padden's young son who assists the rangers; Louise Currie and Jean Carlin, as the daughters and love-interest for Dean and Larue, and Lee Bennett, as the head of the communications project. Dean gives pleasant renditions of several songs, and the film, all in all, is a change from the usual blood-and-thunder Westerns. Robert Emmett Tansey produced and directed the screenplay by Frances Kavanaugh.

Running time, 73 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 1. I. K.

"Don Ricardo Returns"

(*PRC*)

HANDICAPPED by an unknown cast and an ordinary story, "Don Ricardo Returns" steps barely over the line in sustaining interest as it resurrects the chivalrous era, when honor and revenge were the ruling passions and gentlemen settled their disputes with the sword. The screenplay, written by Jack De Witt and Renault Duncan, based on a story by Johnston McCulley, concerns the return of Fred Colby, playing the title role, to avenge a plot against his life engineered by his cousin, Anthony Warde, in order to control the estate and win the fiancee of the would-be victim. The fiancee, Isabelita, refuses to believe reports of Colby's death at sea, and her faith wins out. She helps Colby to regain his fencing skill for the big moment when he emerges from his disguise as a peasant to challenge Warde.

Performances are generally wooden and Colby's Americanese is completely out of place among all the Spanish intonations. Isabelita, graceful with the sword and pleasant to observe, displays little enthusiasm for the role. Paul Newlan, as Colby's bullish aide; David Leonard, as the priest who offers the hero sanctuary, and Claire DuBrey as the heroine's duenna, offer fairly plausible portrayals. J. S. Burkett produced with an assist from Duncan; T. O. Morse directed.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. I. K.

"Sioux City Sue"

(*Republic*)

THE fundamental ingredients that make for entertainment in a Gene Autry picture have long since been established: an abundance of vocalizing, a fracas here and there and bits of comedy, all interworked on an appropriate story fabric. And so it follows that "Sioux City Sue," which ventures no deviation from the proven formula, is a guaranteed commodity in its established market groove. It should not matter too much that in this instance story material is lacking in imagination and moves along in a belabored fashion.

Lynne Roberts, for the romantic angle, and Sterling Holloway, for comedy, figure principally with Autry in the screenplay, which is about a Hollywood producer and his quest for cowboy singing talent. Autry, of course, is his answer, and Miss Roberts, a talent scout, finds him amid rugged Western surroundings. The song of the title, plus "Someday You'll Want Me to Want You," "Yours," "Double Trouble," and a few other tunes, along with the action sequences, help keep the plot in the background where it should be. Frank McDonald directed the original screenplay by Clive Cooper. Armand Schaefer was associate producer and the cast also includes Richard Lane, Ralph Sanford, Ken Lundy, Helen Wallace and the "Cass County Boys."

Running time, 69 minutes. General classification. Release date, Nov. 21. GENE ARNEEL

Depinet Drive Meet

SEATTLE, Nov. 28.—Len Gruenberg, 1947 Ned Depinet drive captain, is expected here over the weekend, accompanied by Harry Gittleson, assistant to Walter E. Branson, RKO Radio Western division sales manager, for a preliminary meeting on the drive with the RKO Radio sales force representing this territory, as well as Vancouver and Calgary. J. H. MacIntyre, Western district manager, will also attend the meeting, scheduled for Monday.

Recommend 2 Taxes

MONTPELIER, Vt., Nov. 28. — Two taxes having a direct bearing on the motion picture industry have been recommended for consideration by the Commission on State Government and Finance as new sources of revenue in the state. Estimating a return of $225,000 annually on an admission tax of 10 per cent on all entertainment ticket sales and an additional $182,500 yearly from a tax of 50 cents for each showing of each reel.

Rebuild Studios for Revival in Germany

By HUBERTUS ZU LOEWENSTEIN

BERLIN, Nov. 23 (By Airmail).—Erich Pommer, producer, now at Wiesbaden, Germany, in an interview with the *Frankfurter Neue Press*, voiced some cautious optimism about the future of the German filming industry. Pommer helped build up UFA, German company. After Hitler's rise he went to America and returned last July as chief of the motion picture division of the military government.

The German post-war industry in the American zone has two main centers of production. One is the former studio of UFA, located in Berlin-Tempelhof, and the other is the Bavaria-Studio in Munich. Several new companies have been founded, and they have four studios in Berlin, Tempelhof. Two of them are in good shape, one is partly destroyed, and the fourth totally destroyed, but reconstruction has been started. In Munich there are three usable studios and one giant building which experts consider most impracticable.

More and more applications for new licenses are coming in. They are granted only to anti-Nazis or persons who have been denazified and are technically qualified to produce and direct. Production, however, is hampered by bad living conditions for the actors. The raw film must be imported and many other essential items can be provided only by the military government. "Every pound of nails," Pommer says, "causes us a serious headache, but we do what we can and soon, perhaps early in 1947, the American zone will be producing good pictures."

For actual production so-called "working teams" or "working communities" have been formed. First, the necessary experts must be found and licensed. By the end of the year it is hoped that eight such teams will be operating.

Cuban Distributor Files Against PRC

Producers Releasing Corp. of Cuba on Wednesday filed suit in U. S. District Court, here, against PRC Pictures of the U. S., alleging breach of a distribution contract and asking a judgment of $250,850. The Cuban company charges that it signed a contract in July, 1945, with the defendant for the latter's 1945 and 1946 product and alleges that PRC, here, has failed to deliver the films.

PRC attorneys, uninformed of the action, said they had no comment.

Jolley Named Mgr. Of PRC Exchange

Arthur Jolley has been appointed manager of PRC's Salt Lake City exchange, by Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager.

Jolley, who has already assumed his new duties, was for the past two years head of Republic's sales force in Montana and Utah, and has had 15 years of industry experience in the Salt Lake City territory, including seven years as head exploitation man for the Huish circuit.

Eagle-Lion Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

William Shartin, Cleveland; Harry Segal, Boston.

In addition, there will be present: Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity; Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation director; Ben Shectman, manager of the contract department, and the following Eagle-Lion home office personnel: Ralph Clark, Edmund E. Levy, Emanuel Goodman, M. J. Friedman, Murray Kaplan, J. Harold Roth, David J. McGowan and Edward Lavenberg.

Robert J. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, and Jock Lawrence of the Rank Organization will also address the meeting.

On Monday, December 2nd, Eagle-Lion's first two releases, "Bedelia" and "It's a Joke, Son!" will be screened for the assembled representatives.

Branton May Head N. W. Variety Club

MINNEAPOLIS, Nov. 28. — John Branton, Minnesota Amusement Co. buyer, polled 90 votes to lead a field of 11 top board members elected by Northwest Variety Club at a dinner meeting and election held at the Nicollet hotel. Other members elected to the board are: Al Lee, Jack Heywood, Ben Friedman, Bill Volk, Bill Elson, Morrie Steinman, Max Torodor, Caspar Chouinard and George Granstrom. Art Anderson, chief barker for the past two years, was elected canvassman, with Elson as alternate. Branton and Bill Grant were elected clowns, with Ben Blotcky and Abe Kaplan alternates.

The heavy vote polled by Branton makes him an almost certain choice to succeed Anderson as chief barker for next year.

Cincinnati Tribute For J. J. Oulahan

CINCINNATI, Nov. 28. — Local industry members will give a testimonial dinner at the Netherland Plaza, Dec. 2, for Joseph J. Oulahan, who recently resigned as Paramount branch manager here to become district manager for the J. Arthur Rank organization, with headquarters at Baltimore. The committee in charge of the affair consists of Maurice White, chairman, William Bien, Edwin Booth, Harry David, James J. Grady and Alan S. Moritz.

Oulahan entered the film industry in 1919 with Super Film Co., in Washington.

Strike Shuts Mexico 'Labs' to US Films

Mexico City, Nov. 28.—The Hollywood studio strikers have been given the active sympathy of the studio and laboratory section of the Picture Production Workers Union, here. The section's chief, Gabriel Figueroa, has informed Carl Head that while the Hollywood strikes lasts, there will be no developing, printing or servicing of any film taken in the U. S., in Mexican laboratories or studios.

Earnings Up By Over 100%

(*Continued from page* 1)

ber, compares with a net of $45,443,044 for the nine months of one year ago.

Companies covered in the survey are: 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Paramount, Warner Brothers, M-G-M, Columbia, Universal and Monogram. United Artists does not release earnings figures.

The 20th-Fox net during the two periods rose from $7,529,287 to $16,-219,815; RKO's, from $3,941,830 to $9,963,906; Paramount's, from $13,-841,000 to $33,877,000; Warners', from $6,564,000 to $14,749,000; M-G-M's, from $9,312,243 to $12,579,-245; Universal's, from $2,955,829 to $3,206,000 and Monogram's, from $121,089 to $254,510. Columbia, for which a third-quarter earning figure has not been made available, reported a net of $3,450,489 on an annual basis, an increase from $1,703,687 for the year before.

Typical of the big rise in gross earnings have been those of 20th-Fox, which went up from $128,140,398 to $139,180,445, and of Warners, which mounted from $105,437,000 to $139,-180,445.

Many millions are being paid by the companies in income and excess profits taxes.

Increased earnings of the five largest companies, when divided by the number of shares of common stock outstanding, show the following per share rises for the latest nine months over the same period a year earlier: 20th-Fox, $5.69 per share, compared with $3.31; RKO, $2.59 per share, compared with $1.19; Paramount, $4.51 per share, compared with $1.84; Warners, $3.98 per share, compared with $1.77, and M-G-M, $2.47 per share, compared with $1.84.

Pre-Decree Auction Sales

(*Continued from page* 1)

petitive situations in the very near future.

The bidding-sale movement, begun last summer when M-G-M tried it out in the Philadelphia area, already is gaining momentum, having been used by the company to date in some "15 or 20 instances," according to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager.

While Rodgers still declares, officially, that the method is being used only "where we have believed it would give us experience in handling pictures" if the New York Federal District Court retains the competitive-bidding system in the final decree, nevertheless it is understood on reliable authority that the distributors have decided to resort to bids in numerous instances when exhibitors go to them with clearance disputes. As one executive declares, "There is a feeling that a house which can pay higher prices should not be denied good product."

Attention was focused on the competitive-bidding situation this week when RKO Radio gave the Bartelstein circuit's Annetta Theatre in Cicero, Ill., an opportunity to bid for a block of 10 films which normally would have gone to James Booth's competitive Palace Theatre on a prior run. The Bartelstein's have claimed they are willing to pay more than the competing house.

Johnston to Lead Quota Fight

(*Continued from page* 1)

mercial policy, immediately upon his arrival here. Recently, in a dispatch from London, he was reported as being prepared to contest further British quota law penalties against U. S. films, which penalties are scheduled to be recommended to the new British Parliament.

The Motion Picture Export Association's extensive interests, which are involved in the setting of reciprocal trade agreements, will also be personally handled by Johnston. Ordinarily, the MPA and the MPEA operate independently. However, the "top drawer" caliber of the discussions and hearings leading up to the final international agreements, is said to demand Johnston's personal attention in connection with negotiations on behalf of the MPEA as well as the MPA.

Public hearings on the negotiations will open before the State Department's committee for reciprocity information on Jan. 13. The closing date for submission of briefs and applications to be heard is Dec. 21.

Mason and Others Enroute to America

James Mason, Pat O'Brien, Madeleine Carroll, Deborah Kerr and Daisy Daix, screen and stage stars, arrived in New York on the *Queen Elizabeth* Wednesday.

Enterprise Unit Coming

HOLLYWOOD, Nov. 28.—John Garfield will lead the cast of Enterprise's "Burning Journey" to New York during the second week in January for location sequences to be filmed under director Robert Rossen.

Prize Films Will Be Shown to UN

The 54 delegations to the United Nations have been invited to a screening of the prize-winning films selected at the International Film Festival at Cannes last October. A committee, including presidents of U. S. film companies, will be hosts to the delegates on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at the Museum of Modern Art.

Glen Allvine of the Motion Picture Association is handling the arrangements with Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the film and visual information division of the United Nations.

Kalmenson Meetings

(*Continued from page* 1)

City, Dec. 16; Minneapolis, Dec. 18; Cleveland, Dec. 20; Boston, Dec. 23.

Norman Ayers, Southern division sales manager, will accompany Kalmenson to the Atlanta and Dallas meetings; Roy Haines, Western division sales manager, will go to the Los Angeles, Kansas City and Minneapolis sessions; Jules Lapidus, Eastern and Canadian division sales manager, will attend the Cleveland and Boston conferences.

Brief Filing

(*Continued from page* 1)

briefs, and presumably they are going to stick to that deadline.

The Palace brief, it is understood, would have suggested that competitive film sales, if so ruled by the court, be conducted under the auspices of the U. S. Government rather than of the distributors.

Theatre League Names Officers

Members of the League of New York Theatres have elected the following officers: Brock Pemberton, president; Lee Shubert, first vice-president; Marcus Heiman, second vice-president; Herman Shumlin, secretary; Gilbert Miller, treasurer.

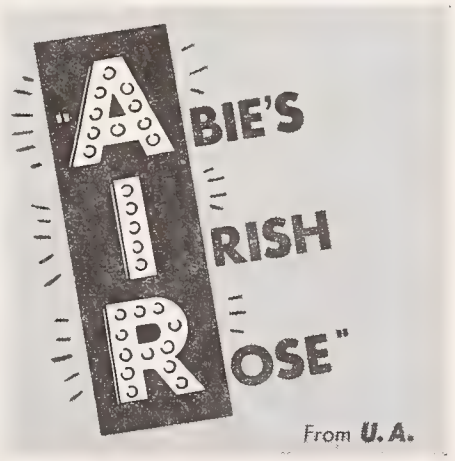
In addition to these, the following will comprise a new board of governors: Louise Beck, Herman Bernstein, Max Gordon, Louis Lotito, Kermit Bloomgarden, Lawrence Langner, Vinton Freedley, John J. Wildberg, Dwight Deere Wiman, William A. Brady, honorary member. James F. Reilly will continue as executive secretary and Milton R. Weir as counsel.

The membership also ratified a number of collective agreements with various theatrical unions, including stagehands, musicians and theatre treasurers.

Legion of Decency Approves 8 Films

The National Legion of Decency has placed the following pictures in Class I: "Boston Blackie and the Law," Columbia; "The Devil's Playground," United Artists; "Fool's Gold," UA; "Terror Trail," Columbia; "Till the Clouds Roll By," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer.

"The Chase," UA, "Magnificent Doll," Universal, and "The Strange Woman," UA, were classified II.



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 2			WIFE WANTED Kay Francis Robert Shayne D—73 mins. (605) (Rev. 10/31/46)				SISTER KENNY LADY LUCK GREAT DAY (British) SUNSET PASS O—60 mins. STEP BY STEP (Rev. 7/17/46)				
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks D—65 mins. (818) (Rev. 11/1/46)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby		(Hitchcock Special) NOTORIOUS (Rev. 7/24/46)	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)		(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606) (Rev. 10/24/46)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)		SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563)		STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O	HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542) (Rev. 11/18/46)		MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer C—109 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)	
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)		WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644) (Rev. 11/11/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—(824)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)				
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)			(Dec. Releases) SONG OF SCHEHERA-ZADE (Color) Brian Donlevy Yvonne de Carlo	
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)		(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)	(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce C—65 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)	MICHIGAN KID (Color) Jon Hall Victor McLaglen Rita Johnson	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)		SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan			(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)			TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—64 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)			BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev. 9/26/46)		(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunne Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648)	(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru D—96 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)		THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) Dennis Morgan Jack Carson M—105 min. (610)
Jan. 4							(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)				
Jan. 11			CISCO AND THE ANGEL Gilbert Roland O						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd		

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 107 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1946 TEN CENTS

MR. ERIC JOHNSTON,
MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.

ATA Set for Intervention Denial Appeal

Shortly after Dec. 21, if not earlier, the American Theatres Association will appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court from the New York Federal District Court's denial of ATA's petition to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit, Thurman Arnold, counsel for the association, announced here over the week-end.



Thurman Arnold

Meanwhile, in Richmond, Va., Robert T. Barton and other counsel for the Confederacy of Southern Associations are considering

(Continued on page 8)

Six Contracts With SOPEG Grant Raises

While negotiations with the PRC exchange are still in process, the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, UOPWA-CIO, disclosed last Friday that in a "general

(Continued on page 8)

'Outlaw' Repeats Itself in London

LONDON, Dec. 1 — Following public complaints, the London County Council has ordered its inspector to file a report concerning the 60-by-30-foot cutout of Jane Russell, star of Howard Hughes' Hollywood-made "The Outlaw," erected on the building housing the London Pavilion, where the film has been booked.

The theatre manager admits that the display is "a trifle revealing."

Promotional material on "The Outlaw" has been the cause of many protests in the U. S.

Schwartz N Y Group Head

Directors of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association have elected independent circuit operator Fred Schwartz its first president.

Other officers elected were: first vice-president, Arthur Mayer; second vice-president, Gus Eyssell; treasurer, Malcolm Kingsberg; assistant treasurer, Sol Strausberg; chairman of the board, Harry Brandt.

Also elected was an executive committee consisting of: Oscar Doob, Samuel Rinzler, Julius Joelson, Bob Weitman, with Eyssell and Leo Brecher as alternates.

Uphold 'Outlaw' Ruling on Appeal

The New York State Appellate Division unanimously upheld on Friday the Supreme Court ruling that had refused to compel three New York theatres to exhibit Howard Hughes film, "The Outlaw." There was no opinion.

The higher court passed on a suit brought by United Artists to force the Gotham, Republic and Rialto theatres to proceed with their contracts to show the picture.

In a petition UA sought to have the

(Continued on page 8)

Wehrenberg Sees an End to Holdovers

St. Louis, Dec. 1. — Producers henceforth will concentrate on fewer but better films, the practice of holdovers will soon be eliminated, while the reissuance of features will continue for some time since they are doing well at box offices, "often outdrawing new product," Fred Wehrenberg, MTOA president, observed at his headquarters here.

Services Held for Louis Frisch, 58

Funeral services were held yesterday at Garfield Temple, Brooklyn, N. Y., for Louis Frisch, 58, treasurer of Randforce Amusement Corp., and for many years a partner in theatre operations with Sam Rinzler. The Frisch and Rinzler Randforce Circuit operates some 40 theatres. Frisch died Friday after a long illness.

Frisch was previously an executive of Fox Metropolitan Playhouses, Inc., and in 1920 he became associated with Rinzler in Randforce, operating independent theatres in Brooklyn and L. I.

Frisch was a member of the Picture Pioneers, and was an active member of the Brooklyn Hebrew Orphan Asylum. Surviving are his widow, Rose, and two daughters.

The British 'Looking Into' Johnston's Council Plan

By IRVING KAPLAN

Envisioned as an international clearing house for problems common to the motion picture industries of different nations, the international film council proposed by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, during his visit to London, is being investigated by the British industry to ascertain its feasibility, Johnston told this reporter Saturday as the *S.S. America* made its way up New York Bay, on Johnston's return to the United States.



Eric A. Johnston

A report is expected within eight weeks from Sir Henry French, director general of the British Film Producers Association, and Fay Allport, MPA's American representative in Britain, both of whom are now canvassing their respective industries to sound out the pros and cons of the plan, he added.

Johnston, whose scheduled trip would have taken him to Continental Europe but was cut short by illness, pointed out that the world council, which is currently being considered in Britain and America, would be open to all nations and would have as its objective not only the promotion of international exchange and the elimination of barriers to the free interchange of motion pictures but also the exchange of information about trade practices.

Biggest Tax Returns in Film History

Report of $48,597,428 Sets All-Time Record

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Theatres will have the biggest year in history when the final count is made on Dec. 31, according to the jump in Federal admission tax collections during the first 10 months of the calendar year.

Returns in 1945 amounted to $375,306,000 for the calendar year, while thus far, with two more months to go, tax collections from amusement places have already reached more than $368,000,000. November collec-

(Continued on page 8)

Producers Reject CSU Parley Bid

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—The strike situation here was virtually unchanged as the week closed with Conference of Studio Unions' leaders reporting to followers at a mass meeting tonight on the refusal of producers to meet them in discussion. The proposed meeting was suggested a week previously by Herbert K. Sorrell, CSU president, and the basis for negotiations would have been the topic.

(Continued on page 8)

UA Moves to Settle Selznick Dispute

David O. Selznick's contract and position in United Artists continues as a matter of controversy following a board meeting here Friday at which the subject was taken up and then tabled to another board session set for Dec. 10.

Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution: Paul Lazarus,

(Continued on page 8)

In This Issue

"San Quentin" and "Dangerous Millions are reviewed on page 6. The Hollywood production scene is outlined on page 7.

Personal Mention

JAMES R. GRAINGER, Republic executive vice-president and general sales manager, left here yesterday for Detroit. He will return on Thursday.

•

CAPT. EARLE W. CARDER, USNR, vice-president of Seven Seas Film Corp., has received a citation from the Navy "for outstanding performance of duty" as commanding officer of the U. S. Naval Personnel Separation Center at Philadelphia.

•

SAM KAISER of 20th Century-Fox's home office advertising department, and MRS. KAISER, have become parents of a second son, born at the Caledonian Hospital, Brooklyn.

•

JAMES MCCANN, of M-G-M's Des Moines office, is substituting for G. E. MCGLYNN as branch manager of the Omaha office while the latter is recovering from a recent illness.

•

JACK DUMESTRE, JR., of Southeastern Theatre Equipment, and DORIS BIRD, secretary to PAUL WILSON, 20th-Fox's Southern division manager, were married in Atlanta on Saturday.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, will leave here today for Chicago and Detroit and will return on Saturday.

•

HENRY GINSBERG, production vice-president of Paramount, returned to the Coast from New York at the weekend.

•

EDWIN W. AARON, assistant general sales manager for M-G-M, is due back here today from Atlantic City.

•

JOHN S. ALLEN, M-G-M district manager, has returned to Washington from New York.

•

HERB NUSBAUM of M-G-M's legal staff, will return to New York today from Clarksburg, W. Va.

•

ED ZABEL, film buyer for National Theatres, is in New York from the Coast.

•

ROBERT KREIER, 20th Century-Fox International's European general manager, has arrived in New York.

•

JIM JORDAN, Monogram associate producer, is due in New York by plane from Chicago.

•

WILLIAM B. JAFFE, Eastern counsel for Monogram, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

ALBERT E. IDELL, 20th Century-Fox writer, will leave New York this week for Guatemala.

•

ADOLPH ZUKOR, II, of Paramount International, left New York over the weekend for Rochester, Minn.

•

DAVID ROSE, producer, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THIS observer, having been privileged to see within the period of a week a group of pictures which included "The Yearling," "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Razor's Edge," has been left puzzled by the pronouncement, within the same week, that Hollywood has grown fat and stale with riches and is barren of ideas.

Personal experiences often explain differences of opinion. So it was that about the time the statement referred to above was made the impression obtained here that never before, within memory, were there so many exceptionally fine pictures coming from Hollywood in so brief a span of time.

It was puzzling because the statement which is so sharply at variance with our own impression veritably could be the voice of experience. Its author knows a great deal more about Hollywood than this department would dare pretend to know. But we do know what we like.

It is quite probable that when this statement was made its author did not have in mind the same pictures that move this department now to congratulate Hollywood.

As always, generalizations are dangerous. No sooner is Hollywood damned for complacency and retrogression than it turns up with pictures to make the whole industry proud of it. But sing its praises too loudly or too long and you are just as likely to have to change your refrain to an apology for a flock of turkeys.

It might be better to leave the magic word, "Hollywood," out of it and simply pass judgment on the product, which is no more likely to be all bad than it is to be all good.

• •

Sincere and constructive criticism of the industry, either from within or without, is never resented by the great majority of its leaders. It is often welcomed and sometimes of value.

The danger inherent in public criticism of the industry by those who occupy prominent positions within it is that, regardless of how well-meaning may have been the intention, it all too often results in defeating its own purpose. That is because such pronouncements are seized upon by enemies of the industry, whose aim is to harm or destroy rather than to aid or correct.

No better example of this could be cited than the use to which the recent statements in criticism of Hollywood were put by the New York *Daily News*. The criticism became an editorial springboard for reiterating the charges of the *Chicago Tribune*, first cousin to the *News*, that Hollywood is ruled by Stalin and many of its works are in his service.

A few days after publication of the *News'* editorial Rep. J. Parnell Thomas of New Jersey, where the *News* is widely circulated, announced in Washington that Communism in Hollywood will be a part of "the No. 1 target" of the House Committee on Un-American Activities when the new Congress convenes next month. Rep. Thomas is slated to become chairman of the committee.

There may or may not be any connection between the *News* editorial and the proposed investigation of Hollywood Communism. There is no question, however, that the published criticism of Hollywood by one of its respected producers provided the *News* with an opportunity to repeat the basic accusation of Communism in Hollywood which was the excuse for the vicious series of articles on the production community devised and published by the *Chicago Tribune*. Up to that point the *News* had ignored its relative's scurrilous series of articles.

This industry knows that neither pictures nor Hollywood are improved by the enemies of both or by Washington witch-hunts.

• •

From the November *Reader's Digest*: "During the early 1930's Wright became increasingly obsessed with the idea of designing not only people's houses but their neighborhoods, their cities and farms and even their political and economic lives."

No, the reference is not to Robert L. Wright, assistant to the Attorney General and prosecutor of the industry anti-trust suit, but to his father, the eminent and eccentric architect, Frank Lloyd Wright.

• •

Return of North Central Allied to the Allied States fold emphasizes the trend in that direction that has been in progress for some time now. New England Allied started it. Iowa-Nebraska Allied followed suit. West Virginia Theatre Managers is a new Allied member.

Newsreel Parade

PEAK of the football season and the coming of Christmas are highlighted in the new reels, interspersed with rebuilding of the Mt. Cassino Abbey, strike and flood scenes, plus a variety of human-interest items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 27—Mt. Cassino Abbey to be rebuilt. Three more countries became members of United Nations. Futuristic banking. Farming by radio: sheep get clipped. Santa Claus time. Art for swim suits. Boxing, hunting and skiing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 225—Latest films from Palestine. Rebuilding of shattered Mt. Cassino Abbey. Hollywood Yule greetings. International slugfest. Bill Stern's All-American team.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 28—Entire reel devoted to All-American football round-up.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 30—Nazis tried for murder of 335. U. S. books shown in Prague. Salvaged tanker aids mills. Paris sees wheelbarrow wedding. Auto phone for motorist. School kids see Banff by bike. Strike riot at Allis-Chalmers.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 559—Hollywood Christmas revue. Aviation in the news. Floods sweep Rome. Children return to homeland. Starving animals rescued. Football a la Mud.

60 to New Orleans Meet; Agenda Later

Sixty representatives, including many executives of various branches of the industry, are for the most part en route to New Orleans to assist in establishing a Film Foundation "of unprecedented proportions" to assist industry needy. The group will meet Tuesday and Wednesday at the Roosevelt Hotel, in that city. Specific agenda has yet to be outlined.

'Best Years' Does Capacity at Astor

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" grossed $62,000 in its first week at the Astor Theatre on Broadway, which represents capacity for the house on the basis of the maximum schedule of six shows daily. Length of the picture has prevented the scheduling of more than six performances daily.

Brown, Not Franklin, Directed 'Yearling'

An error in the credits in *Motion Picture Daily's* review of M-G-M's "The Yearling" in the issue of Nov. 27 resulted in Sidney Franklin being listed as director of the picture, whereas Clarence Brown was its director. M-G-M's credit listing on the picture is as follows: "A Clarence Brown production; directed by Clarence Brown; produced by Sidney Franklin."

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JOHN FORD'S

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

EXPLODES ON BROADWAY TOMORROW AT THE LONG-RUN RIVOLI THEATRE!

SET FOR THE SAME
SENSATIONAL
BOXOFFICE FIGURES
THAT ARE REACHING
NEW ALL-TIME
RECORD HIGHS
IN HUNDREDS
OF DATES
FROM
COAST TO COAST!!!



PRESIDENT'S DRIVE
Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS
AUG. 25TH - DEC. 28TH

CENTURY-FOX

20 Independents to Build New Houses

MacKee Theatres, W. E. MacKee president, reports that contracts have been approved for 20 independent exhibitors, for whom the MacKee company will build theatres under a lease-purchase agreement. Six will be in Queens, Nassau and Suffolk counties, Long Island, six in New Jersey, four in Eastern Pennsylvania, two in Rhode Island, one in Westchester County, and another in Connecticut. Twenty more are now being processed, it was said. Seating capacities run from 550 seats to 1,000, all air-conditioned and fully equipped.

DeAngelis Architect

Each of the first 10 will also be equipped with a portable Ampro 16mm sound projector along with a record player for music in the lounge and microphones for community drive and public assembly purposes. Michael De Angelis is the architect.

MacKee Theatres build theatres for independent exhibitors wanting to add more houses to their operations, with the independent having complete control of operations. A subsidiary has been formed to construct 350 seaters in small communities, with the same equipment as in larger units, and another subsidiary is being formed to finance 600 car drive-ins for operation by independents.

AGVA Independence Restored by '4A's'

Autonomy was restored to the American Guild of Variety Artists at a meeting of the governing board of the parent union, the Associated Actors and Artistes of America, held last Friday. The international board of the "4 A's," which has been administering the affairs of AGVA since 1942, will continue to direct that talent union until the election of officers and a board of directors is held.

Plan January Meet

It is hoped, according to a union spokesman, that the national membership of AGVA will convene during January.

The "4 A's," which restored the guild's local autonomy after a request based on AGVA's success early this year in finally paying off its indebtedness of about $70,000 to its sister unions, instructed Matt Shelvey, national director of AGVA to continue to administer the guild until after the convention. The board also approved a proposed constitution, subject to the approval of the members of the reconstituted union.



Only 'Known Value' Rank Films to US: E. T. Carr

British product from J. Arthur Rank and his associates in England will not be sent here unless potential values for American audiences are fully determined, E. T. Carr, joint managing director of Rank's distribution company, General Film Distributors, stated here Friday prior to his departure for the Coast. He arrived in New York on Wednesday from London.

Carr gave his assurance that pictures which are obviously too British in nature and foreign to the tastes of theatregoers here will in no case be placed on the market here.

He said he hopes all of Rank's program of 25 to 30 films for 1946-47 will be commercially acceptable here. A minimum of 12 of these is now slated to be handled by Universal and from 10 to 12 are to go through Eagle-Lion (PRC).

Carr listed four films, due here shortly, as examples of top Rank product which he feels certain to be received by the American public; these are: "Stairway to Heaven" starring David Niven, Kim Hunter and Raymond Massey; "Great Expectations," starring John Mills and Valerie Hobson and directed by David Lean; Carol Reed's "Odd Man Out," starring James Mason, and "Hungry Hill," based on the novel by Daphe du Maurier, and starring Margaret Lockwood.

Carr said that in England British films in the past year have outgrossed American product but declined to comment further on this when asked the reason why Hollywood should run second. He said that 95 per cent of product is rented on a percentage basis and this is sometimes on a 50-50 basis in England.

Carr related that Eric A. Johnston's proposal of a world film council created a "terrific and favorable" stir in the British industry which found the Motion Picture Association president to be "sincere and desirous of cooperating with us." In his address to Government officials and the principals of the British film business, Johnston 'acquitted himself very well indeed," Carr reported.

The British film executive will confer with Universal-International principals Nate J. Blumberg, Leo Spite and William Goetz as well as Bryon Foy and Arthur Krim of Eagle-Lion when on the Coast. He will return to New York on Dec. 16.

RKO's "San Quentin" In Circuit Premiere

BOSTON, Dec. 1.—A total of 152 theatres and 19 circuits will participate in the world premiere of RKO Radio's "San Quentin," with the first showing on Thursday in the Boston Theatre. Circuits include M. and P. (Paramount), Loew's RKO, Warners, Western Massachusetts, Schine, Fieber and Shea, Maine and New Hampshire, Interstate (Boston), Ralph Snider, E. M. Loew, Andrew Tegu, Fabian, Kallet, Dipson, Nathan Yamins, Harry Zeitz, Joseph Mathieu and Berinstein Brothers.

The entire RKO Northeastern division under Gus Shaefer and including Ross Cropper, Elmer Lux, Barney Pitkin and Max Westebbe, plus many field representatives, are cooperating on the premiere. Lawrence Tierney, star of the film, will appear with Barbara Hale and Bill Williams, RKO Radio contract players; Mike Mazurki, Dewey Robinson and George E. Stone.

MPEA Picks 11 Films for Germany

Eleven additional films have been approved for release in American-occupied zones of Germany, by the Motion Picture Export Association. These include: "You Can't Take It With You," "The Keys of the Kingdom," "Ziegfeld Girl," "The Adventures of Mark Twain," "Jane Eyre," "Laura," "The Shop Around the Corner," "Lost Angel," "Random Harvest," "Suspicion" and "The Major and the Minor."

Name Kessler-Howes

LONDON, Dec. 1.—H. F. Kessler-Howes has been appointed director of publicity at Columbia Pictures, Ltd., here, succeeding Arthur Allighan.

Eagle-Lion Salesmen Hold First Meeting

First meeting of Eagle-Lion sales supervisors to discuss future policies and plans was held Saturday and yesterday in the Warwick Hotel, here, with A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, in charge. Sales representatives present included: L. E. Goldhammer, West Coast; Mark Raymon, Kansas City; Harry Mandell, Chicago; Herman Beiersdorf, Dallas; Joseph Minsky, Philadelphia; R. L. McCoy, Atlanta; William Shartin, Cleveland; Harry Segal, Boston.

Others attending were: Max E. Youngstein, advertising-publicity director; Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation director; Ben Shectman, contract department manager, and Ralph Clark, Edmund E. Levy, Emanuel Goodman, Martin Friedman, Murray Kaplan, J. Harold Roth, David J. McGowan and Edward Lavenberg, Robert J. Benjamin, president of the J. Arthur Rank Organization, and Jock Lawrence, of the same company, also addressed the meeting.

Baltimore Fetes McCraw

BALTIMORE, Dec. 1.—William McCraw, national director of Variety Clubs, was guest at a dinner party here at the Variety Club, Baltimore Tent. No. 19. He delivered a brief address on welfare work being done by Variety Clubs in other cities, citing maintenance of a playground for underprivileged children in Atlanta, an eye-and-ear clinic in Minneapolis, a 1,400-acre "rehabilitation ranch" for juvenile delinquents in Texas, and he was, in turn, told of comparable activities of the club here. McCraw was guest of William K. Saxton, chief barker of the Baltimore tent.

3 Clearance Bids Filed with AAA

Three cases, one of which also involves a request for "some-run," have been filed with the American Arbitration Association against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers.

Claiming that clearance granted six Dubuque, Ia., theatres is "arbitrary, excessive and unreasonable," Leo Bennis, of the Capitol Theatre, Dubuque, has asked the Des Moines district tribunal for reduction or elimination of clearance favoring the Grand, Orpheum, Avon, State, Strand and Varsity theatres. He also states that all distributors named have failed and refused to grant the Capitol some-run, within the meaning and purpose of section No 6 of the consent decree.

Lloyd Bridgham, owner and operator of the Harbor Theatre, York Harbor, Me., in his complaint filed with the Boston tribunal, maintains that the 14-day clearance to which his theatre is subject after first-run in Portsmouth, N. H., is "unreasonable." He has requested reduction to not more than one day after the Portsmouth run at the Colonial and Olympia Theatres.

Also filed with the Boston tribunal is a request for elimination or reduction to a "reasonable period" of pictures shown at the Island Theatre, Portsmouth, R. I. The theatre, owned and operated by Orville O. Smith, is subject to clearance in favor of the Strand, Park, Durfee, Center and Empire Theatres, all of Fall River, Mass., and the Opera House, Strand and Zeitz Paramount in Newport, R. I.

Say Scophony's Levey Would Collect Twice

Arthur H. Levey, general manager of Scophony Corp. of America, has a contract with that company to share in its proceeds and, therefore, should not be permitted to join Scophony in a cross-complaint seeking a $4,500,000 triple-damage judgment against Paramount, General Precision Equipment, Television Productions and British Scophony, Ltd., it was argued in U. S. District Court here on Friday by Francis X. Fallon, Jr., counsel for three of the defendants, on a hearing to dismiss the cross-complaint growing out of the Government's Scophony anti-trust suit.

Fallon contended that Levey, under his contract, would participate in any award granted by the court to his employer and, thus, if allowed to be a party to the complaint, could collect twice.

The Levey dismissal motion was taken under advisement by Judge Alfred C. Coxe, along with one for the dismissal of Scophony of America also, after arguments for the latter had been presented by H. G. Pickering, representing Paramount, GPE and Television Productions. He contended the cross-complaints were faultily drawn and that the court had no jurisdiction to entertain them. James Sherry represented the plaintiffs.

Scophony, Ltd., recently eliminated as a defendant in the anti-trust suit, has brought a separate motion for dismissal of the cross-complaint, as applying to that company, and this motion is expected to be heard around Dec. 15.

Charter 13 New Firms At Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 1.—Thirteen more industry firms have been granted incorporation papers by the Office of the Secretary of State, here, including, Transworld Films, Inc.; World Screen Advertising, Inc.; New York Productions, Inc.; Teatro Borinquen, Inc.; Hollywood International Corp.; Chapel Films Corp.; Greater New York Film Distributors Corp., Alben Theatre, and others.

Transworld's incorporators are: Charles K. Fine, incorporating attorney Lionel R. Blattner, and Ruth Bernstein, all of New York. World Screen, which will conduct an advertising business, has for incorporators Janet Heiss, Esther R. Levy and Leonard M. Wallstein, Jr., all of New York; the latter was incorporating attorney.

New York's Incorporators

Arthur L. Gale, Ben E. Dyer and the Distastic Co., all of New York, are New York Productions' incorporators; Satterlee, Warfield and Stephens, New York, were incorporating attorneys. Teatro Borinquen's incorporators are Samuel Goldberg, William Sadoff and Leonard Fisch, all of New York. Schwartz and Frohlich, New York, were incorporating attorneys for Hollywood International. Chapel's incorporators are Charles Sannenreich, Dorothy Kobrin and incorporating attorney Melvin A. Albert, all of New York.

Continental Lawyers, New York, were incorporating attorneys for Greater New York Film Distributors, which has for its incorporators Joseph Tobin, Eva Dubin and E. Meiselman, all of New York. Alben's incorporators were Max B. Levy, Esther Gershenson and Selma Zweig, all of New York; Leon D. Miller, New York, was incorporating attorney.

First World Corp.

First World Corp. has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures; incorporators are: Harold J. Sherman, Brooklyn, and F. V. Lasky and Sara Kaye, Bronx. Fitelson, Mayers and London were incorporating attorneys. Saperstein Realty Corporation has been incorporated to own, operate and manage theatres and places of amusement in Fallsburgh, N. Y. Incorporators are: Morris Saperstein, Sam Saperstein and Sophie Saperstein, Woodrige. Kooperman and Kooperman, Ellenville, were incorporating attorneys.

Waldorf Pictures

Waldorf Pictures, Inc. has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. Incorporators are: Edward J. Danziger, Harry Lee Danizer and Leonore F. Traub, all of New York. European Copyrights and Distribution, Inc. has been incorporated to conduct business in motion pictures. Incorporators are: Andre LeLarge and Pierre Alsina, New York; Muriel Kirsch, Bronx. Rodriguez Bertol was incorporating attorney.

Mage Films, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. A. Walter Socolow, New York, was incorporating attorney.

Arthur Is Named Local Variety Chief

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 1.—Harry C. Arthur, general manager of Fanchon and Marco, was elected national canvasman for 1947 from tent No. 4, Variety Club, in St. Louis, at the annual election held in November. James Arthur was elected alternate and Albert Stetson and Irving Karches, chowns.

1947 Crew

The crew for 1947 includes Edward Arthur, Sam Levin, Tommy James, Michael J. Riordan, Joseph C. Ansell, Henry C. Reigel, Jr., Al Poos, Thomas J. Canavan, Roy Muehlemann, Fred Boemer and Ray Parker. At a meeting of the new crew, Edward Arthur was elected chief barker; Sam Levin, first assistant chief barker; Tommy James, second assistant; Michael J. Riordan, property master; Joseph C. Ansell, dough guy. The officers will be installed at a luncheon-meeting to be held at the Hotel Melbourne on Dec. 13, at which Variety's William McCray will be a guest.

Durmeyer Elected Variety President

ATLANTA, Dec. 1. — At the first meeting of the 1947 "Crew" of Atlanta Variety No. 21 Charles Durmeyer of the Southern Automatic Candy Co. was elected chief barker. First assistant chief is Oscar Lam of Lam Amusement Co.; second assistant is John Cunningham, of Savannah Theatres; dough guy is Walter Speigh of station WATL; property master is Guy Brown of Motion Picture Advertising Co.

Jack Dumestre of Southeastern Theatre Equipment was re-elected national canvasman.

Coast Variety Names Charles Skouras

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 1.—The local Variety Club, tent No. 25 has re-elected the following crew members: Charles Skouras, Dave Bershon, George Tupper, W. Y. Lollier, Dr. Ben Feingold, Willard Keith, George Bowser, Oscar Oldknow, Jack Berman, Howard Stubbins, Sherrill Corwin; alternates are Al Galston, Ezra Stern, Al Goodman, Guy Gunderson. The club has authorized the crew to continue financial participation in the sponsorship of a birth clinic at Cedars of Lebanon Hospital.

Philadelphia Post Elects Vic Blanc

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 1. — Variety Post No. 713, American Legion, has elected the following officers: Vic Blanc, commander; Everett Callow, senior vice-commander; Rudy Bloom, Jr., junior vice-commander; William Brooker, financial officer; Jack Brodsky, adjutant; Roy Robbins, chaplain; Joe Riley and Harry H. Matthews, sergeants-at-arms. Blanc, a local attorney, succeeds Albert M. Cohen.

Sets 25¢ Dividend

General Precision Equipment Corp. has declared a dividend of 25 cents per share on the company's capital stock, payable December 24, 1946, to stockholders of record December 9.

Moray Names WB '46 Drive Winners

Winners in the 1946 Warner Brothers short subject sales drive were announced over the weekend by Norman H. Moray, short subject sales manager, as follows:

Eastern district, first, New Haven branch; second, Buffalo. Mid-Atlantic, Philadelphia. Central, first, Pittsburgh; second, Cleveland. Southeast, Charlotte. Southwest, Oklahoma City. Midwest, first, Milwaukee; second, Chicago. Prairie, first, St. Louis; second, Omaha. West Coast, first, Portland; second, Los Angeles; third, Denver.

Branch Awards

Branches receiving special awards for being completely sold out before the end of the drive include Cleveland, Charlotte, New Orleans, Dallas, Kansas City, Los Angeles and Portland.

Special awards also were made to the following for individual sales efforts: First, J. Walker, Washington; second, M. Keller, Portland; third, D. Cooper, Philadelphia; fourth, G. Spear, Seattle; fifth, E. Perkins, Minneapolis.

Rosen in New Job

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 1. — Joseph Rosen has assumed the management of the 20th Century-Fox exchange. He takes over tomorrow from Walden Waters, who has been transferred to Pittsburgh as manager. Rosen was a 20th-Fox salesman.

To Settle Maryland Clearance Dispute

BALTIMORE, Dec. 1.—Eight distributing companies will undertake to negotiate settlement of clearance and availability differences with the Linden Theatre, following the latter's dropping of a trust suit which had asked triple damages of $225,000. Loew's, Warners, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Universal, United Artists and Columbia are involved and each will negotiate separately.

Rome Theatres, circuit of 14 houses here, which also was named in the court action, has relinquished operation of its Met Theatre to the Linden interests in a separate settlement.

Television Circuit Seen for Mexico

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 1.—A television station circuit seems a certainty for Mexico in 1947. Emilio Azcarraga and associates, operators of Mexico's two largest radio stations, XEW and XEQ, both here, who also have disc-recording plants and two large local theatres, have asked the Ministry of Communications and Public Works, supervisor of air matters in Mexico, for concessions to establish and operate a 50,000-watt television station here and one each of lesser power in the leading provincial cities of Guadalajara, Tampico, Monterrey, Torreon, Puebla and the port of Vera Cruz.



Survey Shows Open Theatres Give 38% Saving in Fuel Use

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1.—Keeping the nation's theatres open during the coal crisis saves 38 per cent of normally used electric and coal power by having homes unlighted while their inhabitants are attending motion pictures, it was asserted at the weekend by the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of the District of Columbia with statistics to back them up.

The local MPTO pointed out that a survey of 40,000 families in Washington showed an average consumption of 265 watts per family, or an average of 71 watts per person, on an evening basis. It showed that the current consumed per admission to a local theatre is slightly over 8 watts per person, so that the saving to be obtained by unlighted homes while their inhabitants are attending the theatre would approximate 38%.

The MPTO figures do not include the fuel savings, also obtained by the same motion picture attendance, because the theatre consumption of fuel for heating when fully occupied is considerably reduced.

The 60 theatres in the District of Columbia have approximately 56,000 seats, playing to between 75,000 and 120,000 people each day, the survey showed.

Morale Value

Theatres also have a morale value to the public during a time of distress, the association pointed out in a letter making public its statistics, directed to the Washington Board of Commissioners.

Pointing to the low amount of electric power which will be consumed by local theatres, the MPTO said that the 60 houses in the District will use around 12,000 kilowatt hours per day, and if theatres are closed, the saving would be one-fifth of one per cent.

Outlining the morale value of the motion picture, the local group said: "During the last unpleasantness in the jungles of New Guinea and the islands of the South Pacific, as well as the European theatres of war, motion pictures held priorities in the service of supplies second only to mail, food and ammunition. They are doing a similar job in Washington, and we therefore urge your earnest consideration of the theatrical situation here until we must bow to the inevitable."

The letter was signed by A. Julian Brylawski, local MPTO president. He and Carter Barron, Loew's Eastern manager, have held strongly to their belief that keeping the theatres open is "necessary to public welfare."

Baltimore Complains About Theatres Being Open

BALTIMORE, Dec. 1. — Baltimore school officials are protesting that schools in various sections of the nation are being closed because of the coal crisis while "many other activities, such as movie theatres" remain open.

Two or three of the downtown first-run theatres maintaining their own heating plants have enough fuel for "a few weeks." Other houses buy their heat from a centralized heating service. Most neighborhood houses use oil.

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Va. Governor Declares State of Emergency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 1. — Governor Tuck has issued a proclamation that Virginia is in a state of emergency due to the coal strike. Additional state imposed electric bans are forthcoming, it was said.

Despite caution by officials of the Civilian Production Administration that "theatres should not be closed," it was learned here that Virginia cities, such as Richmond, have been studying the possibility of closing them.

Connecticut Governor Acts In Crisis on Fuel

HARTFORD, Dec. 1.—Due to the coal strike, the State Public Utilities Commission, under authority of a proclamation from Governor Baldwin has issued separate orders to all utilities companies. Included among the prohibited uses of electric current is marquee lighting in excess of 60 watts for each theatre.

Business Drops Slightly on First Week's Dimout Nights

Business dropped off slightly as a result of darkened theatre marquees on Monday night, when dimouts became effective in 21 Eastern and Midwestern states, but by last night attendance was beginning to return to normal, according to exhibitors here and in the field. It was explained that the public is expected to become accustomed to the change rapidly, as happened during the wartime dimouts and during the coal strike some months ago.

In New York and some other areas, many stores were reported to be a little slow complying with the voluntary dimout, while theatres, in the main, complied promptly, thus being placed at a temporary disadvantage.

Kansas City Theatres Are Cooperating on Dimout

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 1. — In the dimout program of Kansas City, theatres cut out enough "spots" and similar lights to effect a 25 per cent reduction of illumination outside and inside other than for safety. Use of public school buildings after 4 o'clock was suspended. This drastically reduces the public recreational program for adults as well as for children. Public libraries will not be open evenings.

Favorite of Texas Files for Charter

AUSTIN, Tex., Dec. 1. — Favorite Films Corp. of Texas has filed for incorporation here. Incorporators are: John L. Franconi, president; W. J. Cammer, vice-president, and Edward V. Green, secretary-treasurer.

The company is slated to open an exchange in Oklahoma City, under the management of Don D. Cole. Favorite Films product will be distributed out of that point, as well as from here, under a five-year franchise.

Reviews

"San Quentin"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 1

LAWRENCE Tierney is the chief name for billing purposes in a melodrama which seldom rises from the common run. Supporting him, only Barton MacLane and Joe Devlin have much to do. Others—Marian Carr, Harry Shannon, Carol Forman and Richard Powers—perform small parts in a perfunctory manner.

The screenplay, by Lawrence Kimble, Arthur A. Ross and Howard J. Green, opens with a speech by Warden Lawes concerning the purpose and function of the Prisoners' Welfare League. From there it dissolves into a straight cops-and-robbers story in which Tierney, as an ex-convict and leader of the League, tracks down MacLane, portraying a bank-robber who has made his escape from San Quentin, and thereby brought the League into disrepute. After a climactic gun battle, the League is restored to favor, and Tierney departs, unscathed, to attend his wedding. Martin Mooney produced, under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell. Gordon M. Douglas directed.

Running time, 66 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

"Dangerous Millions"

(20th Century-Fox-Sol Wurtzel)

Hollywood, Dec. 1

THE latest film in Sol Wurtzel's program for 20th Century-Fox release is melodrama with all the standard trappings: hidden treasure, sinister Chinese characters, secret tunnels and sudden death.

According to the screenplay, by Irving Cummings, Jr. and Robert G. North, a wealthy shipping operator, dying in Shanghai, decides to test the mettle of his prospective heirs. The traps he sets, and the devices he employs to get them to quarrelling among themselves are such that it is a wonder the heirs do not, when the legator's identity is finally revealed, turn on him and rend him limb from limb. They don't however. Neither do they obtain the coveted fortune. All but two of the heirs are dismissed as cowards and weaklings; Kent Taylor and Dona Drake, the boy and girl of the story, are tricked with the promise of an airline.

In the supporting cast, Tala Birell does fine work, and Leonard Strong is convincingly unpleasant in the role of a Chinese chieftain. James Tinling directed, and Paul Wurtzel functioned as associate producer.

Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec., 1946.

T. B.

Short Subjects

"Spelunking—A New Science"

(A. F. Films)

A new science which grew out of a sport, "Speleology", is the exploration of caves and abysses in the earth thousands of feet below the surface. Sportsmen and scientists, equipped as Alpine climbers, slowly descend into the cold and night, laboriously inching their way down among the eroding work of nature in a geologist's paradise of sheer calcium cliffs, stalactites and stalagmites, of freezing hollows and subterranean alleys, and of gurgling, treacherous underwater rivers. An exciting film, made in France and available with either French or American commentary. Running time, 20 minutes.

"Aubusson Tapestries"

(A. F. Films)

Tapestry-making, an old art in France, dating back to the 13th Century, which has since degenerated, is today undergoing a revival at Aubusson, one of France's leading tapestry-weaving centers. Jean Lucrat, a well-known painter and director of the new school, shows how the pattern for the tapestry is prepared, beginning with a black and white sketch and winding up with the finished product that issues from the weaving looms, shown in color detail through Agfa color. Available with English or French narration. Running time, 14 minutes.

"You're an Education"

(Warner Brothers)

All the leaflets in a travel agency come to life and break out into song and story in this Blue Ribbon Carton. There's the Kimberly diamond mine, the Canadian Royal Mounted, the Foreign Legion, the leaning tower of Pisa and the Lone Ranger's horse all mixed up in the proceedings. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Musica-Lulu"

(Paramount)

Little Lulu deserts her violin practice to play baseball. The first ball pitched hits Lulu on the head and knocks her out. Then follows a dream fantasy in which Lulu is summoned before the Court of Musical Justice and charged with deserting her violin. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Peep in the Deep"

(Paramount)

Popeye is trapped by a monster octoups, 40 fathoms undersea, while searching for a sunken treasure ship. However, even the strength of an octopus is not sufficient to subdue the invigorating qualities of a can of Popeye's spinach. Running time, seven minutes.

"Mr. Chimp on Vacation"

(Variety View-Universal)

Shorty, on vacation, spends part of it on a sailing vessel, encountering adventures nautical and naughty. Tired of this, he repairs to the beach where he finds himself quite out of his element in the sand and sun. Running time, 10 minutes.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 1

HAL WALLIS has acquired screen rights to "Lola," forthcoming novel by Philip Van Doren Stern, which is based on incidents in the life of Lola Montez. Wallis plans to produce it next season for Paramount release. . . . Warners has arranged to borrow Steven Geray from Columbia for a key role in "The Unfaithful," now before cameras with Ann Sheridan, Zachary Scott and Lew Ayres in stellar roles.

•

"Conspiracy," an original by Vicki Baum, has been purchased by Vanguard Films, and assigned to Dore Schary for production. Cary Grant and Dorothy McGuire are under consideration for leading roles in the comedy-drama. . . . Richard Goldstone's first producer-assignment at Columbia will be "The Son of Rusty," fourth in the studio's "Rusty" series. . . . Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., has signed Paule Croset (guess again, it's a girl) to a long-term acting contract, and will star her in his initial production for U-I release, "The Exile."

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Bob Hutton and Joyce Reynolds are set to co-star in "The Wallflower," Warners' film version of the Broadway play. . . . Benny Rubin, the comedian, has been signed by PRC to direct "Hollywood Hi," a musical which Ben Stoloff will produce. . . . Marguerite Chapman has been borrowed from Columbia by Cavalier Productions, new producing company headed by Robert Young, to play the lead opposite Young in "Three Were Thoroughbreds," a Western in Technicolor.

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As a result of her excellent performance in "The Razor's Edge," Anne Baxter has been assigned a top dramatic role in "Nightmare Alley," which will be George Jessel's next production for 20th Century-Fox. William Keighley will direct. . . . Seymour Nebenzal has engaged Robert Cummings to star in "Heaven Only Knows," a romantic fantasy with a Western background which Albert S. Rogell will direct. . . . Regis Toomey has been signed by Monogram for a part in "High Conquest," which Irving Allen will produce and direct.

•

Ron Randell, Australian film and radio star, will make his Hollywood screen debut in "Bulldog Drummond at Bay," which Venture Pictures will make for Columbia release. Lou Appleton, Jr., and Bernard Small will coproduce and Sidney Salkow will direct. . . . Paramount has extended Robert Wilder's writer contract. . . . Producer Bert Granet is back in town after six weeks abroad, a trip he made in connection with RKO Radio's forthcoming "Berlin Express," which will be filmed next spring at the Pathe-Cinema studios in Paris.

•

"Come and Get Me," a comedy-romance by Milton Gunsburg, has been purchased by Republic as a starring vehicle for Vera Ralston. John English has been assigned to produce and direct. . . . American Eagle Films plan production of "The Moll," a gangster film with Bela Lugosi and Edmund Lowe in top roles.

Slight Production Rise On Coast; 7 New Films

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—Production continues to gain as seven films went before cameras, and four to cutting rooms; the shooting index stood at 46, compared with the previous level of 43. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Blondie's Holiday," "Stranger from Ponca City."

Started: "Three Were Thoroughbreds," with Robert Young, Marguerite Chapman and Willard Parker.

Shooting: "The Swordsman," "King of the Wild Horses," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love."

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "A Love Story," "The Birds and the Bees," "Undercover Maisie," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge," "Cynthia's Secret."

Monogram

Shooting: "Fall Guy," "Drifting Through," "The Guilty" (Wrather).

Paramount

Started: "Saigon," with Alan Ladd, Veronica Lake.

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl."

PRC

Shooting: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Dick Tracy vs. the Claw."

Shooting: "Seven Keys to Baldpate," "Out of the Past" (formerly "Build My Gallows High") "Magic Town" (Riskin); "The Long Night" (Hakim-Litvak); "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Republic

Shooting: "Wyoming," "Gallant Man," Untitled Nelson Eddy Production.

Screen Guild

Shooting: "Bells of San Fernando."

20th Century-Fox

Finished: "Jewels of Brandenburg" (Wurtzel).

Started: "Moss Rose," with Peggy Cummins, Victor Mature; "Captain from Castile," with Tyrone Power, Jean Peters; "The Big Heart," with Maureen O'Hara, John Payne.

Shooting: "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights."

United Artists

Started: "Christmas Eve" (Bogeaus), with George Raft, George Brent, Randolph Scott, Joan Blondell.

Shooting: "Vendetta" (California), "Personal Column" (Stromberg).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "The Egg and I."

Warners

Started: "The Unfaithful," with Ann Sheridan, Zachary Scott, Lew Ayres.

Shooting: "Dark Passage," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Deep Valley," "Night Unto Night."

AFRA-Networks Settlement Near

A threatened strike of radio, film and other entertainers on the major networks was averted over the weekend. Spokesmen for the four networks and the American Federation of Radio Artists, AFL, announced that "workable solutions" have been found for the controversial issues. None of the parties, however, would disclose the terms of the agreement, declaring, instead, that details would not be revealed until completion of negotions.

Still under consideration are the proposals for a new two-year contract, including sustaining and various staff agreements. The major point which had been in dispute was the union's demand that the major networks refrain from supplying programs to local independent stations that have not signed contracts with AFRA.

Hardy Films to Astor

Astor Pictuers will distribute the Hardy stories. "The Return of the Native" by Thomas Hardy, has been adapted by Bernard Vorhaus, who is to produce and direct it for worldwide release through Astor. Robert M. Savini, president of Astor, is negotiating for Robert Donat to play the lead, providing the film is made in England.

Writers, Publishers Elected to Ascap

ASCAP's Board of Directors has elected the following writers and publishers to membership in the society: In the popular music field: Writers Euday L. Bowman, Elston Britt, Irving Conn, Irving Drutman, Irving Fields, Walter Freed, Robert Gilbert, Danny Hurd, Edward Lane, Richard Miles, Albert M. Newman, Lorenzo Pack, Mrs. Edna B. Pinkard, Albert Sendrey, Max Spickol, Robert W. Troup, Jr., Jack Waverly and Ted Weems. In the standard music field: Writers Arthur Forrest Kellogg, Burrill Phillips.

Publishers elected in the music popular field were: George Adams Music Publishing Co., Adrienne Music Co., Greenwich Music Co., Dick Kuhn Music Corp., National Music Publishing Corp., Record Songs Co., Bob Stephens Inc., Tone Music and Jack Waverly. In the standard music field: Coleman-Ross, Inc.

Eastman Kodak Party

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 1.—Last of a series of plant dinner parties for veteran employes of Eastman Kodak will be held here Dec. 11. Silver (25 years) and gold pins (50 years) identifying wearers as long-service Kodak workers have already been awarded to more than 1,000 Kodak workers.

Qualify State Aid For Extra Players

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 1.—Unless screen extras make themselves available for film work at the lowest rate of pay—currently $5.50 a day—they are not eligible for unemployment insurance benefits, under a decision confirmed by the State Supreme Court.

California's highest tribunal reached its conclusion by refusing to hear an appeal taken from a decision returned recently by the District Court of Appeals.

A Test Case

The Appellate Court's ruling came in a test case filed by all of the film-producing studios against the California Stabilization Commission, which had granted unemployment insurance benefits to 11 extras. The commission's award automatically had caused the levying of an extraordinary assessment against the studios to cover, in part, the benefits paid to the extras.

Under the Appellate Court's decision, the commission's ruling was vacated. The studios obtained a writ of mandate compelling the commission to nullify the awards.

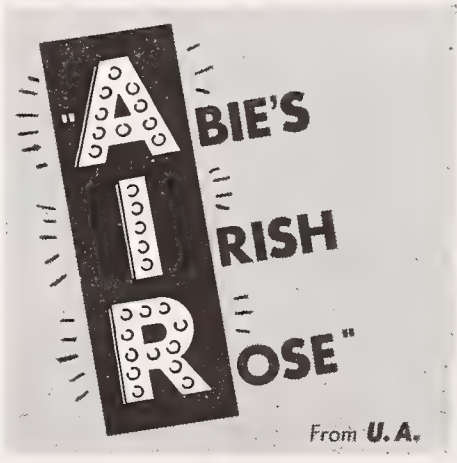
Appearing in the role of intervenor, the Screen Actors Guild contended that the 11 extras were entiled to the insurance benefits because they were employes temporarily out of work.

11 with UA Have 25 Years Service

Eleven members of United Artists' foreign staff, seven of them with the British organization, have rounded out 25 years of service with the company.

Those who have reached this milestone in employee longevity include: Henry Weiner, manager in Cuba; Enrique Baez, general manager in Brazil; Harald Astrom, manager in Sweden; William Bendon, branch manager in Glasgow; William J. Smith, chief accountant in London; Celia Fairman, cashier in London; Beatrice White, chief cutter in London; Tom Richards, technical adviser in London; Elsie Elliott, office manager in Liverpool; Wilhelmina Allan of Newcastle; Teresa Capu, accountant in Rosario.

Topping this group is Henry Weiner, who joined UA in March 1921 as manager in Cuba.



Milan Owners Plan Group to Aid Films

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Nov. 26 (By Airmail).—The idea of forming an organization to develop and support the Italian industry was discussed at a recent meeting of exhibitors in Milan. Italian exhibitors would supply part of the capital by subscribing two per cent of their daily gross income. Under this plan it is estimated the capital of the organization would reach 1,000,000 lire, or about $4,400,000 in three years. The Secretary of State for the motion picture industry has approved the project.

Two Appointments

Guiseppe Croce has been appointed general manager of the ENIC by the board of directors of the company. Stefano Giacheddu has been named advisor to the company.

Importation of 4,500,000 meters of film stock has been scheduled. Of this total 3,200,000 meters are to come from the United States, 800,000 meters from England and 500,000 from France. The material already has been portioned out to the different companies when it was learned that, for the moment it would be possible to import stock only from France. No currency is available to pay for the rest of the importations now.

Producers Reject

(*Continued from page* 1)

Pat Casey, the producers' labor chairman, answered the Conference of Studio Union's proposal for resumption of discussions, saying, "The producers do not believe any useful or proper purpose can be served by meeting with you until they have received effective and adequate assurances that your member unions have taken action to prevent acts of violence and mass picketing, have unqualifiedly accepted the Dec. 26, 1945 decision by an AFL committee, that they will abide by the July 2, 1946, wage agreement, and will not engage in further work stoppages or otherwise repudiate their agreements."

Informed quarters interpreted the interchange of communications between the CSU and producers as indicating the determination of the studios to force complete surrender of the striking faction.

Columbia Meeting at End of January

Annual meeting of Columbia's stockholders, originally scheduled for Oct. 9, and postponed to a later, undesignated date, will be held around the end of January, an executive of the company reported yesterday.

A proxy statement is now being prepared and will be sent to Columbia stockholders, together with proxy forms, about Dec. 23.

New Ill. Allied Unit

CHICAGO, Dec. 1. — The Strand Theatre in Brookfield has joined both Allied Theatres of Illinois and the Allied Buying and Booking Organization, according to an announcement by Jack Kirsch, president. George Giannopulos is the owner of the Strand.

ATA Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

a similar appeal move on behalf of the CSA, which, like the ATA, sought unsuccessfully to intervene in the case for the purpose of opposing the court's provision for competitive film bidding. Both Arnold and Barton were allowed to take part in the October hearing on a final decree—but only as *amicus curiae*, a status that technically cuts them off from being heard before the high tribunal in Washington when the case is appealed.

Arnold's weekend statement, presumably, applies to the Southern California Theatre Owners Association, as well as to the ATA, for those groups acted jointly in their original intervention petition.

Referring to the fact that Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright disposed of the intervention petitions on Oct. 21 merely by writing, "Intervention Denied," on the backs of the document, Arnold said his contemplated appeal would be delayed up to 60 days after this entry in anticipation of a formal order on the subject. If by then such an order has not been forthcoming, the appeal will be made without further waiting it, he added.

Competitive Bidding

Another development which could make the ATA appeal unnecessary, Arnold pointed out, would be a final decree from the court eliminating competitive bidding, if that should be handed down before Dec. 21. "If we have persuaded the court to abandon its plan on auction selling, we will have accomplished our aim, and the denial of our right to intervene will be of no consquence," he explained, adding: "However, if the court in its final opinion should retain auction selling as contemplated in its original opinion, or any modification of auction selling, the American Theatres Association will insist on its right to intervene for the purpose of appealing the decision to the Supreme Court of the United States."

Six SOPEG Pacts

(*Continued from page* 1)

clean-up" of unsettled contracts six pacts have been signed.

Paramount, accepting the same general contract signed by others with SOPEG, awarded $6, or 15 per cent increases, whichever is higher, to its laboratory workers. Maintenance workers were given a $6 raise, making them the highest paid maintenance employes in the city, according to a union spokesman.

Arbitration resulted in agreement on a $4.50 base, instead of the $6 requested by SOPEG, or a 15 per cent boost for employes at National Screen Service. DeLuxe Laboratories employes won $6, or 15 per cent.

Readers at Universal won a 15 per cent raise, retroactive to Oct. 21, and Artkino employes were awarded a $7.50, or a 15 per cent increase retroactive to Oct. 1 and a cut in the workweek from 40 hours to 37½ hours. The present contract with Artkino was extended to April 1, 1947.

30c RKO Dividend

Directors of RKO Corp., at a meeting here Friday, declared a dividend of 30 cents per share on the company's common stock, to be paid on Jan. 2 to stockholders of record Dec. 16.

Biggest Tax Year

(*Continued from page* 1)

tions alone will place 1946 well ahead of the 1945 record, and this December will reflect an even further increase over last year.

The September tax take was the highest single month in theatre history, amounting to $48,597,428. The second highest month was last year, also in September, which reaped the high return of $42,389,371 for the Government. September collections were made in October, and are called the "October revenue report."

Reasons for Increase

Approximately 90 per cent of the 20 per cent war-time admission tax income is derived from film theatres. It is believed here that the increase in business can be attributed in part to the fact that with the war over, people work less overtime and have more time for evening entertainment. Also, 12,000,000 men and women who served in the Armed Forces, and who normally attend theatres more than any other age group, are getting back to normal and therefore returning to their favorite form of entertainment—the theatre.

In addition, the present high national wage scale places many more persons in a position to spend for entertainment.

Compared with August of this year, the September business, collected in October, was higher by more than $10,000,000. August, 1946 collections amounted to $38,559,000.

UA-Selznick

(*Continued from page* 1)

Jr., director of advertising-publicity; Howard Le Sieuer, advertising manager, and Walter Gould, foreign manager, are slated to go to the Coast soon to see Selznick's film, "Duel in the Sun," which figures prominently in the situation, it is understood. Sears originally had planned to leave for England on Friday. This would indicate that a compromise is in view and with the balance of the dispute involving the picture, at least, expected to be resolved at the Dec. 10 meeting.

At the Friday session UA directors authorized the company to negotiate a deal with Walter Lantz for the distribution of 11 cartoons, in Technicolor, by the producer.

Astor Franchise to Edward Wheeler

CINCINNATI, Dec. 1.—Edward A. Wheeler, previously connected with the American Standard Film Co. and the Penn Film Service, covering Ohio, Pennsylvania and Illinois, has acquired the franchise for Astor Pictures in this area, and opened an office here from which he also will operate as local representative for the Avanada Co., with a lobby display service.

Coast Charity Drive

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 1.—The local industry's Permanent Charities Committee's chairman, M. C. Levee, announces the opening of the second annual United Appeal Campaign Monday. Organizational rallies for drive workers will be held at the Paramount and Disney studios Monday night.

Loew Is Honored By French Gov't

"The film industry must assist in the political education of the people of France and the United States, as of the rest of the world, to let them know what democracy is and why without it, the common man is doomed," Arthur M. Loew president of Loew's International Corp., told French and American film industry executives and French government officials at a dinner given to him in Paris before his departure for New York; he arrived here yesterday by plane.

Arthur M. Loew was promoted to the rank of "Officier" of the French Legion of Honor at the formal ceremoney, in recognition of his services to the French industry and to the cause of international peace through the medium of motion pictures. Loew had been a "Chevalier" of the Legion since 1938.

Rosette Presentation

Edmond Naegelen, French Minister of Education, formally made the presentation of the rosette, which is emblematic of the honor, at the banquet, which was also attended by Mme. Georges Bidault, wife of the former President of France.

Loew was lauded for enabling the general American film public to view outstanding motion pictures made in other countries. French films in this group are "Goupi Mains Rouge," released here as "It Happened At the Inn"; "Remorques," released here under the title "Stormy Waters," and "Les Anges du Peche," soon to be seen here as "Angels from the Streets." Other films released here as part of Loew's international "import" program include the Swiss-made, "The Last Chance" and the Mexican film, "Portrait of Maria."

In thanking the French government for the honor bestowed on him, Mr. Loew declared that the motion picture industry of the world has a responsibility beyond the commercial objective of entertaining people.

'Outlaw' Ruling

(*Continued from page* 1)

court enjoin the City license commissioner and the police department from causing or threatening to cause the arrest of any person exhibiting "The Outlaw" and from revoking or threatening to revoke the theatre license on the ground that the film was "obscene, indecent or immoral."

Justice Carroll G. Walter said that it was "unthinkable that a court should order defendants to do an act which almost certainly would subject them to criminal proceedings."

The court by its decision indicated that it was in substantial agreement with Justice Walter's reasoning. Because the ruling was unanimous, United Artists must obtain permission from the court to take an appeal to the Court of Appeals.

4 Millions for Films

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 1.—The industry has received $4,023,654 in loans, credits and discounts from its own bank, the Banco Cinematografico, S. A., this year.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 108 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 1946 TEN CENTS

Field Grosses Show Slight Gain in Month

But Averages Are Still Running Behind 1945

Boosted somewhat by Election Day and Thanksgiving business, grosses at some 170 key-city first-run houses throughout the country rose slightly last month, according to reports from MOTION PICTURE DAILY field correspondents. Estimated weekly average per house for November was $16,963, compared with $16,621 in October.

This year's volume of business, however, continues its recent trend of lagging behind last year's. November, 1945, showed a weekly average per house of $17,401, a few hundred dollars above last month's. But the gap appears to be closing, for theatres in Oct., 1945, averaged more than $1,000 per week higher than in Oct., 1946.

Effects of the current coal strike are

(*Continued on page 7*)

Don Swartz Seen Quitting NCA

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 2.—Although he has not yet handed in his resignation to President Ben Berger, Don Swartz, North Central Allied executive secretary, will leave that post on Jan. 1, it is understood. Reportedly, the split is over judgment in dealing for improvement in exhibitor and distributor relations, and failure of the recent NCA convention at Minneapolis to bring up for discussion trade practice problems which highlighted

(*Continued on page 7*)

Rose Insists Mason Is Under Contract

Insisting that he has a signed agreement with actor James Mason for five years at two pictures annually, David Rose, producer, declared here yesterday upon his departure for Hollywood that he would consult his lawyer there in order to determine what possible action he may take. Mason now is vacationing in Connecticut.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Columbia In Chicago Meet

Columbia home office executives, top sales personnel and district and branch managers will attend a four-day scale meeting at Chicago's Drake Hotel, tomorrow through Saturday, it was announced in New York yesterday. High on the agenda of the meeting will be a review of the operation of the company's new sales policy and an examination of what has been accomplished since its inception. Plans will also be set for the country-wide distribution of "The Jolston Story," now in its first pre-release engagements; as well as the distribution of "The Return of Monte Cristo," "Dead Reckoning," "Johnny O'Clock" and "Mr. District Attorney."

Home Office representation to the Chicago meeting will be headed by general sales manager A. Montague, who will preside, and will include

(*Continued on page 6*)

McCann-Erickson Handles Enterprise

Enterprise Productions, headed by David Loew and Charles Einfeld, has appointed McCann-Erickson, of Los Angeles and New York, as the exclusive advertising agency for its motion pictures, a spokesman for the agency announced here yesterday. The agency will work with an estimated budget of $2,000,000 for the first six Enterprise releases.

Marking the first time that a film company openly invited the services of national agencies and requested agency

(*Continued on page 6*)

Eagle-Lion Is Set for 1947

Eagle-Lion Films' product line-up for the coming year has been set, delegates heard at the company's initial sales meeting, held in New York, at the Hotel Warwick, ending yesterday. Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general manager, made the announcement.

Schwalberg stated that the first four pictures now ready for release are: "Bedelia," by Vera Caspary, starring Margaret Lockwood, with Ian Hunter; "It's a Joke, Son!" introducing Kenny Delmar (Senator Claghorn of the air); "Amy Comes Across," with Franchot Tone, Ann Richards and Tom Conway, and "The Adventuress" with Deborah Kerr.

Also, in various stages of preparation, are the following: Zachary Scott and Louis Hayward in "Prelude to Night"; Joan Leslie in "Repeat Per-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Petrillo Bill Ruled Unconstitutional

CHICAGO, Dec. 2.—Holding the Lea Act unconstitutional, U. S. District Court Judge Walter La Buy today ordered dismissal of the Government's criminal information suit against James Caesar Petrillo, president of the American Federation of Musicians. The suit was filed on May 28, when Petrillo called a strike against Chicago radio station WAAF after it had refused to hire additional turntable operators.

Judge La Buy ruled that the so-

(*Continued on page 6*)

CPA Permits Lights Outside Ticket Windows for Change Identification

Washington, Dec. 2.—Exhibitors may maintain lighting outside ticket windows for the identification of change but such illumination will not be permitted unless there is a total reduction of 25 per cent in the amount of electricity normally used by the theatre, the Civilian Production Administration ruled today.

There still must be no marquee lighting in excess of 60 watts or any exterior floodlighting. A light pointing toward the theatre entrance but which has been made stationary in the lobby will be considered "outdoor lighting," the CPA ruled. Officials said this ruling is necessary because of a danger that some exhibitors would use indoor floods to light up their theatre fronts.

Possibility of a 50 per cent reduction of commercial interior lighting in New York City before Christmas was seen yesterday following a meeting of Mayor O'Dwyer with the Emergency Fuel Committee. This measure, along with others, is scheduled to be invoked when the city gets down to a 15-day coal supply.

Flood of Film 'Messages' Is Planned in '47

12 Different Agencies Seek Theatre Release

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—During 1947 the industry will be approached by six Government agencies, two political national committees and four international organizations for cooperation in "Film Message" programs to the American people, according to a survey conducted here by MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Appeals for the use of the theatre for every type of picture message ranging from "world trade problems" to "racial relations" are forthcoming from more than a dozen different agencies and private organizations. Film messages would be sent to exhibitors at the rate of three monthly; if

(*Continued on page 6*)

Film Leaders Meet On M.P. Foundation

By SHERWIN KANE

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 3.—Representative leaders of all branches of the industry are gathering at the Roosevelt Hotel here to plan the formation of an industry charitable organization, to be known as the Motion Picture Foundation, at meetings to be held tomorrow and Wednesday.

Indications are that a temporary steering committee will be named at

(*Continued on page 3*)

Wallis Wants More Leisurely Schedule

Producer Hal Wallis, now in the East on business which is understood to include possible extension of his releasing agreement with Paramount beyond the five films remaining to be delivered under his present contract, would like to decrease his output, he declares.

For the present, however, Wallis in-

(*Continued on page 3*)

Coming Events

Today and tomorrow — Industry meeting to establish Charities Film Foundation, Hotel Roosevelt, New Orleans.
Today—New Jersey Allied business meeting and annual dinner, Ritz Restaurant, Passaic.
Dec. 4—Allied of Michigan meeting, Book-Cadillac Hotel, Detroit.
Dec. 5-6—Meeting of the J. Arthur Rank sales division of Universal, Blackstone Hotel, Chicago.
Dec. 9-10—Oklahoma Theatre Owners convention, Skirvin Tower Hotel, Oklahoma City.
Dec. 9 — FCC hearing on color television.
Dec. 11—Motion Picture Association board meeting, Washington.
Jan. 7—Television Broadcasters Association meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.
Jan. 22-23 — Western Pennsylvania Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners' annual convention, William Penn Hotel.
Jan. 26-28—Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina annual meeting, Charlotte.

New Ansco Plan for Employee Relations

BINGHAMTON, N. Y., Dec. 2.—A new approach to the handling of management problems faced by Ansco executives is opened with the organization of a new committee representing every employee of the division and announced by E. Allan Williford, general manager.

The group is designated as the "advisory board of management," and its chief purpose will be to consider the "human element" in the formulation of plant policies and practices. It will also serve as a "clearing house" for current problems of administration involving employee relationships. Membership includes foremen, supervisors, department managers and one plant manager.

'Clearing House' for New York Exhibitors

The Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association has a plan to establish a clearing house of dates at the organization's headquarters, here, for all motion picture meetings and social events in this area so that there will no longer be any conflict of dates.

Distributors will also be notified to use the facilities of the organization for this purpose. The Motion Picture Association has long had such a system for distributors, particularly on trade press screenings and certain promotional social functions.

Personal Mention

ARTHUR M. LOEW, president of Loew's International, has returned to New York from a two-month survey of England and the Continent.

•

ALFRED CROWN, foreign sales manager for Samuel Goldwyn productions, has returned to New York after a nine-week trip to France, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Denmark and England.

•

HAROLD HENDEE, RKO Radio home office research director, will address the American Association of University Women at Englewood, N. J., on Sunday.

•

DR. T. H. JAMES, Eastman Kodak chemist, has been given the Henderson Award of the Royal Photographic Society of Great Britain for photographic research.

•

AL SCHUMAN, general manager of Hartford Theatres, at Hartford, and MRS. SCHUMAN, are on a trip to New Orleans and Hot Springs, Ar.

•

JOHN CORFIELD, Eagle-Lion producer, who arrived in New York over the weekend, from England, will leave tomorrow for Hollywood.

•

JACK GOLDSTEIN, RKO Radio home office studio representative, is vacationing in Florida and Nassau.

•

PAUL PURDY, manager of the Webb Playhouse, Wethersfield, Conn., has recovered from illness.

•

A. FIORE, Altec Lansing superintendent in charge of Hollywood plant operations, is on a trip to Montreal.

•

PAUL SOSKIN, British producer, has arrived in New York from London.

•

LOUIS FROHLICH, film attorney, has left Minneapolis and will return to New York tomorrow.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount Western division sales manager, is back in New York from the Coast.

•

ABE BORISKY of Pantages Theatre, Birmingham, Ala., was a recent Atlanta visitor.

•

HARRY DAVIS, RKO Radio manager for Colombia and Ecuador, is vacationing here.

•

JANIS PAIGE, Warner star, has arrived in New York from Hollywood.

BARNEY BALABAN, Paramount president, left here by plane yesterday for New Orleans. He is due back Thursday.

•

CLIFF ALMY, Warner supervisor in Japan and the Philippines, is en route to California from Manila for a month's recuperation from after-effects of his wartime imprisonment by the Japs. He may visit the home office before returning to his post.

•

MRS. COMPTON BENNETT, wife of the British director, arrived in New York yesterday from England by plane, accompanied by her daughter, en route to the Coast to join BENNETT.

•

LAURA KOVACH, secretary to Universal-International's Cleveland branch manager, MAX COHEN, is convalescing from an operation at Grace Hospital, there.

•

CHIPS RAFFERTY, actor, returned to New York yesterday from Toronto, where he was honored by executives of Odeon Theatres.

•

SARA NANCE, daughter of JOHN NANCE of 20th Century-Fox's Atlanta office, and EDWIN MOZLEY were married there recently.

•

MRS. SARA SMITH, head of Columbia's Atlanta accounting department, is recuperating from an operation in the Jesse Memorial Hospital, there.

•

RUSS DAUGHTERMAN, Greenriver, Utah, exhibitor, and WILLIAM LEESE, Nampa, Idaho, exhibitor, are visiting in Salt Lake City.

•

GEORGE SHARF of the M-G-M legal department is due back in New York today from Boston.

•

HERB CROOKER, M-G-M Eastern publicity manager, will leave New York for the Coast later this week.

•

HUGH MARTIN of the M. and M. Circuit, Leesburg, Fla., is visiting Atlanta.

•

M. A. (BOB) BAUGH, of 20th-Fox, Atlanta, and RUTH S. FREEMAN, were married last Thanksgiving Day.

•

MRS. STELLA DEFOOR, Atlanta IATSE chairman, is confined to her home due to illness.

Arthur Schwartz Has Own Producing Unit

Arthur Schwartz is here from Hollywood to line up stories for his own producing unit and is considering a dramatic vehicle as his first. He also has in project another stage play and intends to divide his future time between film production on the Coast and play production in New York. His last film was "Night and Day," for Warners.

Sullivan, Lytell and Hershfield Aid 'PAL'

Ed Sullivan, Bert Lytell and Harry Hershfield will be masters of ceremonies at "Stars Shine for PAL," fifth annual benefit show of the New York City Police Athletic League, which will be presented at Madison Square Garden, next Monday evening, it was announced by Deputy Police Commissioner James B. Nolan, president of PAL.

Milner a PRC Manager

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 2.—Sam Milner has been named branch manager of PRC Pictures' film exchange here, succeeding Syd Lehman, who has resigned.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
"THE JOLSON STORY"
with LARRY PARKS - EVELYN KEYES
In Technicolor - A Columbia Picture
SPECTACULAR STAGE PRESENTA[illegible]

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR
Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
JOHN FORD'S
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20TH CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI
B'way at 49th St.
Doors Open 9:30 A.M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
MARK HELLINGER presents
ERNEST HEMINGWAY'S 'THE KILLERS'
In Person
Ralph SLATER
(World's Greatest Hypnotist)
THE MURTAH SISTERS
plus OTHERS

IRVING BERLIN'S
"BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The BEST thing that ever happened . . is
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

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More Labor Films, Request of CIO

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Hollywood cannot be depended upon to make motion pictures showing the real "Mr. and Mrs. America," the *CIO News*, official journal of that labor organization, said today. The paper added that more films are needed which show the role of labor and the "common man" in America.

"Certainly, labor cannot look to Hollywood as the source of pictures other than those of entertainment value," the *News* stated. "The current flood of mysteries, psychologic thrillers, leg shows and comedies help kill an evening but they don't tell the story of Mr. and Mrs. America who work for a living."

Calling attention to the educational value of films, the paper said that the effectiveness of this type of picture best demonstrated during the war when millions of soldiers learned in 30 days what formerly took a year to teach by other methods. All unions are urged by the *News* to adopt the motion picture as the "primary method" of education.

Referring to the techniques of visual aids, the paper remarked: "The same techniques can and must be used today by the trade union movement and the progressive coalition to combat the anti-labor drive."

CSU Girding for Protracted Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—With studio picketing reduced to three hours daily on a decision taken at the weekend, the Conference of Studio Unions appeared to be revamping its strike strategy in anticipation of protracted duration.

The change, which enables strikers to engage in other work if they want to, followed receipt of the producers' wire declining to discuss the situation, which, CSU executives said, "contained nothing new."

The striking carpenters, painters and electricians over the weekend invited all American Federation of Labor locals in Southern California to attend an "anti-injunction conference" on Saturday.

Pomerance Will Aid CSU in Coast Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—M. W. Pomerance, executive secretary of the Screen Writers' Guild since 1944, has resigned from that post. No successor has yet been announced.

Pomerance, who has had long experience in the labor relations field and who was formerly with the National Labor Relations Board, will work with the Conference of Studio Unions during the current Hollywood motion picture strike.

Rules on Theatre Display

HARTFORD, Dec. 2. — Henry G. Thomas, fire chief, announces that the fire department here has banned the use of Christmas trees or any other combustible decorations in theatres, and other places of public assembly, unless they are properly flameproofed.

Film Leaders Foundation Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

the meetings to function pending the establishment of a permanent organization. District committees of 10 to 15 members in each exchange area may be invited to aid the steering committee in the preliminary work of organization. Thereafter, the members of the 31 district committees will constitute the membership of the Foundation.

Ultimately, according to proposals subject to approval at the meeting here, the Foundation will have a governing body in the form of a national board of trustees consisting of the 31 chairmen of the district committee, the majority of whom, it is expected, will be exhibitors; approximately 10 distribution representatives and approximately 10 trustees-at-large who will be nominated and elected by the other trustees and who will be individuals of prominence in the industry regardless of affiliation.

It is also proposed that an executive committee of 10 to 12 be elected by the board of trustees from among its membership, this committee to be the continuing operating body of the organization. In addition, five or six regional committees, comprised of members of district committees within each region, may be appointed and would have charge of regional administration within their respective areas for the Foundation.

The fundamental purpose is to provide an organized industry philanthropy with an endowment fund which will administer a program for the aid, relief and welfare of men and women employed within the industry. It is described by its sponsors as "The charity which begins at home for the benefit of our own industrial family."

Establishment of a financial goal for the Foundation is expected to await later consultations with representatives of the several branches of the industry.

Methods of raising funds which are expected to be discussed here include an extended campaign throughout the industry to provide an endowment fund, of which only the income from the fund would be utilized for the work of the Foundation; supplemental activities, if required for emergencies, to augment income from the endowment fund, and annual contributions to provide for an annual budget.

Walter Vincent of New York is chairman of the Foundation's organizing committee which will meet here.

The addition of six names today swelled to 65 the list of those pledged to participate in the two-day conference at the Roosevelt Hotel.

The six, announced by Vincent, are: Jack Cohn, vice-president of Columbia Pictures; H. A. Cole, of Allied Theater Owners of Texas; Max A. Cohen, of Cinema Circuit, New York; Herbert Golden, of *Variety;* Ed Martin, of Martin Theatres, Columbus, Ga., and Louis Novins of Paramount Pictures.

AMPA Offers Aid to New Film Foundation

Expressing gratification over plans to establish a motion picture charity foundation, the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, here, yesterday wired the New Orleans meeting to form such a foundation, extending its cooperation "to assist in any possible way." Declaring that AMPA is the oldest industry organization in point of 30 years of continuous existence, the telegram said: "AMPA realizes the importance of such a move since it has carried on relief work for members of its craft consistent with its own limited resources."

Rose - Mason

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rose, former Paramount managing director in London, who returned to the United States in September, said he had proceeded with plans for organizing his producing outfit, incurred expenses and invested time and energy on the basis of his contract with Mason. He also indicated that he had concluded a distribution deal for the pictures but was not in a position to divulge details.

Mason, on the other hand, in an interview here Sunday evening, challenged Rose to produce evidence of "the alleged commitment." Asserting that he had made no alliance or deals, and adding that he does not plan to make one for motion pictures, the British actor said that he was planning to leave for Bermuda in a few weeks.

$168,000 New 'Edge' Record Is Cited

Business for the second week of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy Theatre, here, is exceeding the record revenue of the first, according to the theatre's management, which reports a total of $137,300 for the five days ending Sunday night, with $168,000 anticipated for the week.

Brown May Produce 'Yearling' on Stage

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2. — Clarence Brown has asked M-G-M's permission to finance and direct a stage version, incorporating a new presentation genre based on a number of Brown's own mechanical and technological developments, of Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings' "The Yearling", the film version of which Brown directed.

In addition to directing the stage production, Brown has offered to finance it himself, planning on presentation about six months after release of the M-G-M picture. He wants to star Claude Jarman, Jr., who portrayed Jody on the screen, in the stage production.

AVC to Honor Wyler

The motion picture chapter, American Veterans Committee, will honor director William Wyler at their next meeting tomorrow when they will present him with a citation for "directorial genius predicated on honest prospective and consummately developed technical skill in depicting the veteran of World War II in Samuel Goldwyn's 'The Best Years of Our Lives.'" Walter Brown, chairman, will preside.

Wyler, who will address the meeting after the presentation, is a veteran of World War II; he served overseas as a colonel.

Council Seeks More Government Films

WASHINGTON, Dec. 2.—Better and more effective distribution of Government-made films made is one of the missions of the Film Council of America for 1947, according to its planned program for next year which was announced here today. The council has adopted a four-plan program to be handled by local film councils and the U. S. Government.

The Program

The program for next year includes: Strong support for the use of films on the international organizations; develop a program of publications and reports through the Council and with cooperating agencies, latest publication adopted by the Council being the 168-page "Use of Audio-Visual Materials Toward International Understanding;" a thorough study to be conducted on ways and means to better distribute Government pictures, and, to effect a close liaison relationship with local and state groups interested in the visual education and adult education fields.

Wallis' Schedule

(*Continued from page* 1)

tends to go forward at the same production pace he has maintained since setting up his autonomous unit in September of 1944—three pictures per year. He has just finished his seventh film for Paramount.

Goldwyn's Statement

Expression of Wallis' sentiment in favor of a more leisurely program was prompted by Samuel Goldwyn's recently-stated opinion that Hollywood is turning out too many pictures annually to enable the industry's writers to advance sufficiently in the treatment of themes demanded by the postwar era. Wallis finds, however, that since most independents need few stories, relatively, the writing problem is not a drastic one for producers in this class. But he warmly seconds Goldwyn's plea for new blood among technicians, a field in which both believe that closed-shop union regulations are stifling the fullest, possible development.

Quality Sustained

Making clear his feeling that his present production pace, however demanding, has not resulted in any sacrifice of quality, Wallis said he will place "Deadlock" before the cameras upon his return to Hollywood following his appearance at the Nobel dinner here on Dec. 10. "Be Still My Love" will go into production in January, after which Wallis will travel to the Denham studios in London to film "For Her to See," which is scheduled as his first picture to be made abroad.

Wallis did not indicate whether his next contract with Paramount will call for any reduction in his filming.

IN MEMORIAM
LOUIS FRISCH
1886 - 1946
A great soul has returned to GOD
THE PICTURE PIONEERS

NOW!

ABBOTT AND COSTELLO

IT'S THE ALL-TIME LAUGH HIT....STREAMLINED FOR NOW!





5 wonderful years on Broadway!

...32 wonderful months on the air!

and day after day of wonderful business

ON YOUR SCREEN!

Bing Crosby Producers Inc.

presents **ANNE NICHOLS'**

"ABIE'S IRISH ROSE"

with **MICHAEL CHEKHOV**

and

introducing **JOANNE DRU***

and **RICHARD NORRIS**

Produced and Directed by A. EDWARD SUTHERLAND

Screenplay by Anne Nichols

*by arrangement with Howard Hawks

from UA

Columbia Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rube Jackter, Louis Astor, Louis Weinberg, Irving Wormser, Maurice Grad, Leo Jaffe, George Joseph, H. C. Kaufman, Joseph Freiberg, Seth Raisler, Irving Sherman, Vincent Borelli, Irving Moross and Sidney Singerman.

District Managers present will include Nat Cohn, New York; S. A. Galanty, Mid-East; Jerome Safron, West; Carl Shalit, Central; B. C. Marcus, Mid-West; R. J. Ingram, Southeast; J. Underwood, Southwest; H. Rogovin, New England; H. E. Weiner, Eastern Pennsylvania and Southern New Jersey.

Branch Managers

Branch Managers attending will include: J. Bullwinkle, Albany; Phil Fox, Buffalo; George Roscoe, Charlotte; B. J. Lourie, Chicago; A. S. Moritz, Cincinnati; Oscar Ruby, Cleveland; H. C. Hill, Denver; M. Evidon, Des Moines; E. Hochstim, Detroit; W. Guy Craig, Indianapolis; T. Baldwin, Kansas City; W. G. Ball, Los Angeles; H. Chrisman, Memphis; H. Olshan, Milwaukee; H. J. Chapman, Minneapolis; T. F. O'Toole, New Haven; H. Duvall, New Orleans; Saul Trauner, New York; C. A. Gibbs, Oklahoma City; Joe Jacobs, Omaha; A. Levy, Pittsburgh; J. R. Beale, Portland; C. D. Hill, St. Louis; W. G. Seib, Salt Lake City; L. E. Tillman, San Francisco; L. N. Walton, Seattle; B. Caplon, Washington; Harvey Harnick, Toronto.

Petrillo Bill

(*Continued from page* 1)

called anti-Petrillo legislation under which the suit was brought violates the first amendment of the Constitution by its restriction upon freedom of speech by peaceful picketing, also the fifth and 13th amendments by its restriction upon employment of labor, as well as the fifth by arbitrary classification as between employers and employes and as to communication industries.

Congress' Province

The judge stated that is was within the province of Congress to enact legislation which might overcome any alleged evils sought to be corrected by the Lea Act but indicated that he considered the present bill indefinite and uncertain in its definition of a criminal offense.

Government attorneys here today indicated that they would appeal the verdict directly to the U. S. Supreme Court.

MITCHELL MAY, Jr.
CO., INC.
INSURANCE
•
Specializing
in requirements of the
Motion Picture Industry
75 Maiden Lane, New York
510 W. 6th St., Los Angeles

Film 'Messages' Planned

(*Continued from page* 1)

plans formulated by all agencies are successful.

A majority of the Government agency requests for messages will be routed through the Office of Reconversion, to which overall Government film activities have been assigned by the president. Both the GOP and Democrats will want special party-progress reports sent out by the newsreels.

Agencies Involved

Federal agencies desiring films are: the Veterans Administration, State Department, Department of Agriculture, Justice Department, Commerce Department and the Office of Reconversion.

Gen. Omar Bradley of the Veterans Administration asserts that there is a "drastic" need for a picture with which to outline the insurance rights of the veteran. He would also like to see a film made on rehabilitation and the progress of the disabled veteran in civilian life.

At the State Department, two agencies desire industry cooperation. Under-Secretary William Clayton wants several pictures on world trade. He wants the people to understand the progress being made in his department toward removal of trade barriers.

'Stepped Up' Program

John M. Begg, charged with State Department cultural films, wants his program "stepped up" with cooperation from major producers in making films which show the American way of life. These films are being exhibited abroad, through American Embassys. Small independent producers have been handling a majority of these cultural productions, but Begg is reported to be interested in procuring the services of major producers, who have better facilities to make some of the films. The Government has sufficient appropriations with which to pay for all cultural film productions, it was said.

Getting food from the farm to the market place and, in turn, to the table is a story which the Agriculture Department would like to tell. Also methods of handling food, preserving-dishes and other useful household information should be given the public, according to the Department.

Attorney General Tom Clark has a dual program outlined, in tentative form, which he would like to see the industry adopt. Clark sees crime and youth delinquency a "growing danger" to the American people. He plans to confer soon with major producers to urge them to produce more "Crime Does Not Pay" films, geared both for youth and adult consumption.

The Attorney General has more film ideas which have no dealing with crime prevention. He desires films which outline to the people their civil rights, the price of liberty and other patriotic items.

Business Opportunities

Opportunities for the small business man would be the theme of films coming from the Commerce Department. These pictures, short five-minute trailers, would be for public exhibition in the same form as wartime messages.

Requests from international groups are forthcoming, with a majority of the film ideas coming from the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization.

The international labor organization will also approach the industry. In addition, the World Bank may desire a film message on "monetary standards and living conditions throughout the world."

The United Nations itself will soon establish a permanent public media group. Use of films to outline the progress and objectives of the world organization will probably be recommended by that group.

If all "film message" requests are granted, and provided production of the pictures can be accomplished by the agencies planning them, there would be an average of three film messages a month on the screen of each exhibitor who uses them. Looking at tentative plans, there are already ideas for 36 film messages.

Enterprise Account

(*Continued from page* 1)

presentations, according to a McCann-Erickson spokesman, selection of the agency will probably require an expansion of its West Coast personnel. Marion Harper, vice-president of the agency, has flown to the Coast from New York to assume direction of the account, and Burt Cochran, who is in charge of operations in Southern California, will coordinate the advertising activities.

The Enterprise assignment stipulates that the agency is to handle no other motion picture business.

Warners Make Three Foreign Promotions

W. Wedesweiler, formerly a member of the Warner sales staff working out of Brisbane, Australia, has been promoted to branch manager in Bangkok, Siam, succeeding J. R. Lambert, resigned; Douglas J. Granville becomes general manager of the Chile office, succeeding I. Rosenfeld, and Pedro A. Pietri has been appointed manager of the Santo Domingo branch, replacing I. Seralles.

Foote, Cone Names 6 Vice-Presidents

Foote, Cone and Belding, advertising agency, has expanded its management with the election of six new directors to its board. The six are: William E. Berchtold, vice-president and chairman of the plans board, New York; Harry A. Berk, vice-president in charge of the international division; J. Hugh E. Davis, vice-president and manager of the Chicago office; William J. Pringle, vice-president and manager of the Los Angeles office; H. K. Reynolds, vice-president and manager of the San Francisco office; William R. Sachse, secretary-treasurer.

N. J. Allied Dinner In Passaic Tonight

New York and New Jersey theatre owners, and home office exchange representatives will attend the annual dinner to be given by New Jersey Allied at Harry Hecht's Ritz Restaurant, Passaic, tonight.

The Allied unit will hold a business session in the afternoon, presided over by Ed Lachman, president.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ST. LOUIS

"Undercurrent," at Loew's State topping the grossers, along with "Cloak and Dagger" at the St. Louis. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4:

BLUE SKIES (Para.) — AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $9,000. (Average: $18,000)

TRAIL OF THE LONESOME PINE (Para. reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $20,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,000. (Average: $9,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,500)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $19,000. (Average: $6,000)

LOUISIANA PURCHASE (Para. reissue) and SING YOU SINNERS (Para. reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,000)

PITTSBURGH

First-run houses are getting back into a better-than-average stride. "Margie" is giving the J. P. Harris its best gross in many months. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 7:

DARK MIRROR (International)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,700)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gros: $22,000. (Average: $11,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE VERDICT (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover from Warner. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,500)

THE BLACK ANGEL (U) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $3,200)

DECEPTION (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $25,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover from Stanley. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

BALTIMORE

Strong attractions, opening Thanksgiving Day and greeted with ideal weather that continued over the week-end, have boosted business into the best brackets in many weeks. The "brownout" has failed to hurt grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 5:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $15,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $12,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,750)

DECEPTION (WB) — STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $17,500)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days.

(*Continued on page* 7)

Key Grosses

(Continued from page 6)

With stage show. Gross: $20,500. (Average: $18,000)

ADAM HAD FOUR SONS (Col. reissue)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

CINCINNATI
VOL. 6

Neither enormous shopping crowds nor the fuel situation are affecting attendance here. The RKO Albee, with Mickey Rooney on stage and "The Falcon's Adventure" on the screen, is playing to a record gross. The weather has ranged from pleasantly warm to cool. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 3-6:

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Stage: Mickey Rooney and acts. Gross: $42,000. (Average: $22,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M - G - M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $10,000)

DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.) and RED RIVER RENEGADES (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,-800. (Average: $1,600)

G.I. WAR BRIDES (Rep.) and GUNNING FOR VENGEANCE (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,200. (Average: $1,100)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—KEITH'S (1,-500) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $7,500)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,500)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (44c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days, 4th week, on a moveover after three weeks at the Palace. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,000)

TORONTO

Half of Toronto's first-run theatres have British features. Grosses are around average. The week saw the final football game of the year, the usual hockey and basketball, as well as the Ice-Capades at Maple Leaf Gardens. There was the first real snow of the winter. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 5-6:

THEY WERE SISTERS (British)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,700. (Average: $4,700)

HEARTBEAT (RKO Radio)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,800. (Average: $14,300)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $13,800. (Average: $13,300)

CENTENNIAL SUMMER (20th-Fox)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $14,-600)

CARAVAN (British)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,-900. (Average: $11,400)

THEY WERE SISTERS (British)—VICTORIA (1,420) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $6,800)

$196,000 Profit for Disney Productions

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 2.—Walt Disney Productions report a net income of $196,000 for the fiscal year ended Sept. 28, equal to 26 cents per share on 652,840 shares outstanding after provision for preferred dividends accumulated but not yet paid. This compares with 31 cents per share for the year before.

Field Grosses Up Slightly

(Continued from page 1)

not reflected, to any marked degree, in this November's figures. Nor are the potential grosses for "The Razor's Edge" and "The Best Years of Our Lives," which have opened to record business in New York but have not yet reached other key cities.

"Margie" and "Two Years Before the Mast" share honors as November box office leaders in the field, with strong competition offered by "Song of the South," "Deception," "Cloak and Dagger," "Sister Kenny," "Angel on My Shoulder," "The Dark Mirror," "The Jolson Story," "Notorious," "Nobody Lives Forever," "The Killers," "No Leave, No Love," "Three Little Girls in Blue" and "Canyon Passage."

Other films turning in better-than-average grosses in a number of situations were: "Suspense," "Criminal Court," "Joe Palooka, Champ," "The Strange Woman," "Two Smart People," "The Verdict," "The Cockeyed Miracle," "Centennial Summer," "Undercurrent," "Faithful in My Fashion," "Boys' Town," "My Darling Clementine," "Gallant Journey," "The Bride Wore Boots," "Lady Luck," "Earl Carroll Sketchbook," "The Return of Monte Chisto," "Gallant Bess," "Notorious Gentleman," "The Big Sleep," "Decoy," "Thrill of Brazil" and "White Tie and Tails," as well as the following reissues: "Rage in Heaven," "Captain Fury," "Captain Caution" and "King's Row."

Composite key city box office reports for 1946, compared with the corresponding weeks of 1945, follow:

1946 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 4-5	142	$3,304,300	$23,270
Jan. 11-12	144	2,940,100	20,417
Jan. 18-19	150	2,706,300	18,040
Jan. 25-26	158	2,800,100	17,722
Feb. 1-2	157	2,777,000	18,390
Feb. 8-9	158	2,798,300	17,756
Feb. 15-16	159	2,755,400	17,330
Feb. 22-23	156	2,638,200	16,918
March 1-2	164	3,106,000	18,939
March 8-9	163	2,926,600	17,955
March 15-16	154	2,818,800	18,304
March 22-23	165	2,981,100	18,067
March 29-30	167	2,810,300	16,828
April 5-6	170	2,908,100	17,106
April 12-13	165	2,845,300	17,244
April 19-20	161	2,694,600	16,737
April 26-27	164	3,187,000	19,433
May 3-4	162	3,025,400	18,675
May 10-11	144	2,409,700	16 734
May 17-18	150	2,526,500	16,843
May 24-25	152	2,406,500	15,832
May 31-June 1	130	2,058,200	15,855
June 7-8	152	2,803,000	18,506
June 14-15	154	2,541,800	16,506
June 21-22	140	2,406,900	17,092
June 28-29	159	2,559,000	16,094
July 5-6	167	2,737,500	16,392
July 12-13	154	2,944,200	19,112
July 19-20	163	2,599,300	15,928
July 26-27	157	2,702,700	17,215
Aug. 2-3	165	2,856,600	17,193
Aug. 9-10	162	2,919,700	18,023
Aug. 16-17	157	2,852,000	18,165
Aug. 23-24	167	3,078,800	18,435
Aug. 30-31	166	2,984,500	17,979
Sept. 6-7	171	3,469,600	20,290
Sept. 13-14	170	3,015,600	17,739
Sept. 20-21	169	3,944,800	17,425
Sept. 27-28	168	2,804,900	16,696
Oct. 4-5	172	2,995,300	17,409
Oct. 11-12	169	2,740,800	16,218
Oct. 18-19	169	2,701,000	15,982
Oct. 25-26	177	3,093,000	17,475
Nov. 1-2	174	2,925,000	16,810
Nov. 8-9	164	2,830,800	17,261
Nov. 15-16	177	3,068,800	17,338
Nov. 22-23	170	2,785,400	16,384
Nov. 29-30	160	2,698,700	16,867

1945 Week Ending	No. of Theatres	Total Gross	Average Per Theatre
Jan. 5-6	136	$2,828,300	$20,795
Jan. 12-13	133	2,393,400	17,995
Jan. 19-20	136	2,289,400	16,826
Jan. 26-27	149	2,543,400	17,069
Feb. 2-3	148	2,534,300	17,123
Feb. 9-10	144	2,506,700	17,407
Feb. 16-17	141	2,491,800	17,672
Feb. 23-24	143	2,448,000	17,118
March 2-3	134	2,462,100	18,373
March 9-10	144	2,448,700	17,000
March 16-17	152	2,530,500	16,648
March 23-24	144	2,248,900	16,687
March 30-31	137	2,123,100	15,446
April 6-7	129	2,293,900	17,872
April 13-14	138	2,268,600	16,349
April 20-21	123	1,893,700	15,395
April 27-28	137	2,179,500	15,908
May 4-5	132	2,141,000	16,219
May 11-12	123	2,166,400	17,613
May 18-19	141	2,390,000	16,950
May 25-26	127	2,052,800	16,153
June 1-2	119	1,902,700	15,989
June 8-9	128	2,020,800	15.788
June 15-16	136	2,266,600	16,666
June 22-23	125	1,903,400	15,227
June 29-30	119	1,952,800	16,410
July 6-7	132	2,248,900	17,371
July 13-14	143	2,586,800	18,089
July 20-21	131	2,271,300	17.384
July 27-28	123	2,156,100	17,529
Aug. 3-4	136	2,395,400	17,613
Aug. 10-11	120	2,316,100	19,300
Aug. 17-18	129	2,367,500	18,352
Aug. 24-25	147	2,699,200	18,362
Aug. 31-Sept. 1	146	2,676,100	18,334
Sept. 7-8	139	2,689,600	19,350
Sept. 14-15	141	2,484,600	17,621
Sept. 21-22	143	2,535,700	17,732
Sept. 28-29	140	2,360,100	16,858
Oct. 5-6	146	2,512,400	17,208
Oct. 12-13	136	2,475,200	18,200
Oct. 19-20	137	2,454,100	17,913
Oct. 26-27	139	2,476,700	17,818
Nov. 2-3	134	2,331,300	17,400
Nov. 9-10	137	2,359,300	17,141
Nov. 16-17	137	2,487,700	18,151
Nov. 23-24	155	2,544,900	16,412
Nov. 30-Dec. 1	161	2,896,500	17,900

Don Swartz

(Continued from page 1)

regional meetings conducted by Swartz throughout the Northwest area in recent months. During his regime, Swartz has played a leading role in bringing the membership of NCA to 302 dues-paying members, reported by Berger at the convention as the largest in the association's history. Swartz this week was reported considering production of a picture in Hollywood in association with Ralph Green, former circuit operator in this territory.

Rise Stevens Reception

Columbia Broadcasting and the Benton and Bowles Agency will be hosts at a reception for Rise Stevens, star of the network's "Family Hour" show, at the Pierre Hotel, here, tomorrow.

Bibo Signs Taylor

Walter Bibo, president of Excelsior Pictures, has signed Deems Taylor to appear in and do a narration for its first release, a feature version of the opera, "The Barber of Seville".

Eagle-Lion Set

(Continued from page 1)

formance"; Louis Bromfield's "Kenny"; "Out of the Blue," by Vera Caspary; "Love from a Stranger," by Agatha Christie; "Prince Valiant," in color, from the King Features" syndicated story; "Clementine," Peggy Goodin's prize-winning novel; "Montana," in color; an untitled story, in color, with Arturo DeCordova, and "The Man Without a Country."

To Be Sold Separately

Schwalberg added that these pictures will be sold separately in accordance with Eagle-Lion's sales policy of individual handling of pictures, and that each would have the backing of major coverage in advertising, publicity and exploitation nationally in advance of release, as well as complete local cooperative campaigns.

Max E. Youngstein, director of E-L advertising-publicity, outlined plans for advertising, publicity and exploitation on "Bedelia" and "It's a Joke, Son!" as well as on forthcoming productions. He also informed the meeting of the organization of a home office advertising, publicity and exploitation staff.

Schwalberg Presides

The three-day meeting, presided over by Schwalberg, brought together for the first time all Eagle-Lion special sales representatives, as well as home office executives and personnel. Representatives attending from their field headquarters were: Herman Beiersdorf, Dallas; L. E. Goldhammer, Los Angeles; R. L. McCoy, Atlanta; Harry Mandell, Chicago; Joseph Minsky, Philadelphia; Mark Raymon, Kansas City; Henry G. Segal, Boston; William Shartin, Cleveland; Max J. Weisfeldt, New York.

Others Attending

Also, Arthur Jeffrey, exploitation director, and Ralph Clark, Ben Shectman, Edmund E. Levy, Emanuel G. Goodman, Martin Friedman, Murray M. Kaplan, J. Harold Roth, Edward E. Lavenberg, David J. McGowan, Jerry Limata, Samuel Greller and John J. Scuoppo.

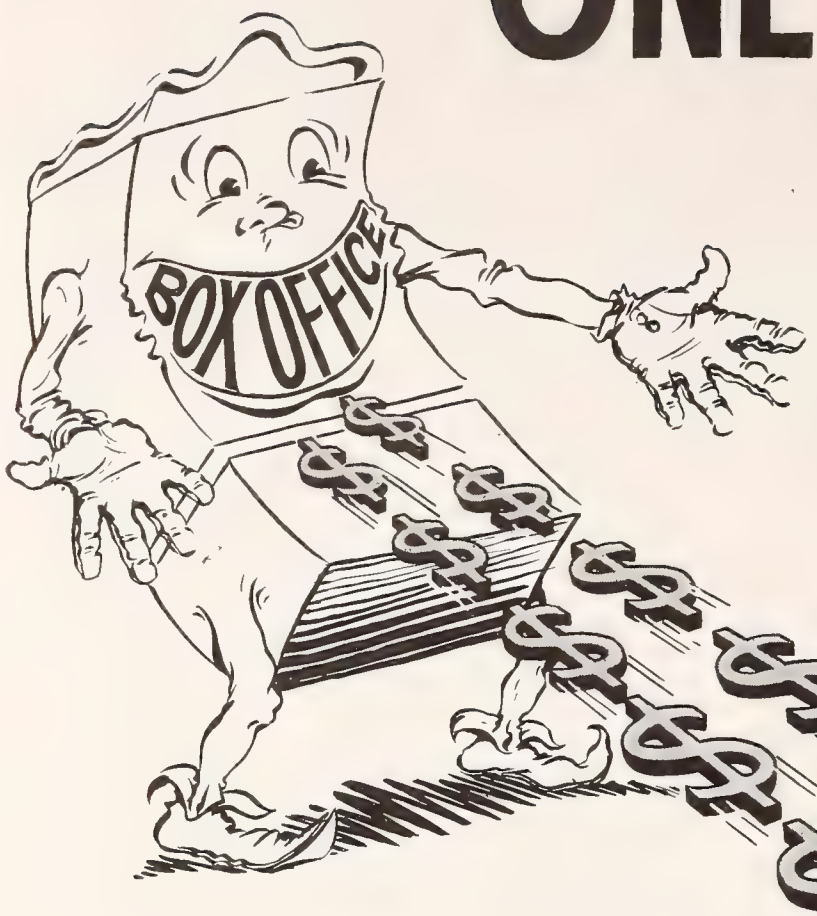
Guests included Jock Lawrence of The J. Arthur Rank Organization, who gave greetings from Rank; Irving Paul Lazar, executive assistant to Bryan Foy, who represented Eagle-Lion's vice-president in charge of production and spoke to the meeting on activities at the studio; Jerry Edwards of the legal firm of Phillips, Nizer, Benjamin and Krim, and T. H. Bierce, comptroller of Pathe Industries.

Eagle-Lion's first two releases "Bedelia" and "It's a Joke, Son!" were screened for the delegates.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.
NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING
of
"THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE"
MON., DEC. 9th, at 10:30 A. M.
RKO PROJ. ROOM, 630 NINTH AVE., NEW YORK, N. Y.

ONE WAY TRAFFIC

Straight to your Box Office!





Plenty of *Traffic*... and NO *Traffic Problems*, here... because it's a ONE WAY stream of *patron-dollars*... headed for your theatre!

The PRIZE BABY is on the job... *getting* traffic and *directing* it... "*arresting*" attention ... with eye-and-ear-appealing TRAILERS and ACCESSORIES... and seeing to it that every patron gets a "*ticket*"!

His traffic sign is always set at "GO"... and wise exhibitors take the hint, because... they know from experience ... that The PRIZE BABY means "*business*" ... SRO business... at your Box Office!

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST.,
NEW YORK, N. Y.
(6 COPIES)

VOL. 60. NO. 109 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1946 TEN CENTS

Fred Allen Is Champion In Radio Poll

Henry Morgan Second For Critics' Favors

By GENE ARNEEL

Fred Allen was voted "Champion of Champions," top honor in MOTION PICTURE DAILY's 1946 radio poll for *Fame* magazine, by newspaper and magazine radio editors, columnists and critics of the United States and Canada.



Fred Allen

In winning this year, Allen ended the five-year reign of Bob Hope, who had won the "Champion of Champions" designation every year since 1941. Hope finished in a two-way tie with Bing Crosby for second place in the championship division of this year's poll, far behind Allen. Lux Radio Theatre, a perennial favorite, was third.

Allen also was voted "Best Comedian" and his Tender-Leaf Tea show on NBC Sunday nights was voted the "Best Comedy Show."

Henry Morgan, ABC comedian, Wednesday nights, emerged as the most spectacular new name among radio luminaries by not only running far ahead of all competition for "The Most Promising Star of Tomorrow" designation, but also by finishing second in the "Best Comedy Show" division, ahead of Hope, who placed third

(*Continued on page* 6)

Radio Poll Winners

Complete results of *Motion Picture Daily's* 11th annual poll—"Radio Champions," both personalities and programs, appear on page 7. Results of the balloting on networks and individual publicists acclaimed as giving the "Best Publicity Service" to radio editors, columnists and critics, also are on page 7. Photographs of winners appear on page 6.

U.S. Will Object to Exhibitor Appeal of Intervention Denial

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Objection to an anticipated appeal of the New York District Court's order denying the American Theatres Association permission to intervene in the industry anti-trust suit will be made by the Department of Justice, according to Government attorneys, who assert that there is a "definite legal question as to whether such an order can be appealed to the Supreme Court."

Counsel for the ATA has gone on record with a plan to appeal the intervention denial.

Robert L. Wright, special assistant to the Attorney General, stated that the Department will have the same op-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Ray Moon Is Named 20th District Mgr.

Ray E. Moon, New York branch manager of the 20th Century-Fox, has been named district manager of a newly-created Eastern New York State district, with supervision over the Greater New York and Albany territories, by A. W. Smith, Jr., Eastern sales manager. Northeastern district manager E. X. Callahan's district will continue to include Boston, Buffalo and New Haven. The promotion becomes effective immediately.

Chicago 'Lab' Staffs Get 20% Increase

Chicago, Dec. 3.—A 20 per cent raise has been granted to Chicago laboratory technicians, Local No. 780 (IATSE-AFL) taking effect immediately, Gene Atkinson, business manager of the union, concluded the agreement in individual contracts with the laboratories, with some 170 technicians covered by the raise.

Distributors Hit By a New Method

CHICAGO, Dec. 3.—In an inheritance tax return filed in Cook County Court and made public here, detailing the "fair cash value" of the late Henry Schoenstadt's one-fourth interest in the Schoenstadt Circuit, it is charged that because of the method of doing business employed by distributors and affiliated circuits the motion picture business "has been hazardous in the Chicago area and the Schoenstadt circuit has been prevented and unable to secure desirable pictures to exhibit in their various theatres." This method of independent exhibitor attack on distributor practices is without precedent, so far as is known.

The tax return also charged that "only after preferred exhibitors have

(*Continued on page* 4)

Berlin, Sherwood and Skouras Tribute Dec. 12

Irving Berlin, Robert E. Sherwood and Spyros P. Skouras will be honored by their friends in the arts and industries of the American theatre at the annual luncheon of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, at the Waldorf Astoria Hotel, here, on Thursday, Dec. 12.

General chairman for the amusement industry division of the NCCJ is J. Robert Rubin; Louis Nizer, theatrical attorney, is chairman of the luncheon. Will H. Hays is chairman of the executive committee and assisting him are Ned Depinet, William F. Rodgers and Simon H. Fabian.

John Golden is chairman for the legitimate theatre; John Reed Kilpatrick is chairman for sports; Ray Bolger, for actors; Charles Miller, for talent agents; Max A. Cohen and

(*Continued on page* 4)

O'Connor to Head Universal Circuit

While considerable speculation revolves around Universal's entry into exhibtion on a projected national circuit basis, it has become known here that John J. O'Connor, vice-president and executive assistant to Nate J. Blumberg, president of the company, will definitely be in charge of the circuit as it develops.

O'Connor, whose theatre experience is extensive, figured prominently in the company's acquisition of the Winter Garden here and the Cincinnati Keith Theatre. Additionally, he and M. J. Fox concluded negotiations this week with Walter Reade for the latter's Park Avenue Theatre.

The speculation stems from the company's reluctance to disclose the iden-

(*Continued on page* 4)

Foundation Is Started at New Orleans

Interim Committees at Work; To Report Today

By SHERWIN KANE

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 3.—Committees representing all branches of the film industry were named at a meeting at the Hotel Roosevelt, here, today, to prepare organization plans for the Motion Picture Foundation, the first all-industry charitable endeavor.

With E. V. Richards, Jr., of Paramount Pictures' Richards Theatres presiding, the meeting heard messages of commendation and pledges of cooperation for the foundation plan from industry leaders, such as Barney Balaban, Spyros Skouras,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Plan Screen Appeal For Saving of Fuel

Plans for use of the screen, as well as radio and newspapers, to encourage the public to save fuel and electricity during the current coal-strike crisis were discussed here yesterday by Mayor O'Dwyer's emergency fuel committee, with Oscar Doob and Ernest Emerling of Loew's in attendance.

The screen's participation, if the emergency becomes more drastic as time goes on, would be through the newsreels, it was tentatively decided,

(*Continued on page* 4)

Action Due Soon on Gov't Film Program

The proposed industry machinery to facilitate work with the Government in film matters is expected to be acted upon shortly by the 12 organizations and groups which figure in the program.

Under the plan devised and recommended by a "study" group of executives appointed in Washington last week, each of the following would appoint a representative to a Govern-

(*Continued on page* 8)

Personal Mention

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern and Southern division sales manager, is in Boston from New York; he will return on Friday.

•

HARRY M. KALMINE, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, and HERMAN R. MAIER, head of the construction department, are due to arrive in New York from Havana and Mexico City on Friday.

•

ALAN CORNELL, national secretary of the Theatre Authority, has been named to the executive board of the Sister Elizabeth Kenny Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, national publicity-advertising director of Paramount, has left New York by plane for Chicago.

•

EDITH STONE of Paramount's home office publicity department, has returned to New York from an upstate New York vacation.

•

WALTER L. TITUS, JR., Republic vice-president in charge of branch operations, is visiting Boston and Albany from New York.

•

JOHN CORFIELD, British producer, left New York for Hollywood yesterday.

•

RODNEY BUSH, 20th-Fox's exploitation manager, left New York yesterday for Dallas.

•

HERB COPELAN, Warner Circuit executive, is in Memphis from New York.

•

WIN BARRON, Paramount Canadian public relations executive, has returned to Toronto from Miami Beach.

•

HARRY MCWILLIAMS, Columbia's exploitation head, left New York yesterday for Scranton.

•

JAMES WINTER has replaced JOY SHAPIRO as booker in Universal's Atlanta office.

•

PAUL SOSKIN, British producer, will leave New York today for the Coast.

•

SPYROS SKOURAS, president of 20th-Century Fox, left New Orleans last night by plane for Mexico City.

•

GENE KELLY, M-G-M star, is due here from the Coast on Saturday.

Steiner Budgets $750,000

Joseph Steiner, president of Broadcast Pictures, Inc., reports that "Universal Station," by Beth Brown, will go into production immediately following "Rhythm Rhapsodies," which is slated to go before the cameras, here, in January. Miss Brown will write the screenplay and be co-producer with Steiner.

Picture is budgeted at $750,000, according to Steiner.

Court Reverses 'Hit Parade' Decision

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 3.—The New York State Court of Appeals, unanimously reversing the Appelate Division in New York City, has ruled that Advance Music Corp. had cause for action against the American Tobacco Co. over what is alleged to be "capriousness" in choosing songs played on the weekly radio broadcasts of the "Hit Parade," to an audience estimated to total 15,000,000.

The motion picture industry is direcently interested in the "Hit Parade" song selections by reason of the fact that many of the numbers selected are published by film company music-publishing subsidiaries, with the plaintiff's bill of particulars in the case also explaining that, motion picture producers, music jobbers and dealers, band leaders, and others, in choosing songs, are largely influenced by the selections and ratings which the defendants give to current numbers.

The plaintiff claims that the defendents acted "wantonly and without good faith" in selecting the 10 most popular numbers weekly. Songs published by the plaintiff, which are said to be "among the first nine or 10 most popular musical compositions of the nation, are either passed over by the defendents or placed on the radio program and weekly list in improper order of popularity," it is alleged.

Coast Film Office Strike Threatens

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3.—The danger of an outbreak of labor strife on a new front loomed tonight as the Office Employes International Union prepared to take a strike vote in behalf of its 150 members employed in film exchanges. The workers, whose contract expired on Oct. 19, have demanded a 20 per cent increase in wages, while exchanges have offered 10 per cent.

A vote favorable to calling a strike, as anticipated, would involve OEIU's 3,000 members in the studios, if the exchange workers extend their picket lines to the studios. Union officials have announced that they would comply with provisions of the Smith-Connally act by applying to the Central Labor Council for permission to picket the exchanges. A 30-day period must elapse under the law before the union implements a vote to strike.

Lehman Joins Coast Buying-Booking Unit

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 3.—Syd Lehman, PRC branch manager here, has resigned to become a vice-president of Exhibitors Service, Inc., the president of which, Harry Rackin, describes it as the oldest buying and booking group in Southern California.

Sam Milner, PRC district manager in the Dallas-Salt Lake City-Omaha City territory, moves into Lehman's spot in Los Angeles; his successor will be named shortly.

Sales Plans on New UA Films to be Set

United Artists executives yesterday extended the agenda for their forthcoming studio meetings to include the mapping of sales plans and exploitation, advertising and publicity programs for product now in the vaults, said to total $25,000,000 in value.

Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution; J. J. Unger, general sales manager, and Walter Gould, foreign manager, will leave New York tomorrow by plane.

Chief among the pictures to be considered are Enterprise's "Arch of Triumph" and David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun," confirming a report in Monday's MOTION PICTURE DAILY that a compromise is "in work" on at least that part of the company's dispute involving the Selznick production.

Others to leave tomorrow are: Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern sales manager; Maury Orr, Western sales manager; Robert M. Goldfarb, home office manager, and six district managers including Jack Ellis, Clayton Eastman, Moe Dudelson, Charles S. Chaplin, Rud Lohrenz and C. W. Allen. Joining the group in Hollywood will be W. E. Callaway, Los Angeles district manager, and Fred M. Jack, Southern district manager in Dallas. Also leaving from the home office will be Tom Weller, publicity manager, and Mori Krushen, exploitation manager. Howard LeSieur, advertising manager, left here yesterday and Paul N. Lazarus, Jr., advertising and publicity director, left last Friday to prepare the groundwork for the sessions.

Name Segal N.E. E-L Sales Representative

Henry G. Segal has been appointed special sales representative of Eagle-Lion Films for Boston and New Haven, by A. W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager.

Segal started in the industry with the old Motion Picture Patents Co. in 1909. Later he was associated with Lewis J. Selznick's World Films and organized the distribution set-up for that company. He was later one of the original organizers of First National and part owner of First National in Boston. Following this he owned his own film exchange in Boston for many years. Latterly, he has been sales supervisor for Warners in Boston.

Zukor, Foreign Aides To Studios Jan. 27

Adolph Zukor, Paramount board chairman, and George Weltner, head of the foreign department, both due here from Europe on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Dec. 12, will introduce James E. Perkins, new managing director in the United Kingdom, and John Nathan, managing director of Continental Europe, to the company's studio personnel late next month. Perkins and Nathan are expected here from Europe around mid-January and will leave for the Coast on Jan. 27.

Newsreel Parade

ARMY - NAVY football game, scrapping of the liner Normandie *and the rescue of air-crash victims in the Alps are featured in current newsreels; complete contents follow:*

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 28 — Rescue epic in air crash in the Alps. Once-mighty *Normandie's* last mile. Army-Navy game.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 226—Army-Navy game. Air rescue in Alps. Voyage of doom of the *Normandie.*

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 29 — Normandie's last voyage. Nation's top ribbers kid Eisenhower. Army-Navy game. Middies spring surprise of the year.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 31 — Army-Navy game. Alpine plane crash rescue.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 560 — First pictures of air rescue in icy Alps. Army-Navy game ends season.

New Jersey Allied Plans Tax Battles

PASSAIC, N. J., Dec. 3.—Plans to combat proposed state or municipal levies against the amusement industry, including motion picture theatres, were laid this afternon at a meeting of the Allied Theatre Owners of New Jersey. The battle lines were drawn following a recent statement by Mayor Joseph Altman of Atlantic City that he would ask the state legislature for power to tax amusements three per cent if the move is approved by a referendum by the resort's electorate.

The members also discussed ways and means of killing any move toward censorship of films—another recent suggestion from a member of the clergy following exhibition of "The Outlaw" at Atlantic City. President Ed Lachman of New Jersey Allied said the organization would be ready to go into action at Trenton, when legislature meets, "to cut off the neck instead of many heads" of a move in this direction. He referred to making a concerted stand at the capital instead of individually fighting actions as they were proposed by municipalities.

Members and their guests, including officials and department heads of many head offices in New York, later attended the Allied's annual beeksteak dinner in the Ritz restaurant. More than 200 persons were present.

Ramsay to Greenthal Hollywood Office

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3.—Clark Ramsay has been appointed a vice-president of the Monroe Greenthal Co., and head of that advertising agency's office, here, it was announced here today by Greenthal prior to his return to New York. The agency has among its accounts Universal-International and J. Arthur Rank Productions.

Ramsay and his staff will handle the West Coast advertising for all Greenthal agency clients. Before joining the Greenthal agency, Ramsay was with Universal for seven years, six of which he served as advertising manager.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.



GOOD NEWS!



EXTRA!
"UNDERCURRENT"
BREAKS 27-YEAR
RECORD AT
CAPITOL, N. Y.

Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor and Robert Mitchum packing them in!

"UNDERCURRENT" SWEEPS IN!

Film Daily was right! They said "Get out the ropes that hold the lines for 'Undercurrent'." That's what happened in its great Los Angeles premiere; also at the Capitol, N. Y. and everywhere. M-G-M star values as usual: Katharine Hepburn, Robert Taylor, Robert Mitchum.



Roar with Red Skelton in "The Show-Off"

HOWLS FOR THE HOLIDAYS!

You can't beat a hilarious comedy for Christmas—and "The Show-Off" is the Pay-Off! Give 'em laughs for the holidays. It's a BIG show with Red at his roaringest! And gorgeous Marilyn Maxwell as the Blonde with whom he blunders into romance! M-G-Merry Xmas!



Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon and June Allyson in "The Secret Heart"

STARS SHINE AT NEW YEARS

A Great New Years Attraction with Big Star Names! That's what M-G-M showmen get when Claudette Colbert, Walter Pidgeon, June Allyson—all top fan favorites—enact this wonderful love story by Rose Franken, best-seller fiction writer for the millions.

Foundation Started

(*Continued from page* 1)

Ted R. Gamble, H. A. Cole, Fred Wehrenberg, Ned Depinet, Si Fabian, Leopold Friedman, Karl Hoblitzelle, Jack Cohn, R. B. Wilby, Leonard Goldenson and Harry Brandt.

The interim committees for the foundation began their work today in separate sessions and will report back to the general meeting on findings and recommendations tomorrow.

The committees and their members are: Coordinating Committee: Balaban, Tom J. Connors, Fabian, Cole, Wehrenberg and Edward G. Zorn; Committee on Scope: Myron Blank, Cohn, Cole, Depinet, Jay Emanuel, Friedman, Sidney Lust, Gamble, Richards, William German, Skouras, Leo F. Wolcott; Committee on Finance: James W. Cooke, Tom Edwards, Sam Dembow, Hoblitzelle, Ben Kalmenson, H. F. Kincey, Ed Martin, Maurice Bergman, Mitchell Wolfson, Max Yellen, Zorn.

Organization Committee

Committee on Organization: Norman Ayers, John Balaban, Brandt, Carl Buermele, Guthrie Crowe, Joseph Di Fiore, Sam Gillette, Goldenson, Rotus Harvey, Robert Mochrie, M. J. Mullin, L. E. Thompson and R. W. Wilby; Committee on Promotion and Public Relations: Herbert Golden, Milas Hurley, W. K. Jenkins, A. S. Johnstone, Sherwin Kane, John Kirby, Charles Klein, O. C. Lam, Arthur Lehman, Irving Lesser, Chick Lewis, Irving Mack and Sam Shain.

Walter Vincent, one of the sponsors of the foundation plan, was unable to attend the organizing meeting due to the recent death in California of his brother. Others unable to attend included A. H. Blank of Des Moines, whose wife has been taken ill in that city; R. E. Griffith of Oklahoma City, whose mother died recently, and Herman Robbins of New York, who is ill.

Addresses of welcome to the meeting were made by Mayor Shep Morrison of New Orleans and Seymour Weiss, owners of the Roosevelt Hotel. Delegates were entertained by Richards at Antoine's famous New Orleans restaurant last night.

Pennsylvania Run Asks Clearance Cut

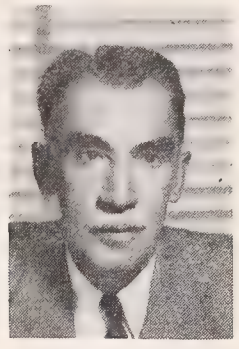
Media Theatre, of Media, Pa., has filed a complaint against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 20th Century-Fox, Paramount, RKO Radio and Warner Brothers, with the Philadelphia tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, asking for 14 days clearance over the College Theatre of Springfield Township.



Berlin, Sherwood, Skouras Tribute



Irving Berlin



Robert Sherwood



Spyros Skouras

(*Continued from page* 1)

Harry Brandt, co-chairmen for exhibitors; Emil Friedlander, for allied industries, and Charles O'Reilly for concessionaires. Sam Shain is executive assistant to the chairman.

Berlin will be cited for his contributions to American life for the past 30 years and in particular for his record of public service in the two World Wars.

Sherwood will be recognized for his work in behalf of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, particularly for his wartime services in the furtherance of the Conference's ideals when Sherwood was deputy director of the Office of War Information.



Louis Nizer

Skouras will be honored for his achievements in the motion picture industry in behalf of the American Brotherhood drive of the NCCJ, under Harold E. Stassen, in 1946. Skouras served as chairman of the film division of the Conference and it was under his direction that the Selznick-produced short, "The American Creed," was shown in 10,000 theatres during "Brotherhood Week" last February.

"Never before," said Louis Nizer, luncheon chairman, "has the amusement world been privileged to pay tribute at one time to three who have gained to so high a degree the respect and admiration of the entire industry."

Barret McCormick and Silas F. Seadler head the publicity committee, which also includes Curtis Mitchell, Mort Blumenstock, Maurice Bergman, Ben Serkowich, Paul Lazarus, Jr., Charles Schlaifer, Harry Goldberg, Harry Mandell, Sam Shain and Ernest Emerling.

In addition to all of the above, the following motion picture, legitimate theatre, radio, entertainment and allied industry leaders are assisting the committee in promoting the event:

Luther Adler, John W. Alicoate, Maxwell Anderson, Barney Balaban, Milton Berle, Milton Biow, Harry Brandt, Leo Brecher, Kate Cameron, Edward J. Churchill, Jack Cohn, Lynn Fontanne, Emerson Foote, Abel Green, Walter Green, Francis S. Harmon, Marcus Heiman, Theresa Helburn, Joseph Hornstein, Malcolm Kingsberg, William Klein, Lawrence Langner, W. Colstan Leigh, Charles Lewis.

Also: Alfred Lunt, Alfred McCosker, Ethel Merman, Frank E. Mullen, Edward J. Noble, John J. O'Connor, Brock Pemberton, Ralph I. Poucher, Martin Quigley, Elmer Rice, Samuel Rinzler, Herman Robbins, Samuel Rosen, James E. Sauter, George Schaefer, Nicholas M. Schenck, Gradwell A. Sears, Ben Shlyen, Lee Shubert, Nate B. Spingold, Frank Stanton, James E. Stroock, Eugene Thomas, Harry Thomas, Walter Vincent, Albert Warner, Richard Walsh, David Weinstock and Sonny Werblin.

O'Connor To Head

(*Continued from page* 1)

tity of theatres which it is now considering and the fact that while O'Connor's name has been repeatedly mentioned as likely head of the circuit, other executives also were considered as candidates for the job.

O'Connor's interest in exhibition began in 1914 with the roadshowing of "Quo Vadis" and "The Last Days of Pompeii." An assortment of subsequent positions in the industry led to his appointment as vice-president and general manager of RKO Theatres in 1938, a post which he left in 1941 to join Universal.

Sales on Subscription Basis Successful, Says Reade

The policy of selling seats on a yearly subscription basis as was done at his Park Avenue Theatre proved successful, Walter Reade states, adding that he plans to construct other houses in New York and other key cities to operate on that basis. Operation of the Park Avenue will be turned over to Universal on Dec. 22 in a 10-year rental deal concluded this week. Reade will return the subscription monies to the customers on a *pro rata* basis.

Name Denny FCC Chairman Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3.—Charles R. Denny will be appointed chairman of the Federal Communications Commission tomorrow by President Truman, the White House disclosed today.

Denny has been acting chairman of the Commission since Paul Porter vacated the position to become head of the Office of Price Administration. Porter, who has resigned from Government service to enter private business, was also considered for return to the post it was learned.

Distributors Hit

(*Continued from page* 1)

shown pictures are the Schoenstadts permitted to exhibit pictures in their theatres. By reason of the above condition, H. Schoenstadt and Sons have suffered and will continue to suffer irreparable injury, damage and loss."

(The Schoenstadts have a $6,750,000 triple damage anti-trust suit pending against distributors and the B. and K. and Warner circuits, which is scheduled for trial in U. S. District Court here on Jan. 27).

"Prior to the decedent's death, 1942, a suit was filed in U. S. District Court again against various distributors," the return continued. "Said suit, among other things, prayed for relief of this condition.

"The existing condition as to exhibition of pictures and film runs reduces the value as herein set forth. Therefore, a sum equal to 20 per cent of the value of the one-fourth interest should be deducted from said interest in order to arrive at and determine the fair cash value of said stock of the one-fourth interest of the partnership assets as shown herein."

'Fair Cash Value'

The inheritance tax return also disclosed that the "fair cash value of the late Henry Schoenstadt in H. Schoenstadt and Sons, Inc. and H. Schoenstadt and Sons partnership was $492,984.

Schoenstadt, veteran Chicago theatre owner, who died Feb. 10, 1946, left an estate of $496,674, which will be divided equally among two nephews, Robert S. Lindenthal, 25, and Arthur Schoenstadt, Jr., 10, and a niece, Jean Marie Schoenstadt, 8.

Debts and expenses of the estate amounted to $129,662, of which $110,398 was paid for Federal inheritance tax.

According to the statement filed with the inheritance tax return, the net profit of H. Schoenstadt and Sons, Inc. and H. Schoenstadt and Sons partnership, in which the decedent had one-fourth interest, for 1941-1945 inclusive, was $798,835, after Federal income taxes.

Screen Appeal for Fuel

(*Continued from page* 1)

with the mayor possibly appearing to make a conservation plea.

Extension of existing voluntary conservation measures is being withheld in New York for the present. However, cutailment of interior lighting at theatres and other commercial establishments may follow.

Paramount's Moore, Ruff to New Posts

John Moore has been appointed Paramount branch manager in Boston, replacing Edward W. Ruff who will succeed Moore as Albany branch manager, it was announced here yesterday by Charles M. Reagan.

PRESS BOOKS PHOTO-OFFSET
COLORCHROME CORP.
ART SERVICE
2 BROADWAY NEW YORK 4
WHITEHALL 4 3722-3-4-5

've Always Loved You---I've Always Loved You

Over and over again ALWAYS Big Box Office everywhere!

at Loew's Capitol Washington, D.C. second great week

United Artists Theatre Detroit holdover for second big week

in STAMFORD, Conn.
in EUGENE, Ore.
in HOT SPRINGS, Ark.
in BOISE, Idaho
in TWIN FALLS, Idaho
. . . and hundreds of other towns!

at Mayfair Baltimore now in its 7th sensational box office week

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU

FRANK BORZAGE'S *Production of*

A Distinguished Motion Picture in Romantic TECHNICOLOR

PHILIP DORN · CATHERINE McLEOD · WILLIAM CARTER
MME. MARIA OUSPENSKAYA · FELIX BRESSART · FRITZ FELD
ELIZABETH PATTERSON · VANESSA BROWN · LEWIS HOWARD
Directed by FRANK BORZAGE
Screen Play by BORDEN CHASE · Adapted from his American Magazine Story "Concerto"
Piano Recordings by Artur Rubinstein, World's Greatest Pianist
A REPUBLIC PICTURE

Radio Poll

(*Continued from page* 1)

and by taking third place in the "Best Comedian" division, behind Allen and Hope in that order.

Morgan's performance shoved Jack Benny out of the top three in the poll's radio comedian divisions and put Morgan ahead of such other radio comedy greats as Red Skelton, Edgar Bergen-Charlie McCarthy, Jimmy Durante and Duffy's Tavern in this year's balloting. Durante and Garry Moore, however, finished in the first three in the "Best Comedy Team" division, which was won by Fibber McGee and Molly by a wide margin, with George Burns and Gracie Allen second.

Another newcomer to the top rungs of the poll emerging from this year's balloting is Patrice Munsel, CBS Sunday afternoon artist, who won the "Female Classical Vocalist" honors over Lily Pons, who finished second, and Gladys Swarthout, champion in this division in a number of earlier polls, who tied for third with Marian Anderson, another newcomer among radio's top artists.

Yet another new name in radio emerged in the "Male Classical Vocalist" division, in which Christopher Lynch, appearing in his first American season on Firestone's Family Hour over NBC Monday nights, tied with Nelson Eddy for third. James Melton was voted champion again in this division, with John Charles Thomas second.

Art Linkletter, to be heard on both CBS and NBC, also forged to the front by being voted second to Bing Crosby as "Best Master of Ceremonies." Clifton Fadiman tied with Ralph Edwards for third in this division.

Peter Lind Hayes and Dennis Day were voted second and third, respectively, in the "Most Promising Star of Tomorrow" classification, won by Morgan.

Joan Davis repeated easily again this year by being voted "Best Comedienne"; Gracie Allen, second, and Eve Arden, third.

Lionel Barrymore also repeated as the "Film Player Most Effective on the Air," leading Orson Welles, in second place, by a big vote. Der Bingle placed third.

Crosby also won out as "Best Male Vocalist (Popular)," in addition to his victory in the "Best Master of Ceremonies" division. He was followed by Perry Como and Dick Haymes, in that order, in the popular vocalist balloting.

Miss Shore a Repeater

Dinah Shore repeated in the "Best Female Vocalist (Popular)" division, with Jo Stafford, second, and Ginny Simms, third. Miss Shore was far out in front.

Don Wilson supplanted Harry Von Zell as "Best Studio Announcer," Von Zell being second and Milt Cross, Harlow Wilcox and Ben Grauer finished in a tie for third place.

H. V. Kaltenborn was again voted "Best News Commentator or Analyst" by the critics, well ahead of the competition. Lowell Thomas was second and Bob Trout third.

Bill Stern came home in front again in the "Best Sportscaster" classification; Ted Husing was second, and Harry Wismer and Red Barber tied for third.

Arturo Toscanini maintained his place as "Best Symphonic Conductor," even though the NBC Symphony Orchestra which he conducts, finished third in its division. Serge Koussevitzky and his Boston Symphony Orchestra were more consistent, both finishing in second place in their respective divisions. Frank Black was voted third in the conductors' classification and the New York Philharmonic Orchestra continued its practice of placing first in the orchestral division.

Guy Lombardo retained his franchise as "Best Dance Band." Vaughn Monroe tied with Tommy Dorsey for second and Tex Benecke tied with Harry James for third.

Waring's Show Scores

Fred Waring's Show won again as the "Best Daytime Program." The Breakfast Club was second, while Arthur Godfrey and Tom Breneman's Breakfast in Hollywood tied for third in this division.

Lux Radio Theatre, which took third place in the championship division, was a repeater as the "Best Dramatic Program." Theatre Guild on the Air finished second and Suspense, third, in the drama division.

Let's Pretend again walked off with uncontested honors as the "Best Children's Program," with American School of the Air, second, and Superman, third.

Telephone Hour Still First

The Telephone Hour retained its place as "Best Musical Show," while Phil Spitalny's All-Girl Orchestra, the Fred Waring and Paul Whiteman shows tied for second. The New York Philharmonic Symphony and The Family Hour tied for third.

Information Please was again overwhelmingly voted "Best Quiz Show." Take It or Leave It was second and Quiz Kids third in this division.

Truth or Consequences was voted the "Best Audience Participation Show," with People Are Funny in second place and Take it or Leave It, third.

CBS's broadcasts of the Bikini Atoll atom bomb tests were voted the "Best News Job by Radio in 1945." NBC's coverage of the San Quentin jail break took second place and ABC third for John Hersey's Hiroshima bombing story.

Columbia Broadcasting System's publicity department, headed by George Crandall, won the designation "Best Network Publicity Service" for the second consecutive time and the third time since that classification was added to the annual poll.

J. Walter Thompson's radio publicity department, headed by Albert Durante, was voted the "Best Individual Publicity Service" by the critics.

NBC Placed Second

National Broadcasting ran second in the network press service classification, with ABC placing third. In the individual division, Earle Ferris finished in a tie for second place with the Coll, Freedman and Gardner agency, while N. W. Ayer was voted next by the radio critics. A vote on the network and individual publicity services has been a part of the poll during the last five years.

Complete results of the poll are published on the next page.

Radio Champions for 1946



Henry Morgan



Joan Davis



Bing Crosby



Lionel Barrymore



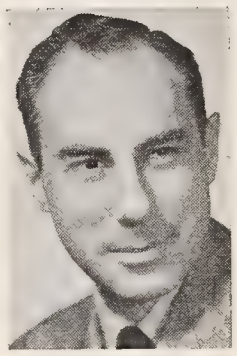
James Melton



Dinah Shore



Fibber McGee and Molly



Bill Stern



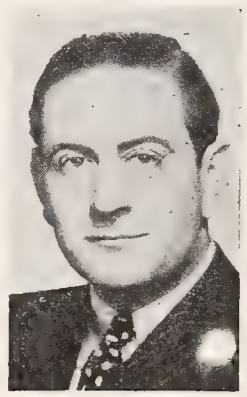
Don Wilson



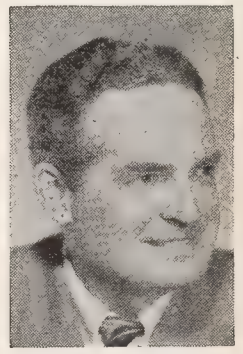
H. V. Kaltenborn



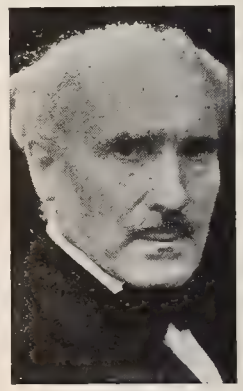
Patrice Munsel



Guy Lombardo



Fred Waring



Arturo Toscanini

Winners, Runners-Up in Radio Poll

HEREWITH are the complete listings of first, second and third place winners in the 25 classifications comprising the 11th annual radio poll conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *for* Fame *magazine. Balloting is limited to newspaper and magazine radio editors, columnists and critics in the United States and Canada. Sponsors, networks, agencies and program time (EST) are given for first place winners; networks only for others.*

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS
1. Fred Allen (Tenderleaf Tea—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays.
2. Bob Hope (NBC) and Bing Crosby (ABC) tied.
3. Lux Radio Theatre (CBS).

MOST PROMISING STAR OF TOMORROW
1. Henry Morgan (Eversharp—Biow Co.—ABC, Wed., 10:30 P.M.)
2. Peter Lind Hayes (CBS).
3. Dennis Day (CBS).

BEST COMEDIAN
1. Fred Allen (Tenderleaf Tea—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays.
2. Bob Hope (NBC).
3. Henry Morgan (ABC).

BEST COMEDIENNE
1. Joan Davis (Lever Bros.—Young & Rubicam—CBS, Mondays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. Gracie Allen (NBC).
3. Eve Arden (NBC).

BEST COMEDY TEAM
1. Fibber McGee and Molly—(Johnson & Sons, Inc.—Needham, Louis and Brorby—NBC, Tuesdays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. George Burns and Gracie Allen (NBC).
3. Jimmy Durante and Garry Moore (CBS).

BEST MASTER OF CEREMONIES
1. Bing Crosby—(Philco Corp.—Hutchins Advertising — A B C, Wednesdays, 10:00 P.M.).
2. Art Linkletter (NBC).
3. Clifton Fadiman (CBS) and Ralph Edwards (NBC) tied.

FILM PLAYER ON THE AIR
1. Lionel Barrymore — (Noxzema — Ruthrauff and Ryan—CBS, Saturdays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. Orson Welles (Non-exclusive).
3. Bing Crosby (ABC).

MALE VOCALIST (Popular)
1. Bing Crosby—(Philco Corp.—Hutchins Advertising—ABC, Wednesdays, 10:00 P.M.).
2. Perry Como (NBC).
3. Dick Haymes (CBS).

MALE VOCALIST (Classical)
1. James Melton — (International Harvester — McCann-Erickson — NBC, Sundays, 2:30 P.M.).
2. John Charles Thomas (Non-exclusive).
3. Nelson Eddy (Non-exclusive) and Christopher Lynch (NBC) tied.

CBS's Crandall, J. Walter Thompson Voted Best Publicity Services

Columbia Broadcasting System's publicity department, headed by George Crandall, was voted the best network publicity service and the J. Walker Thompson radio publicity department, headed by Albert Durante, the best individual publicity service by newspaper and magazine radio writers and columnists in *Motion Picture Daily's* 11th annual radio poll for *Fame* magazine.



George Crandall



Albert Durante

NBC placed second in the network division of this year's poll, followed by ABC and MBS.

In the individual division, Earle Ferris, who won top spot in the 1945 poll, finished in a second place tie with Coll, Freedman and Gardner. N. W. Ayer and Sons placed third.

The vote on network and individual publicity services has been a part of the annual radio poll for the last five years. CBS has now won in the network division three times and NBC twice.

FEMALE VOCALIST (Popular)
1. Dinah Shore—(Ford Motors—J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Wednesdays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Jo Stafford (NBC).
3. Ginny Simms (CBS).

FEMALE VOCALIST (Classical)
1. Patrice Munsel—(Prudential Insurance—Benton and Bowles—CBS, Sundays, 5:00 P.M.).
2. Lily Pons (Non-exclusive).
3. Gladys Swarthout (Non-exclusive) Marian Anderson (Non-exclusive) tied.

STUDIO ANNOUNCER
1. Don Wilson—(Jack Benny Show—American Tobacco Co.—Foote, Cone & Belding—NBC, Sundays, 7 P.M.).
2. Harry Von Zell (CBS).
3. Milt Cross (ABC), Harlow Wilcox (NBC) and Ben Grauer (NBC) tied.

NEWS COMMENTATOR OR ANALYST
1. H. V. Kaltenborn—(Pure Oil Co.—Leo Burnett Agency—NBC, Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 7:45 P.M.).
2. Lowell Thomas (NBC).
3. Bob Trout (CBS).

SPORTSCASTER
1. Bill Stern — (Colgate — Sherman and Marquette Agency—NBC, Fridays, 10:30 P.M.).
2. Ted Husing (ABC).
3. Red Barber (CBS) and Harry Wismer (ABC) tied.

SYMPHONIC CONDUCTOR
1. Arturo Toscanini—(NBC Sustaining, Sundays, 5:00 P.M.).
2. Serge Koussevitzky (ABC).
3. Frank Black (NBC).

SYMPHONIC ORCHESTRA
1. New York Philharmonic Symphony—(U. S. Rubber Co.—Campbell-Ewald Agency—CBS, Sundays, 3:00 P.M.).
2. Boston Symphony (ABC).
3. NBC Symphony (NBC).

DANCE BAND
1. Guy Lombardo — (Coca-Cola — D'Arcy Agency — MBS, Mondays, 9:30 P.M.).
2. Vaughn Monroe (ABC, CBS) and Tommy Dorsey (NBC) tied.
3. Tex Benecke (Non-exclusive) and Harry James (MBS) tied.

DAYTIME PROGRAM
1. Fred Waring Show — (Florida Citrus Com.—Benton & Bowles—Monday, Wednesday and Friday; American Meat Institute—Leo Burnett—Tuesday and Thursday—NBC, 11:00 A.M.).
2. The Breakfast Club (ABC).
3. Breakfast in Hollywood (ABC) and Arthur Godfrey (CBS) tied.

DRAMATIC PROGRAM
1. Lux Radio Theatre—(Lever Bros. —J. Walter Thompson—CBS, Mondays, 9:00 P.M.).
2. Theatre Guild on the Air (ABC).
3. Suspense (CBS).

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM
1. Let's Pretend—(Cream of Wheat —Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn — CBS, Saturdays, 11:30 A.M.).
2. The American School of the Air (CBS).
3. Superman (MBS).

COMEDY SHOW
1. Fren Allen—(Tenderleaf Tea—J. Walter Thompson—NBC, Sundays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. Henry Morgan (ABC).
3. Bob Hope (NBC).

MUSICAL SHOW
1. The Telephone Hour—(Bell Telephone System—N. W. Ayer & Sons —NBC, Mondays, 9:00 P.M.).
2. Phil Spitalny (CBS), Fred Waring (NBC) and Paul Whiteman shows (ABC) tied.
3. The Family Hour (NBC) and New York Philharmonic Symphony (CBS) tied.

QUIZ SHOW
1. Information Please—(Canada Dry —J. N. Mathes—CBS, Wednesdays, 10:30 P.M.).
2. Take It or Leave It (CBS).
3. Quiz Kids (NBC).

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION SHOW
1. Truth or Consequences—(Ralph Edwards)—(Pocter & Gamble—Compton Advertising—NBC, Saturdays, 8:30 P.M.).
2. People Are Funny (NBC).
3. Take It or Leave It (CBS).

BEST 1946 NEWS BROADCAST
1. CBS, for Bikini Atom Bomb Tests.
2. NBC, for San Quentin Jail Break.
3. ABC, for John Hersey's Hiroshima Story.

(CBS was voted the Best Network Publicity Service; J. Walter Thompson Best Individual Publicity Service).

Here's Morgan; He's 'Hot', Say Critics of Radio

Here's Morgan!

Henry Morgan's good - humored raillery of various and sundry subjects in the news has made him the hottest new comedy figure in radio today. Although never before cited in the annual poll of radio editors' opinions, conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY for *Fame*, this year he is acclaimed on three counts. The critics name him "the most promising star of tomorrow"; they rate his show second only to the Fred Allen program in the comedy division, and they vote him the third best comedian in radio today, on the heels of Allen and Bob Hope, and ahead of such veteran luminaries as Jack Benny, Edgar Bergen and Jimmy Durante.

The Henry Morgan show is now heard over the American Broadcasting network, for Eversharp, Wednesdays at 10:30 P.M.

Morgan began in radio as a page boy at WMCA, New York, in 1927. He became an announcer at that station, and subsequently moved to WABC (now WCBS) and then to WCAU, Philadelphia, in the same capacity. He moved up the ladder at WEBC, Duluth, and WNAC, Boston, and then returned to New York at WOR. At the latter he was given a weekly program, "Meet Mr. Morgan." The show was successful and subsequently was aired six days a week.

Somewhere about here he disagreed with the station's executives and gleefully "auctioned" the entire Mutual network, in relating the details of his differences, on his program. He "auctioned" network vice-presidents for $83.

Morgan served in the Army for two years and in 1945 brought his show to WJZ, New York, and finally to the entire ABC network.

Grosses Up At N.Y. 1st Runs

While Christmas shopping diverted many potential theatregoers, business at New York first-runs picked up generally during the week. New pictures and strong Thanksgiving holiday business, which in many cases goes on current week's books, tended to bring the overall business to a level more impressive than in previous weeks.

"Undercurrent" bowed in at the Capitol, along with Frankie Carle's orchestra and the box-office results are excellent. The first week should bring in $99,000. A newcomer of equal box-office importance was "Song of the South," which figures to bring the Palace a very lofty $52,000 in its first week.

'King's Row' Good

A new run of "King's Row" at the Victoria is good for $19,000 in its first week, while "The Time of Our Lives," in a first week at the Criterion, also is doing well, with $23,000 in view.

"The Razor's Edge," with Rosario and Antonio on the stage at the Roxy continues a record pace, as reported yesterday, with $168,000 for the second week.

At the Music Hall, "The Jolson Story," with a stage presentation, jumped to a very good $125,000 in an eighth and final week. "Till the Clouds Roll By" will open at that theatre tomorrow.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is another top-notch performer, with $60,000 slated for a second week at the Astor. The seventh week of "Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra, at the Paramount, is another nicely profitable grosser, at $90,000.

'Mast' Splendid

"Two Years Before the Mast" has concluded a splendid run at the Rivoli, with $27,000 for a 10th and final week; "My Darling Clementine" opened at the house yesterday.

The second week of "Never Say Goodbye," with Ray McKinley's orchestra, at the Strand, figures to provide a favorable $45,000, while at the Hollywood, "Deception" is headed for a $16,500 seventh week, which is good enough.

The third week of "Notorious Gentleman" probably will bring the Winter Garden a healthy $26,000. "Fantasia" continues in the black with $6,200 for a 10th week at the Republic, while "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" fell off to $6,000 in a second week at the Rialto; it will be replaced on Friday by "So Dark the Night."

"The Chase" continues at a fair clip at the Globe, with $17,500 indicated for a third week. "That Brennan Girl" will open Saturday at the Gotham, following "The Man from Morocco," which should draw a mediocre $7,000 in its second and final week. In its moveover run at the John Golden Theatre, "Henry V" should do about $14,000 in its 13th week.

Starr Leaves Metro

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 3. — Irving Starr has resigned as Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer producer to resume independent production.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Two Years Before the Mast" continued to do remarkable business in its second week at the Paramount duo. Among the new offerings at first-run theatres, "Wake Up and Dream" gave the best account of itself. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,300. (Average: $8,900)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $19,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,000)

BOOM TOWN (MG-M reissue)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,700)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,700)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,200. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $23,700)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $28,500. (Average: $26,200)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $24,600)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $10,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,100)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (U)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,800)

BOOM TOWN (M-G-M reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $23,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $36,000. (Average: $24,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $15,400)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $9,300)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,100)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,500)

BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $20,650. (Average: $21,600)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $16,100)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,250. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

Despite the dimout, Loop theatres enjoyed a very good Thanksgiving weekend, which aided grosses considerably in this usual slump season. "Margie" did top business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4-5:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c) 6 days, 2nd week. On stage: Lena Horne. Gross: $58,000. (Average, for 7 days: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC $1.20-$1.80-$2.40) 17th week, twice daily. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $23,000. Average: $18,000)

THE MAN WHO DARED (Col.) and THE DEVIL'S MASK (Col.)—LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200). On stage: Star and Garter Revue. Gross: $75,000. (Average: $45,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) and SLIGHTLY SCANDALOUS (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $29,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 5th week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 6th week. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

"Blue Skies" defied the brownout to draw heavily at the Stanley. "The Dark Mirror" at the Goldman also is doing well. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 3-5:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $24,500. (Average: $14,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,250)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $22,800)

PILGRIM LADY (Rep.) — EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days with vaudeville starring Claude Thornhill. Gross: $17,500. (Average for 7 days: $28,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $26,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,800)

CANYON PASSAGE (U) — KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,500)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $28,300)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $52,000. (Average: $24,900)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,200)

QP-ABC "Tilt" Tonight

Quigley Publications' basketball team will take on the American Broadcasting aggregation at the Rockefeller Center Institute gym, here, tonight.

U.S. Objection

(*Continued from page* 1)

position to intervention if it comes before the Supreme Court as was voiced in the District Court. He said, however, that the Government will oppose petitions submitted as "friends of the court."

It is believed by the Department that the only course of action which is legal would be for the ATA merely to file another intervention petition when the case comes before the Supreme Court. Each individual court has the right to determine what parties may appear before it, and, therefore, appeal of an order already rendered by a lower jurisdiction would have no legal bearing upon the case, the Department holds.

Wright stated that the Government does not plan to hold further conferences with exhibitor groups but will welcome any suggestions from them when the case is appealed.

Formal Denial Order with Court's Final Judgment

Judges A. N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright have informed Thurman Arnold, counsel for the American Theatres Association, that they will withhold their formal denial of ATA's intervention in the industry anti-trust suit until they have "decided and filed the final judgment" in the case in U. S. District Court here. Accordingly, ATA has determined to delay its appeal of the intervention denial until that time.

John Jackson, Sr., counsel for the Confederacy of Southern Associations, which also sought to intervene in the case, stated yesterday that his clients have not yet decided whether they will appeal.

The court's denial of the intervention petitions was made informally on Oct. 21.

Gov't-Film Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

ment-industry coordinating committee: Allied States, Conference of Independent Exhibitor Associations, American Theatres Association, Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, Confederacy of Southern Associations, National Distributors Committee, Motion Picture Association, Society of Independent Producers, Independent Theatre Owners Association of New York, Pacific Coast Conference of Independent Theatre Owners, the newsreels and the trade press.

A resolution outlining the proposed program has been sent to each by Si Fabian, acting for the "study" group, along with a letter of explanation which includes the request that they make known their reaction to the idea promptly. The "study" group also includes Harry Brandt, M. D. Clofine, Francis Harmon, Fred Kent, Herman A. Levy, Donald M. Nelson, Lee Newbury, Charles M. Reagan, Ben Shlyen, Jesse Stern and Robert Wilby. No returns are in as yet.

Meanwhile, Stern's comments to MOTION PICTURE DAILY regarding the entire situation have become a matter of misunderstanding. In the Nov. 21 issue he was quoted as saying that he would not consider as acceptable films of a controversial or political nature, and on this was said to be speaking for Allied and the Pacific Coast Conference.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

60. NO. 110 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1946 TEN CENTS

N.O. Meeting Approves Foundation

Machinery Is Set Up For Establishment

By SHERWIN KANE

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 4. — The formation of a Motion Picture Foundation to provide for the welfare of industry members in need, and possibly to embrace educational and scientific support for persons and projects identified with the industry, was approved at a meeting here today of approximately 80 representative leaders of all branches of the industry. The meeting set up machinery for bringing the foundation into being with the cooperation of additional elements of the industry and the full participation of all regional areas of the industry. The regional or grass roots support of the foundation was emphasized throughout the meeting as essential to its ultimate success.

The foundation will be set in motion with the prompt establishment of steering committees in all 31 exchange areas. The local steering committees,

(*Continued on page 7*)

Army Refuses List Of Film Copyrights

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4.—Army officials have declined to sumbit a list of copyrights involved in the clearance of some 5,000 pictures produced en masse during the war, and the Motion Picture Association has flatly asserted that it is impossible to issue "blanket clearance" for the pictures, according to Paul Cherrington, who handles film matters for the Surplus Property Subcommittee of the Senate Military Affairs Committee.

Cherrington asserted that the industry will be called upon to "make good its promises" to facilitate the clearance of copyrights so that the films produced may be made available

(*Continued on page 5*)

Roadshow Policy at Universal's Park

Universal will operate its newly-acquired Park Avenue Theatre, here, on a roadshow basis for the run of its first picture, "Stairway to Heaven," which will open Dec. 25. Three performances will be given daily and four on Saturdays and Sundays.

British M.P.'s Ask Gov't to Buy 500 Runs

LONDON, Dec. 4. — An unofficial sub-comimttee of the Parliamentary Labour Party, after interviewing top film industry leaders, has put forward suggestions to Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, that the government acquire, by compulsory purchase, 500 theatres, principally from the Gaumont-British, Odeon and ABC top three British circuits, and then divide the 500 into two circuits, each to be operated commercially by a profesionally ex-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Rank Sales Staff Meets in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—New sales representatives of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal will open their two-day meeting here tomorrow in the Hotel Blackstone, with William J. Heineman, general sales manager, presiding. He will be assisted by B. G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager. Friday's sessions will be devoted to sales talks for the Prestige Pictures department of Universal. Lawrence J. McGinley, Prestige sales

(*Continued on page 7*)

N. Y. Power Strike Peril to Theatres

Continued operation of theatres in New York and Westchester County, already threatened by the soft coal strike, now is jeopardized additionally by a projected walkout of 23,000 Consolidated Edison power employes. They have demanded a 35-cent-an-hour cost-of-living raise, plus a number of improved working conditions.

The State Mediation Board has asked the company's management to meet this afternoon with representatives of the Joint Council of the Brotherhood of Consolidated Edison Employes, Utility Workers Union of America.

Schwartz Elected By M.P. Associates

Motion Picture Associates, here, yesterday re-elected Fred Schwartz, who was unopposed, to the presidency of the organization at a luncheon-meeting in the Piccadilly Hotel. Morris Sanders, also unopposed, was chosen first vice-president, while Raymond E. Moon defeated Robert J. Fannon for second vice-president, and Morris Fraum won the secretaryship in a contest with Harold Klein. Saul Trauner and Lous Kutinsky, only nominees

(*Continued on page 5*)

Critics Critical of Radio; Commericals Hurt Most

By GENE ARNEEL

Radio commercials were elected the most annoying of broadcasting's faults by the newspaper and magazine radio critics and columnists who participated in MOTION PICTURE DAILY's 11th annual radio poll, just concluded for *Fame* magazine.

Objections to commercials in one form or another were expressed on more than 75 per cent of the ballots received in this year's poll. Following closely in unpopularity with the critics are crime programs, giveaway programs, including quiz shows, and off-color lines, in that order.

The critics' suggestions for program improvements include more and better comedy shows; more music, particularly of the clasical variety; better programs generally for the summer season, and more program variety all year round.

The consensus appeared to be that all radio commercials can be improved. A trend in this direction is noted by some, and is commended. Fewer commercials and shorter commercails are a reality on some programs, a number of the critics claim, and others feel that programs which work commercials into the script in either reasonable or humorous form are an improvement over most.

Singing commercials in any form are poison to the critics. Eliminate them entirely, they plead, and employ only brief commercials at the be-

(*Continued on page 5*)

Gov't Is Going Limit to Keep Theatres Open

Film Supplies Included In Embargo Exemption

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 4. — As the nation's theatres face a potential shutdown because of a lack of coal for heating and power for lighting, there appeared here tonight a possibility that the current coal crisis will be settled behind closed doors within 10 days, despite the $3,500,000 fine imposed against John L. Lewis' United Mine Workers.

Meanwhile, exemption of "necessary film equipment, as well as films, from the Government's embargo on freight and mail has been motivated by the recognition that films are necessary to the public welfare during times of crisis because of their entertainment value to the people.

An Interstate Commerce Commission official stated today that films have been considered "important to the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Golden Signs For MPEA Distribution

Edward A. Golden, board chairman of Golden Productions, visiting here from the Coast, yesterday endorsed the Motion Picture Export Association as the only qualified means of representing the U. S. film industry in certain foreign markets, and substantiated this with confirmation that he already has signed a side agreement with

(*Continued on page 6*)

RKO Successful in St. Paul Bidding

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 4.—St. Paul Theatres Co., an RKO subsidiary, made the highest bid—$826,00—for the St. Francis Hotel property, St. Paul. The structure houses the 2,500-seat first run RKO Orpheum. The sale is contingent upon existing leases with the St. Francis Hotel. They have seven years to run. The Orpheum will be modernized when materials become available.

The successful bid was entered by A. W. Dawson, a vice-president of RKO Theatres.

Personal Mention

RICHARD F. WALSH, IATSE president, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Warners' Eastern district manager, is due back in New York tomorrow from Oneida, N. Y., where he is conferring with Kallet Circuit officials.

•

STEPHEN PALLOS, producer in England and Italy, has arrived in New York from London. He will remain in this country six weeks.

•

BERT SANFORD, Altec Service Corp. executive, here, now visiting Hollywood, is slated to leave there Dec. 11 for New York.

•

ARTHUR WILLI, RKO Eastern talent director, is back in New York following semi-annual talks in Hollywood.

•

SANFORD KORN of 20th-Fox's advertising department, will be married on Sunday to Helene Seifter, of New York.

•

ANGELA GREENE, Warner star, and STUART MARTIN, Los Angeles realtor, will be married Saturday in New York.

•

JACK COHN, Columbia vice-president, has left New Orleans for Chicago before returning to New York.

•

GLENN IRETON, Warner field publicity representative in Canada, has returned to Toronto from New York.

•

GEORGE CARRINGTON, Altec Service Corp. president, will return to the Coast from New York this weekend.

•

GEORGE A. SMITH, Paramount's Western division sales manager, is back in New York from Des Moines.

•

WILLIAM F. RODGERS, M-G-M general sales manager, will leave here in two weeks for a vacation in Florida.

•

HERB CROOKER, M-G-M home office publicity manager, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

•

BOB SISK, M-G-M producer, left for the Coast yesterday after a two-week vacation in the East.

•

JULIAN JOHNSON will depart from Hollywood today for a two-week visit in New York.

•

CLAUDE RAINS will return to Hollywood on Dec. 26 from his farm in Pennsylvania.

•

JOHN BALABAN of Balaban and Katz, Chicago, has left New Orleans for Havana.

•

CHARLES C. MOSKOWITZ, Loew's treasurer, is back here from a vist on the Coast.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 4

REALISTIC and down-to-earth Steve Broidy knows what the time of day is. For instance, he knows that, matters being what they are today, Monogram's reliance for a prosperous well-being is on volume. He knows, also, that the company which he heads, like all others, enjoyed a field day during the war when this business of motion pictures was completely unacquainted with pain.

He is aware that a decree, guiding and maybe governing, future operations of all companies, big and little, is getting closer to realization. While Monogram, as such, is clear of the long and laborious litigation, Broidy is well abreast of the fact that his company will be swept into whatever the new order is to be because what affects the top companies, perforce, must leave an impress completely down the line.

■

He, like others endeavoring to divine the future, has ideas. Unlike some others, Broidy, however, does not profess to set himself up as an oracle whose forecasts must be infallible. He states this frankly, and therein he is wise. Like those planning others, nevertheless, he is taking steps to guide his corporate ship through the waters, calm or rough, and he thinks he has one good one.

This is how it has been welded together:

Monogram is moving along on what might be described as a two-road policy. The smaller pictures, aimed at volume at a price, are being continued. A new company, Allied Artists, has been formed to handle a limited number of bigger attractions. When Broidy talks of big attractions, he means those made at approximately $1,000,000. The first, "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," produced and directed by Roy Del Ruth, is finished and entered on the cost sheets at $1,200,000, without final scoring, without prints and without advertising. Broidy doesn't exactly gulp when he talks about it so that maybe it's only in the imagination. Your observer's.

■

In this new sesaon, Allied Artists will restrain ambitions to about six attractions, all of them representing important money, all of them with known production values, all of them to be sold by the Monogram sales force under separate and individual contracts. Next year, if all goes well, there may be as many as a dozen. Del Ruth's picture ran to 61 shooting days, which is almost two dozen more than any other ever made or handled by Monogram.

It is Broidy's determination, moreover, to maintain a very eagle-kind of eye on the market. He sees the possibility of continuing the current plan—the smaller ones from Monogram and the bigger ones from Allied Artists. But, if there is a turn dictating Monogram's best possibilities lodge only in the smaller ones, that's the way it will be. If it's a case of only the important ones, Allied Artists is designed to hold the answer.

■

Should the latter prove the ticket, Broidy feels the gradual rise of the new company will demonstrate to the theatremen of the nation that Monogram management and/or Allied Artists will have proven it possesses the "know how." He views it as required, and he appears to be sound in the approach, that Allied Artists, therefore, proceed carefully, but not necessarily gingerly, in establishing its case to the end that no one will be in a position to challenge the changeover, if it comes, from low-budget to high-budget.

He declares, consequently, that he is in a liquid position, production-wise, and that he intends remaining there until the way of the future is finally resolved.

■ ■

Captained by Grad Sears, UA's sales and advertising tops descend on Hollywood tomorrow "for the principal purpose of seeing David O. Selznick's 'Duel in the Sun.'" What appears to be a perfunctory press release handed out here, however, carries more than meets the unknowing eye. The travel note, coupled with the object of the traveling, completely ignores the internal seethings swirling around the heads of Charlie Chaplin, Mary Pickford and Selznick over the debated issue of whether or not David remains with UA or whether UA can find a way of drumming him out of the company.

The best lowdown at this end

(Continued on page 4)

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

MEXICO CITY motion picture theatre owner Samuel Granat is the winner of the capital prize of $1,000,000 in the Mexican National Lottery. He gave the seller of his winning ticket a little tip of $4,0[illegible]

▽

"So Dark the Night" will open at New York's Rialto Theatre on Friday. House treasurer William Kurtz identifies the film as the "John L. Lewis picture."

▽

Sign-of-the-Times: Howard L. Chaffin, former Army major, who recently returned to the post of office manager at National Theatre Supply's Atlanta office, has resigned. He will return to the Army.

▽

RKO Radio's Leon Bamberger, who visits exhibitor conventions in the cause of company goodwill, is quite a stander-on-one-foot.

Preceding his address before the Michigan Allied meeting in Detroit the other day, Bamberger told the story of the tribe in Africa which has such a dislike for long speeches that every speaker is limited to what he can say while standing on one foot. As long as he can balance himself, without any support, a tribesman can talk to his heart's content, but the minute his upraised foot touches the ground he's through!

"Now," Bamberger told his expectant listeners, "that might be a good idea to introduce here." And he then proceeded to rattle off nine pages of text!

▽

Warden Francis J. Lanagan of Charlestown, Mass., State Prison, has banned RKO's "San Quentin"—which features a lot of shootin'—because of "unsettled conditions" among inmates in his jailhouse.

▽

Lew Lehr has a Scotchman in mind who, having worn the same hat for some 18 years, decided, with a heavy heart, to buy a new one. Going to the only hat shop in town, he walked in and said, "Well, here I am again."

▽

The John R. Moroney who appeared the other day before the Congressional Committee to Investigate Disposal of Surplus Property, to obtain a lease for the Big Inch Pipeline System, spoke in behalf of the Petroleum Southwest Corp., Dallas, of which he is president. When not otherwise engaged, Moroney is general counsel for the Karl Hoblitzelle-Bob O'Donnell Interstate Theatres, in the Southwest.

▽

Hard times have hit the industry in Mexico City, to the extent that 150 filmites there have lost their automobiles to installment collectors.

▽

Miss Carol Jordon is Christmas shopping these days for busy New York film-folk. She says she shops for anything "from minks to sinks."

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"The last Bomb"

A TWO-REEL SPECTACLE. WARNERS FOR
"GOOD CITIZENSHIP AND GOOD PICTURE-MAKING!"
(NEW YORK TIMES)

WARNERS GAVE IT A FEATURE-PICTURE PREMIERE ON 200 STATIONS OF THE ABC NETWORK!

PRODUCED IN COOPERATION WITH U.S. ARMY AIR FORCES

PHOTOGRAPHED BY ARMY AIR FORCES COMBAT CAMERA UNITS

SUPERVISED BY ARMY CO-ORDINATOR
FRANK LLOYD

PRINTED IN TECHNICOLOR

Insider's Outlook

(Continued from page 2)

is that UA is reluctant about giving up "Duel"; certainly, the handout assumes that the company will release under the thus far unbroken and uninterrupted Selznick contract. Also, that last Friday's board meeting in New York got into the area of resolutions which, reportedly, determined nothing and that the next step, whatever it may bring, won't develop until another meeting, on Dec. 10.

■

Meanwhile, there is Enterprise maintaining its directors must decide if they want UA distribution. Meanwhile, too, there is the unsettled question of roadshows. Selznick will two-a-day "Duel." Enterprise says "me, too" on "Arch of Triumph." Somebody has to give somewhere. It won't be Selznick.

Owen Resigns 20th Exploitation Post

Richard Owen, 20th-Fox exploitation representative in the Southwest, has resigned after six years with the company, according to Charles Schlaifer, director of advertising and publicity.

Owen joined the company on formation of the exploitation force, prior to which he handled publicity for Billy Rose at the Texas Centennial. He will take a short vacation before announcing new plans.

Video Sponsor Renews

Standard Oil of New Jersey has renewed sponsorship of "Your Esso Television Reporter" over NBC Television.

Review

"Swell Guy"

(Universal-International—Mark Hellinger)

Hollywood, Dec. 4

PRODUCER Mark Hellinger's second picture for Universal-International contains considerable material long off the beaten track.

In a seeming attempt to cash in on the stark depiction of venality, Hellinger pushed plausibility to the limiit.

It is strictly for adults. It is likely to get attention also as to the first picture in modern times presenting the dilemma of a pregnant young woman whose lover, already married, is killed off by the script to resolve, in a fashion, the problem. An over-talkative screenplay, delineating the hero as a heel, includes the offer of a faithful sweetheart to marry the girl anyway.

This film sets out to show that its hero, played determinedly by Sonny Tufts, is a cad by choice, plus paternal influence. Famed as a war correspondent, he returns to his home town, moving in on his married brother, who idolizes him, and his mother, who knows him for what he is and tries to send him away. He has a fast affair with the adolescent daughter of a leading citizen, corrupts his sister-in-law, prepares to run away with a charity fund collected by his brother and, on an impulse contrary to character, dies under a train while trying to rescue his nephew.

Ann Blyth, as the girl, is overmatched by dialogue which handicaps naturalness and contains such lines as a bartender's description of her as "dynamite looking for a fuse." Ruth Warrick, William Gargan and John Litel are similarly handicapped by their lines, with only Thomas Gomez and Mary Nash enabled to make their roles appear real.

Eddie Blatt is down as associate producer. Frank Tuttle directed from a script by Richard Brooks, based on an old play by Gilbert Emery.

Running time, 87 minutes. Adult audience classification. For December release.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Chicago Loop House Goes First-Run

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—The Loop's Rialto, heretofore operating on a combination film-burlesque policy, will become a first-run house beginning Dec. 25, when M-G-M's reprint of "Rage in Heaven" is slated to make its initial local appearance. Negotiations are now on for other first-run product. Admissions will run to a 95-cent top.

The theatre will close Dec. 19 for remodeling, while an extensive advertising campaign heralding the opening will be conducted. Nate Barger owns the theatre.

Joan Fontaine in 'Ivy'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Joan Fontaine has replaced Olivia DeHavilland in Interwood's "Ivy" for Universal.

Academy Sets Rules For Sound Awards

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4. — Academy Awards rules, under which the sound director of each studio will submit one picture to the nominations committee composed of two representatives of each sound department, were announced by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences tonight. The committee representatives will be bound to vote for other than their own pictures.

The three pictures finishing first in the committee's vote will go on the ballot for the full Academy membership to vote for final choice for the award.

SWG Membership to Select for Academy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—All members of the Screen Writers Guild will participate, by ballot, in nominating pictures for the annual Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences writing awards, it was announced here today.

The acting and directing branches of the Academy last week announced they would pursue similar procedure.

Academy Bulletin To Go to Libraries

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4. — Hollywood's official running record of all screen credits will be made available to public libraries for the first time in 1947, at the same price charged studios. The volumes contain complete data on all pictures made between 1935 and the present. Monthly renewal supplements will be made available for the volumes.

Chicago Cites Two

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—Two films, "The Strange Woman" (UA) and "How Green Was My Father" (Clasa, Mexican), were classified for adults only by the local police censor board last month, it was announced this week. Of the 62 features reviewed, only five cuts were made, and no pictures were

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
CHICAGO TERRITORY ONLY
★
"THE YEARLING"
★
MONDAY
DEC. 9th—3:30 P. M.
★
H. C. IGEL's SCREEN ROOM
1301 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, Ill.

AMPA Int'l Is In the Making

First step in the creation of branch chapters in various parts of the world has been taken by the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers, with plans already set to start the movement in Mexico City. Columbia Sileo, known in film circles both here and in Mexico, and long an active AMPA member, has been delegated by the board of directors to organize the Mexican unit. At the same time, she is taking with her for presentation to President Miguel Aleman of Mexico, a letter of congratulations signed by Rutgers Neilson, president of AMPA, on behalf of that organization.

AMPA's board of directors met last evening to plan the organization's next open meeting on which occasion a speaker of international fame will be honored guest.

Albany Variety To Install Saturday

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 4.—Installation of new officers will be made at the annual motion picture ball of Tent No. 9, Variety Club, in the De Witt Clinton Hotel, here, on Saturday night. Elmer L. Lux will install Neil Hellman as chief barker, and Hellman's associates. Welden Waters, who was to be the first assistant chief barker, but who had to resign after 20th Century-Fox transferred him to Pittsburgh as manager, will come here from that city for the ball. C. J. Latta, Warner Theatres New York State zone manager, will represent the National Variety Club, as second assistant national chief barker.

Si Fabian, head of Fabian Theatres, will attend with a party from New York.

Wallis, Murrow at Nobel Dinner Dec. 10

Hal Wallis, independent producer, will be among the speakers at the annual American Nobel dinner, Dec. 10, at the Hotel Astor here which will be broadcast over a group of New York stations from 9 to 11 P. M., EST. Edward R. Murrow, vice-president and director of public affairs for Columbia Broadcasting, and Norman Corwin, radio writer, also will speak.

'Modern Screen' Expands

A separate promotion and publicity unit has been established for Modern Screen to facilitate expanding activities in consumer promotion. This will supplement the magazine's film and radio industry tie-ups.

Layng Martine has been appointed director of the new promotion branch, with Shirley Frohlich as assistant. Andrew Mahwinney will continue as promotion manager of the Dell "Modern Group" and Dell Men's Group.

Rubin to Direct at PRC

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4.—Benny Rubin, former comic, has been signed by PRC as director of "Hollywood Hi", first in the company's new series of high-budget films. The assignment starts as soon as Rubin completes his present committment as dialogue director on "Red Stallion."

Radio Critics

(*Continued from page* 1)

ginning and end of programs.

Quite a few critics contend that networks are becoming "typed" for want of program variety. For instance, one writes that "there are too many dramatic programs on CBS; too many comedy shows on NBC."

"There are not enough serious drama and discussion shows," complains another.

Audience participation shows and "m. c.'s who make fools of contestants" come in for some swipes from the professional radio listeners, as do quiz show conductors who give away the answers along with the cash and multitudinous other prizes.

"Sight" gags that panic a studio audience and leave the listener-at-home bewildered draw considerable critical wrath. Pay less attention to studio audiences and more to home listeners, they say. Other ballots carry the message that radio is sadly in need of better script writing, better daytime programs, some weekday symphonic programs and more originality and humor, such as that provided by Henry Morgan, "the newest and brightest voice in radio in the past five years," in the opinion of quite a few.

'Back to Networks'

"Take the shows away from the advertising agencies and give them back to the stations and networks," pleads a New York voice.

Crime programs and off-color lines in shows during early evening hours when adolescent audiences are listening-in are deplored by many critics. An increase in "blue" lines on many shows is noted frequently and deplored. Program "plugs" for motion pictures in which guest stars appear come in for some critical wrath. Others deplore the fact that several of their favorite programs are on the air at the same time, forcing the critics to choose between them.

There are "too many breakfast shows; too many husband and wife programs," say others.

"Preferred time should be devoted to 'win-the-peace' programs," says a Cleveland critic.

Little in praise of radio was to be culled from the comments on the ballots. Several approved the attempts of "disc-jockeys" to personalize their programs and others commended stations which are liberal with classical music broadcasts.

The attitude of the majority, however, appears to be summed up in this observation from Berkeley, Cal.: "Thank heaven for radio! It can alawys be turned off."

Feature Film on the Life of Roosevelt

A feature-length documentary of the life of President Roosevelt, entitled "The Roosevelt Story," is near completion after nine months of research and cutting, and will have a Broadway premiere in February, Tola Productions announces. It will be presented by Martin Levine and Oliver A. Unger, who made the film in association with Harry Brandt.

Nearly 1,000,000 feet of available film were scrutinized to encompass the first motion picture biography of the late President.

All-American Will Produce Features

CHICAGO, Dec. 4.—All-American News, Inc., previously confined to newsreels and digests for Negro audiences, announces that its 1947 schedule calls for two features and four feature Westerns with all-Negro casts. The features are entitled "Struttin' Along" and "That's My Boy"; the first two Westerns will be "Galloping Ghost" and "Haunted Trail."

In addition to the weekly newsreel, the schedule calls for 12 short features: "Stars on Parade," "It Happened in Harlem," "Chicago After Dark," "Night Club Ladies," "Big Timers," "Dance Hall Dollies," "Lucky Gamblers," "Romance in Rhythm," "Dancing Feet," "Romance on the Beat," "Melodies in Blue" and "Midnight Menace."

The 12 planned "All-American Digests are titled: "The Real Joe Louis," "Firsts," "Sports Cavalcade," "Achievements," "The Negro in the Musical World," "Unusual Events and Personalities," "The Negro Sailor," "Negro Colleges," "Outstanding Negro Personalities," "American Negro Spirituals," "The Negro in the Field of Art," and "The Negro in Science."

The entire program will also be distributed by Ideal Picture Corp. on 16 mm. film for non-theatrical exhibitors.

Army Refuses

(*Continued from page* 1)

as surplus property. Addressing a meeting of the Washington Film Workers, Cherrington had as an audience four representatives of the MPA: Roger Albright, head of the Educational Program; Joel Farris, his assistant; Ken Clark, Public Relations, and David Palfreyman, in charge of Theatre Relations.

Eric Johnston, MPA president, has asked that the Army furnish a list of copyrights involved so that the clearance of these films be "expedited." The Library of Congress has agreed to be the clearing house for all surplus Government pictures. Approximately 250 films have been declared surplus by the Army thus far. Cherrington disclosed that the U. S. Office of Education has found that of the 5,000 films made during the war, some 2,200 are considered of educational value.

Schwartz Elected

(*Continued from page* 1)

for treasurer and sergeant-at-arms, respectively, were elected to those posts.

Chosen from among 27 nominees to comprise the 15-man board of directors were: Leo Abrams, John M. Benas, Matthew Cahan, Jack Ellis, Simon H. Fabian, J. J. Felder, Max Fellerman, David A. Levy, Howard Levy, Charles Penser, Samuel Rinzler, Bert Sanford, Seymour Schussel, Cy Seymour and David Snaper.

Sanders reported a total of $69,754 in the Associates' treasury—$47,206 in cash and the remainder in bonds.

Invocation at the meeting was pronounced by Charles Berliner, chaplain of the organization, who called attention to the recent deaths of Louis Frisch and Sol Title.

20 Changes Made by Springer at Century

J. R. Springer, general manager of Century Theatres has made the following 20 changes in personnel:

Saul Renick, manager of the Linden Theatre has been transferred to the Rialto Theatre as manager; Robert Levy, manager of the Quentin has been transferred to the Linden; Peter Manzione, assistant manager of the Patio has been transferred to the Quentin as manager; Edward Schwarzbart, manager of the Elm, has been transferred to the Tivoli in the same capacity; Monroe Schram, manager of the Tivoli, has been transferred to the Elm as manager.

Also: William White, assistant manager of the College, has been transferred to the Rialto in the same capacity. Irwin Auerbach, second assistant of the Tivoli, has been transferred to the Nostrand Theatre as assistant manager; Alfred Cohn, assistant of the Nostrand has been transferred to the Patio as assistant; Paul Goldberg, second assitant manager of the Kingsway has been transferred to the College as assistant; John Benardello is now the second assistant manager at the Tivoli Theatre.

Hoffay Post Unfilled

No successor has yet been named to Mike Hoffay, head of RKO's foreign advertising and publicity department, according to Phil Reisman, foreign department head. Hoffay resigned last week, after 10 years' service, over failure to obtain a transfer to Hollywood.

British M.P.'s

(*Continued from page* 1)

perienced executive, with no government subsidy.

It was further proposed that the government build or acquire studios wherein approved "independent" pictures be produced, for showing in the 500 houses, and, further, that the government establish distribution for independents.

The report by the Members of Parliament stems from the first flush of the Labour Party's victory at the polls when a "drastic probe" of every ramification of the film industry was proposed. The sub-committee conducting the investigation had no authority to summon witnesses or to compel voluntary witnesses to give evidence, but such industry leaders as J. Arthur Rank, Sir Alexander Korda, Michael Balcon, and others, went along, just to show they had nothing to hide.

Nationalization Unfavored

After prolonged deliberation, the sub-committee now reports that it does not favor nationalization (*per se*) of the industry, but it would like to see a state film studio turning out documentary films propagating government ideas, these to be shown in the two circuits of 500 theatres.

Both producers and distributors unite in paying little attention to the committee's proposals, and Sir Cripps is said to regard the document as another example of letting off steam.

To The
RADIO EDITORS
of the
UNITED STATES
and CANADA

My sincere thanks and appreciation for voting the Guy Lombardo Orchestra as the Best Dance Band for the Seventh Consecutive Year in the Eleventh Annual Radio Poll conducted by Motion Picture Daily for Fame.

GUY LOMBARDO
On the Air for
UNITED STATES ARMY
RECRUITING SERVICE
over
MUTUAL NETWORK
Coast to Coast
Mondays—9:30 to 10:00 P.M. (E.S.T.)

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Although "Blue Skies" opened to big business in a week of fair winter weather, most other pictures are hovering slightly above or below the house-average mark. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 3-5:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

BLUE SKIES (Para.) and **THE MAN WHO DARED (Col.)**—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $46,500. (Average: $32,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and **GOLDEN GATE** (2,825) (65c-$1.00) With vaudeville. 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (U) and **DEAD OF NIGHT (U)**—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $14,000)

NO LEAVE NO LOVE (M-G-M) and **FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)**—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $23,000)

DECEPTION (WB) and **HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)**—STATE (1,459) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $13,000)

MARGIE (20th Fox)—EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.) — ST. FRANCIS (1,430) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $3,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $14,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and **SHADOWS OVER CHINATOWN (Mono.)**—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $27,000)

BOSTON

Excellent Thanksgiving business and warmer than seasonal weather increased grosses generally before Monday's cold wave set in. Danny Kaye at the Boston Theatre, with "The Falcon's Adventure" on the screen, topped Dick Haymes' record for weekend business, but resumption of the school term will keep the week's total slightly under the all-time high mark. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4:

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Danny Kaye, Georgia Gibbs. Gross: $68,000. (Average: $27,400)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and THE AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $6,800. (Average: $6,900)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $25,000)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $36,500. (Average: $25,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $26,000. (Average: $23,500)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and THE AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $16,200. (Average: $15,100)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $15,000. (Average: $16,900)



SALT LAKE CITY

Splendid outdoor weather and much mountain skiing failed to take grosses below average in any instance. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 5:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,900)

BLUE SKIES (Para.) — CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $13,500)

SPOOK BUSTERS (Mono.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,600)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) — STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days on a moveover. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $4,700)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,800)

NEVER SAY GOOD BYE (WB) and SHADOWED (Col.)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Big Thanksgiving business led off one of the best weeks in many years for Loop theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 5:

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $7,500)

WILD BEAUTY (U)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,400)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from State. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $29,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE VERDICT (WB)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $13,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 4th week, on moveover from Century. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $2,500)

OMAHA

Holiday business contributed to a box-office boom this week. The weather continues cold but has not been too unpleasant. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4-5:

SHEPHERD OF THE HILLS (Para. reissue) and BEAU GESTE (Para. reissue)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $8,600)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox) and LITTLE MISS BIG (U)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $9,400)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,800. (Average: $11,000)

DECEPTION (WB) and GENIUS AT WORK (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $6,800)

KANSAS CITY

Good Thanksgiving patronage helped first runs in a generally fair week with a few wintry days. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 3-5:

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $1,750)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) and BETTY CO-ED (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $11,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

OUT CALIFORNIA WAY (Rep.) and PERSONALITY KID (Col.)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 7 days. Sally Rand and company on stage, plus special weekend midnight shows. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. Average: $6,000)

INDIANAPOLIS

Three of the five first-run films enjoyed business well above average as a result of brisk holiday trade. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 3-4:

THE STRANGER (RKO Radio) and **GENIUS AT WORK (RKO Radio)**—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,700)

THREE LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE (20th-Fox)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,800)

THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $14,400)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para. reissue) and **JUNGLE PRINCESS (Para. reissue)** — LYRIC (1,500) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,700)

ATLANTA

Business is improving at some theatres and declining at others in a week of good weather. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 3:

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-44c-60c) 3rd week. Gross: $8,300. (Average: $8,200)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ROXY (55c-60c) 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,600)

PARTNERS IN TIME (RKO Radio) and HER ADVENTUROUS NIGHT (U)—CAPITOL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,100. (Average: $4,200)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

DENVER

Beautiful weather combined with the holiday weekend gave first-runs healthy business. School closings because of the coal strike also helped. "Two Years Before the Mast" broke the house record in its opening week at the Denham. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4:

DECEPTION (WB) and NORTH OF THE BORDER (Screen Guild)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $4,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,500)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and GENIUS AT WORK (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $3,500)

EAL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.) and RENDEZVOUS WITH ANNIE (Rep.)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $8,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) and DANGEROUS MONEY (Mono.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Aladdin. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day and date with Denver, Esquire. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,000)

CLEVELAND

Exceptionally good Thanksgiving business, plus excellent business over the weekend in spite of a blizzard, is resulting in the biggest total first-run gross of the year. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 4-5:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $32,000. (Average: $23,800)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, for 7 days: $11,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $12,000)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox)—(3,300) (60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Vaughn Monroe orchestra. Gross: $46,000. (Average: $30,000)

DECEPTION (WB) — WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $22,600)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,650)

Golden Signs

(*Continued from page* 1)

United Artists allowing for his product to go through MPEA.

Reporting on his forthcoming product, Golden said that three features, each to cost at least $1,000,000, are slated for the next three years. However, he said, the first will not start rolling until the Hollywood strike is settled. This is "Edward and the Arch Angel," based on the *Saturday Evening Post* novel. Louis Meltzer has written the screenplay. Rights to story properties for the other two are now being negotiated. Robert S. Golden will produce all three.

Harold Russell Luncheon

Harold Russell, who plays the armless veteran in "The Best Years of Our Lives," will be a luncheon guest of the Radio Executives Club, here, today. He is in New York from the Coast en route to Boston University where he will resume his studies at the School of Business Administration.

Coal Strike

(Continued from page 1)

public welfare." He pointed out that motion pictures were given a priority almost as high as food for troops during the war.

Realizing the important morale building influence of the theatre, the Civilian Production Administration also believes that the motion picture theatre actually results in a saving of fuel power consumption. CPA officials caution, however, that when coal stock piles are exhausted and no power is available, the only alternative will be complete shutdown of theatres. "This will not require an order. It will come about when the theatre runs out of coal and when the public utility can no longer furnish power for lighting," the CPA stated.

Barron Reports

Carter Barron, Eastern division manager of Loew's Theatres, said here today that his company has only two electric generators in this area. They are both in Virginia, where the coal situation appears extremely serious. One is at Richmond, the other at Loew's Norfolk.

Today as Lewis snarled in Federal Court here that a Government counsel "lied about his own financial conditions," leaders of the mine operators and union were meeting behind closed doors to discuss possible settlement.

Primary difficulty, it is reported, is that the Southern Operators Association refuses to go along with the Northern mine owners, who desire "immediate negotiations on a contract."

Realizing that the court fight between the Government and Lewis might last 30 days, both the union and operators are anxious to get the mines back in operation irrespective of the court battle.

Plan Broadcast Lessons If Schools Close Here

John E. Wade, superintendent of Schools for the City of New York, today accepted the offer of James M. Gaines, manager of radio station WNBC, to put the facilities of the station at the disposal of the Board of Education should the city schools be closed because of the coal shortage.

If such an emergency arises, it is the plan of the news and special events department under Thomas B. McFadden to make time available in order that lessons may be broadcast directly into the homes of the school children.

6 Denver Theatres Being Used as Classrooms

DENVER, Dec. 4.—Thought to be the first such move in the country, Fox Intermountain Theatres are making available to the Denver school board a half dozen of their theatres to be used in classroom assemblies and visual education for the duration of the coal shortage. Denver schools are closed because of the coal strike.

The theatres will furnish appropriate films, either features or shorts, that will tie in with the requirements of the educators. Theatres being used include three first runs and three subsequents. They are the Aladdin, Esquire, Webber, Bluebird, Ogden and Mayan. These houses are heated by oil or gas.

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Foundation Approved

(Continued from page 1)

it is proposed, will organize working committees in their respective areas which, in addition to being local administrative bodies, also will designate representatives to a national board of trustees. The board in turn will appoint executive and other committees to be charged with national organizing and administrative functions.

These are the bare proposals made here by the committee on organization of which Leonard H. Goldenson of New York was chairman of organization. Details will be filled in later by the coordinating committee of the foundation and by local meetings of steering committes.

Foundation's Scope

The scope of the Motion Picture Foundation established here, will, according to preliminary reports presented by committees today, be limited only by "the generosity and imagination of members of the industry in advancing the welfare of its people." It is recommended that an initial fund of $10,000,000 be raised within a two-year period and that additional amounts needed be determined from time to time along with the means of raising such amounts.

Further, it was also recommended that Foundation benefits be extended "to any employee of the industry whose need, continuously and length of service shall have satisfied minimum standards to be set by the local and national committees of the Foundation." In so doing, it emphasized that all companies and employers now providing aid and welfare benefits to employes are expected to continue such practices and that the purpose of the Foundation will be to supplement rather than to duplicate or replace such programs. The primary obligation to provide relief and aid to employes who meet reasonable qualifications, the committee's report said, rests squarely upon the employer he has serviced.

E. V. Richards, Jr. of Paramount-Richards Theatres, New Orleans, served as chairman of the Foundation's organization meeting, at the Roosevelt Hotel. Richards served as chairman in the absence of Walter Vincent, one of the sponsors of the Foundation plan, who was unable to attend.

The Foundation represents the establishment of the first all-industry welfare fund and the first to be established by any industry for the assistance of its members generally.

Later Meetings

The meeting here outlined only the aims and machinery for foundation operations. The setting up of a permanent organization will await later meetings of the sponsors. Attending the meeting here were representatives of seven major producing and distributing companies, of small and large theatre companies from all parts of the country, of the principal exhibitor organizations, including the American Theatres Association, Allied States and Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, and also representatives of the trade press, the IATSE and companies allied with the industry.

The budgetary phase of the committee report was presented by Mitchell Wolfson, Miami circuit operator.

Fund raising suggestions were presented in a supplementary report read by Sam Pinanski of M. and P. Theatres, Boston.

ETO Awaiting a Shipment of Films

FRANKFURT, Germany, Dec. 4.—Although no 35mm. film shipments were received by Army Theater Special Services here last week from the United States, filmgoers in the European theatre many shortly expect to see 36 new features, as that number are now at the New York Port Embarkation awaiting shipment, with indications that these films will shortly be on their way to Germany.

There are at present 112 theatres in the ET showing 35mm. films, and 500 installations for the showing of 16mm. films.

Pictorial Names Bonwick

The board of directors of Pathe's Pictorial Films, Inc., has elected George J. Bonwick as vice-president and general manager, succeeding Milton J. Salzburg and Harold Baumstone, recently resigned. Prior to his election, Bonwick had held executive positions in the film industry as vice-president, treasurer, and director of Pathe Laboratories, and as vice-president and director of PRC.

NewDirectors Named By Memphis Variety

MEMPHIS, Tenn., Dec. 4.—New directors of the local Varsity Club, elected for 1947, are Herb Kohn of Malco Theatres, present chief barker; Herman Chrisman, Columbia; Raphael Pierre Dawson, Universal; Dave Flexer of the Ritz and Peabody; R. M. Hammond, United Artists; Bailey Pritchard, Monogram; Leonard Shea, PRC; Bill Ramsay, Manley, Inc.; Ed Williamson, Warners; Nat Wyse, Republic, and M. A. Lightman, Sr., ex-officio director, as immediate past chief barker.

The directors will choose officers from their own ranks before Jan. 1.

Thomas Adds Westerns

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 4. — Jerry Thomas, producer of the Eddie Dean musical action series for PRC, has also been assigned to produce the company's Al La Rue—Al (Fuzzy) St. John series of Westerns. The current schedule calls for six films in the Dean series and eight in the La Rue-St. John pictures, with Ray Taylor directing both groups.

Gerson Young Dies

Gerson C. Young, 61, attorney for Randforce Amusement Co. until late 1945, died at his home here on Tuesday. Surviving are his widow and two sons, Alfred F. Young and Dr. Dennison Young.

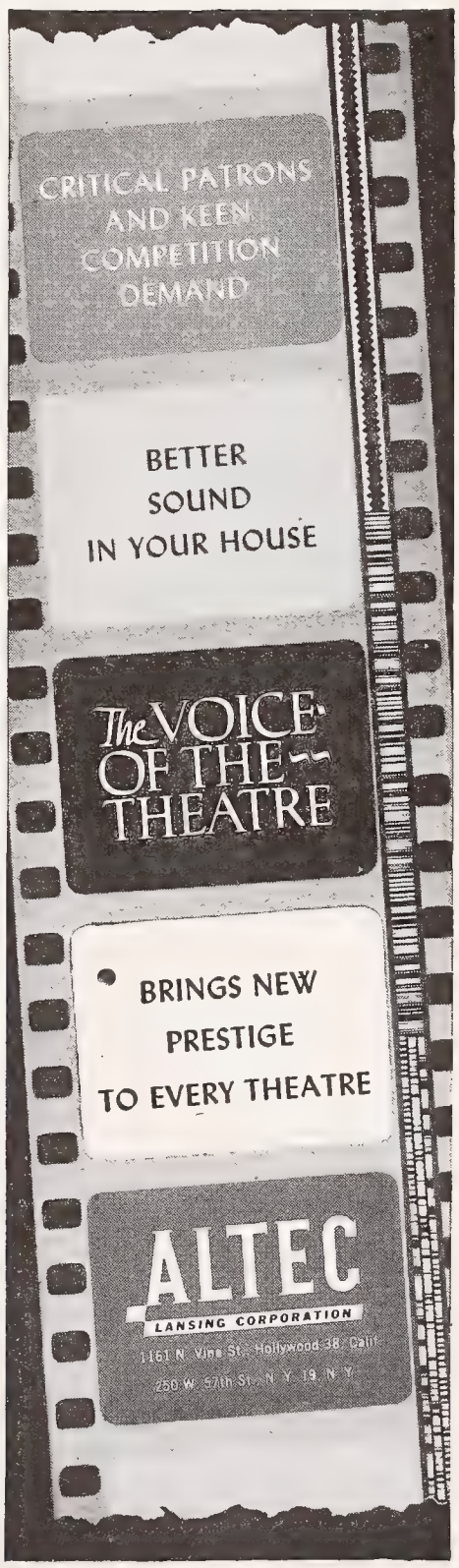
Rank Sales

(Continued from page 1)

manager, will preside then. Other topics of the meeting will be the general selling policy for the Rank division and discussions of circuit and key-city sales.

Rank representatives at the meeting will include Joe Gins, supervisor of sales for the Chicago, Detroit, Milwaukee, Minneapolis and Indianapolis territories; Lester Zucker, Cleveland, supervisor there and for Boston, Buffalo, Albany and New Haven; Nick Lamantia, New Orleans, supervisor for that city and for Atlanta, Dallas, Memphis, Charlotte and Oklahoma City; Joe Oulahan, supervisor for Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh and Cincinnati, and Jules Weill of St. Louis, who handles that city, Omaha, Kansas City and Des Moines.

"Stairway to Heaven" will be screened at the Balaban and Katz office tomorrow and "Magic Bow" at the Universal office on Friday. Primary sales efforts will be directed toward "Notorious Gentleman" and "Wicked Lady."



MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 9	SECRET OF THE WHISTLER Richard Dix Leslie Brooks D—65 mins. (818) (Rev. 11/1/46)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT Gilbert Roland Frank Yacanelli O—(531)		DON RICARDO RETURNS Fred Coby O—68 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)			(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)		(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven D—94 mins. (Rev. 11/15/46)	NEVER SAY GOODBYE Errol Flynn Eleanor Parker C—97 mins. (606) (Rev. 10/24/46)
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)		SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563) (Rev. 11/27/46)		STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O	HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542) (Rev. 11/18/46)			(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)		
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)	MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer C—109 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—61 mins. (824) (Rev. 11/28/46)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		SANTA FE UPRISING Allan Lane Bobby Blake O—56 mins.	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)	WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644) (Rev. 11/11/46)			
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue O—73 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)	(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce C—65 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)	(Dec. Releases) SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth	
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)		(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)		TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)		SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan M—75 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)			(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney			I'LL BE YOURS Deanna Durbin Tom Drake William Bendix Adolphe Menjou	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—64 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)			BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev: 9/26/46)		(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunne Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648) (Rev. 12/2/46)	(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru D—96 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)		THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) Dennis Morgan Jack Carson M—105 min. (610)
Jan. 4											
Jan. 11			CISCO AND THE ANGEL Gilbert Roland O						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd		THE MAN I LOVE Ida Lupino Robert Alda D—96 mins. (611)
Jan. 18						ANGEL AND THE BADMAN John Wayne Irene Rich					

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 80. NO. 111 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1946 TEN CENTS

Building Bars Crack; Will Aid Theatres

Repair Grants Favored; Building Must Wait

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—Gradual elimination of commercial building barriers is disclosed as having been agreed upon within the Government, with the first step in this direction said to entail the raising of the weekly private building quota from $35,000,000 to approximately $40,000,000.

Expected action in this connection is foreseen as giving the Civilian Production Administration leeway to step up approval of construction applications for theatre repairs. However, it will be several months before complete new theatres can be built, it is asserted.

The impetus for the elimination of the building barriers stems from a breakdown in the Veterans Housing

(*Continued on page 7*)

Heineman Explains U.S. Rank Sales

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—The top J. Arthur Rank pictures being handled by the Rank division of Universal Pictures will be released during the next 12 months on a schedule which permits the market to absorb them and provides the type of playing time which is desired, William J. Heineman, general sales manager, told the organization's sales representatives at

(*Continued on page 7*)

Buchanan to Handle Allied Artists Ads

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Buchanan and Co., New York and Hollywood, has been signed to handle the advertising account of Allied Artists, subsidiary newly-formed by Monogram for the production of higher-budget pictures, it was announced here today by Steve Broidy, president of both the film companies.

An appropriation of $250,000 has been set for a publicity and exploita-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Formalization of Foundation Now In Lawyers' Hands

NEW ORLEANS, Dec. 5.—Finishing its work of coordinating the reports of committees for the formation of the Motion Picture Foundation at a session here last night, a joint group of temporary committee chairmen prepared to turn over to attorneys the task of drawing up a charter for the foundation.

Thereafter, regional leaders in the 31 exchange districts throughout the country will be asked to form temporary steering committees which will guide the formation of individual units of the Foundation in each territory. The local units then will designate representatives who will form the nucleus of the national administrative organization for the Foundation.

Industry delegates to the two-day meeting here this week which endorsed the plan for the industry's first welfare organization for the assistance and care of motion picture people in need expressed the hope that both regional and national units will have been established by the year's end.

Levy Heads U-I's Coast Advertising

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Herman F. Levy has been appointed advertising manager for Universal-International studios, it was announced here today by David Lipton, executive coordinator of advertising.

Levy, who for the past two years has been assistant advertising manager at Universal studios, replaces Clark Ramsay, who resigned to head the West Coast office of the Monroe Greenthal Advertising Agency. For many years Levy was associated with RKO Theatres in Chicago, St. Louis, Sioux City and Omaha.

French May Have 100 This Year

By MAURICE BESSY

PARIS, Dec. 2 (By Airmail). — France's production for 1946 is expected to total 100 features, a figure not reached since before the war, when between 110 and 120 features were produced annually.

Business sources estimated the industry will take a loss of a little over $4,200,000 on those 100 features, which

(*Continued on page 7*)

EMPOWER STATES TO SHUT THEATRES

May Limit Trucking Of Film Supplies

Representatives of trucking companies hauling film supplies and promotional accessories will meet here today to work out possible limitations on the loads they will be able to accept and the distances they will be able to cover during the railroad freight, express and parcel post embargo brought on by the coal strike. National Screen Service and other dealers, which have transferred their shipments from rail to truck, are awaiting the outcome of the session as well as a Government directive on the subject.

Shut Houses Due: Small

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. — Terming the coal crisis "extremely grave," John D. Small, retiring chief of the Civilian Production Administration today said that more drastic power curtailment orders will be necessary for the 21 coal-burning states in the East. He said he agrees with Dan H. Wheeler, Deputy Solid Fuels Administrator, that theatres and other places of entertainment will have to be closed because of the coal strike.

While Small admitted that theatres play an important morale role and may actually save electric power and fuel by remaining open, the situation today is so urgent that some cities are

(*Continued on page 7*)

Broidy and Ritchey Are Re-elected

Steve Broidy and Norton V. Ritchey have been reelected board chairman and president, respectively, of Monogram International Corp., by stockholders, here yesterday.

Also elected were: J. Peter Friedhoff, vice-president; George D. Burrows, treasurer; Nellie Witting, secretary; David D. Horne, assistant treasurer and assistant secretary;

(*Continued on page 7*)

38 Governors Are Given Order in Policy Reversal By Solid Fuels Group

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5. — In a complete reversal of the Civilian Production Administration's decision to keep theatres open during the present coal-strike crisis, the Governors of the 38 states where the present dimouts have been necessary were told today by the Solid Fuels Administration to close theatres "if necessary" to make dwindling stockpiles hold out during the longevity of the strike.

Urging the governors to "take any action which you see fit to preserve the coal supply," the Solid Fuels Administration called the present coal shortage more serious than any during the war.

Pointing out that the nation is on the road to "economic paralysis," the

(*Continued on page 7*)

Employes Notified Houses May Close

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Fox Midwest Theatres in Kansas City have notified employes that they may be dismissed within two weeks in case theatres are forced to close because of the coal strike. RKO Theatres here have had the same plan under consideration, it was said. William K. Hollander of Balaban and Katz said he had heard nothing of a similar proposal for B. and K.

Strike Starts to Close Theatres

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Theatres in Elkhart, Ind., will be closed Friday midnight by order of the city's Emergency Coal Conservation Committee.

The Committee said all public social functions are to be suspended and all theatres, schools, taverns, bowling alleys, gymnasiums and clubs are to be closed.

Personal Mention

JOSEPH H. HAZEN, president of Hal Wallis Productions, has returned here from a vacation in Miami, and HAL WALLIS, who accompanied him South, was due back last night.

•

H. M. RICHEY, head of M-G-M exhibitor relations, will leave here Sunday for Oklahoma City. From there he will go to Kansas City, Omaha and Minneapolis.

•

CHARLES E. KESSINCH, M-G-M district manager in Atlanta, is visiting Nashville and will then go to Jacksonville.

•

LOUIS L. LIONI of RKO Radio's Far Eastern organization, and MRS. LIONI, have arrived in New York from Holland.

•

JOSEPH FRIEDMAN, Columbia's European supervisor, will leave Hollywood by train today for New York, en route to London.

•

THERESA STONE of M-G-M's public relations staff, was guest speaker at the Kansas City Women's Club yesterday.

•

MRS. TOM YOUNG, wife of 20th Century-Fox's Memphis branch manager, has returned home from Baptist Hospital, there, after an operation.

•

RUDY BERGER, Southern sales manager for M-G-M, is in Dallas from New Orleans.

•

DORE SCHARY, RKO Radio producer, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

•

BURTUS BISHOP, JR., M-G-M district manager in Dallas, is in Oklahoma City.

•

BYRON PRICE, president of SIMPP, will leave Hollywood by train for Washington today.

•

SAM CLARK of the Warner studio publicity staff, is in New York from Hollywood.

•

NICK LAMANTIA, J. Arthur Rank Organization representative in New Orleans, is visiting Memphis.

•

LOUIS FROLICH, film attorney, has returned to New York from Minneapolis.

•

WALTER READE, JR., circuit executive, was confined to his home by illness yesterday.

Testimonial Dinner In Honor of Kirsch

CHICAGO, Dec. 5.—Approximately 400 are expected to attend a testimonial dinner tomorrow night in the Congress Hotel in tribute to Jack Kirsch on the fourth anniversary of the founding of the Illinois Allied Booking and Buying Circuit, which he heads.

Milliken Opposes Excise Cut Now

Washington, Dec. 5. — Sen. Eugene D. Milliken (Rep., Colo.) discloses that he is "opposed to any Congressional action on cutting or eliminating excise taxes," until a complete report on the state of the Treasury is submitted to Congress. A 50 per cent reduction of the theatre admissions tax has been pledged by the Republicans.

The lawmaker pointed out that proposals for cutting war-time increases and for completely eliminating certain excise taxes have been presented, however. Milliken has been serving on both the Banking and Currency and Senate Finance Committees.

Eagle-Lion Sets 3 Regional Parleys

Eagle-Lion Films will hold a series of regional sales meetings in Dallas, Chicago and New York, it was announced here yesterday by Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager.

Meeting Dates

The Dallas meeting will be held on Dec. 11-12, Chicago, Dec. 14-15, and New York, Dec. 21-22.

Schwalberg, accompanied by Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity, and L. E. Goldhammer, special sales representative from Los Angeles, will fly to Dallas on Monday. From the studio will come Arthur B. Krim, president of E-L, and Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production.

Dayton Theatremen Form Association

DAYTON, O., Dec. 5.—The Dayton Theatre Owners Association has been formed here by a group of independent exhibitors, at which P. J. Wood, secretary of the ITO Ohio, Columbus, presided.

James Curl, manager of the neighborhood Salem Theatre, was named temporary chairman, with James Herb, of the Semmelroth circuit, temporary treasurer. A meeting will be held Dec. 11 to elect permanent officers.

AMPA Christmas Lunch

Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' Christmas international luncheon will be held at the Town Hall Club on Friday, Dec. 13, with Ernest W. Fredman, British trade paper publisher, as principal guest.

Foreign managers of the film companies will be present, also American and British stars. AMPA president Rutgers Neilson of RKO Radio will preside.

Many at Al Steen Testimonial Here

Trade publication reporters, editors, home office publicists and other film company representatives joined in a testimonial to Al Steen at a luncheon at the Essex House yesterday. Steen will leave his post of associate editor of *The Film Daily* and will leave New York tomorrow for the Coast, where he will live. The group presented Steen with traveling luggage, along with a gift for Mrs. Steen.

Publicists Present

Those present included Chester Bahn, Henderson Richey, William Ornstein, Rutgers Neilson, Harry Blair, Charles Schlaifer, George Generalis, Don Gillette, Hortense Schorr, Ray Murray, Lou Barasch, Herbert Spencer Berg, Lou Pellegrine, Herb Steinberg, Arnold Stoltz, Leon Bamberger.

Also George Fraser, Madeleine White, Norton Ritchey, Bea Ross, Evelyn Koleman, Lynn Farnol, Arthur Jeffrey, Milt Livingston, Phil Laufer, Joseph Priore, Charles Alicoate, Bernie Arons, Joseph Birstein, Tom Kennedy, James Ivers, George Spires, Mort Sunshine, Doris Steinberg, Herman Schleier, Frank Lyendecker, Mel Konecoff, James Jerauld, Al Picoult, Jack Harrison, James P. Cunningham, Gene Arneel and Charles Franke.

'Duel' Premiere on Coast Before Jan. 1

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—David O. Selznick will premiere his "Duel in the Sun" in Los Angeles prior to Jan. 1, in order to make sure it will be eligible for the Academy Award under the new rules, a studio spokesman said today. The premiere is to be held despite the general understanding that public exhibition of a film is no longer a necessary prerequisite for Academy consideration.

A theatre has not yet been selected for the screening.

Ownership Question Up in 'Ecstasy' Suit

A dispute over ownership of "Ecstasy" developed yesterday with the filing of a motion for dismissal of the suit brought by Elekta-Film in New York Supreme Court for a restraining order to prevent exhibition and distribution of the picture and for an accounting of profits since Nov., 1944, against Astra Pictures and Michael M. Wyngate, Inc., distributor of the film. The motion will be heard next week.

Kalmenson in Kansas

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 5.—Ben Kalmenson, vice-president and general sales manager of Warners, and Roy Haines, Western division sales manager, will hold a local branch office meeting on Monday. From here they go to Minneapolis for a similar branch conference on Wednesday.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE REVIEW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN First N. Y. Showing M-G-M presents 'GALLANT BESS' (Photographed in NATURAL COLOR)
IN PERSON BERT WHEELER (Recent Star of Harvey") EXTRA! "THINK-A-DRINK" HOFFMAN plus OTHERS

IRVING BERLIN'S "BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

The BEST thing that ever happened . . is
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

Holiday Prologue

The Music Hall's Christmas show, which opened yesterday, includes a three-color screen prologue entitled "Good Ship Holiday," produced by Ted Eshbaugh.

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MY DARLING CLEMENTINE

IS EXPLODING TO NEW ALL-TIME 20th RECORD HIGHS AT THE LONG-RUN RIVOLI THEATRE ON BROADWAY!

MATCHING THE SAME SENSATIONAL BOXOFFICE FIGURES SET IN HUNDREDS OF DATES FROM COAST TO COAST!

PRESIDENT'S DRIVE — Honoring SPYROS P. SKOURAS — AUG. 25th - DEC. 28th

CENTURY-FOX



FLASH! 2nd week of "The Razor's Edge" at the Roxy, N.Y. topped the 1st . . . which set a new all-time record for any picture, any theatre, any week in the history of the motion picture industry!

9 Out of 9 N
Called It the
Come Out of

"THE YEAR'S BEST"—Lee Mortimer, *Daily Mirror*•••"GREAT JOY, as well as grief and laughter...satisfying, heart-warming, deeply moving"—Kate Cameron, *Daily News*•••"SUPERLATIVE ENTERTAINMENT...gives a warm glow of affection for everyday, down-to-earth folks"—Bosley Crowther, *Times*•••"INTENSELY HUMAN and dramatically compelling"—Howard Barnes, *Herald Tribune*•••"SUCCEEDS WARMLY, HUMOROUSLY in its counterpoint of bitterness and happy outcomes...One of the best of the year"—Archer Winsten, *Post*•••"Sharp and poignant drama...Literally superlative"—John Maynard, *Journal-American*•••"HAS A QUALITY OF HONESTY and conviction, in addition to its tenderness and GRAND GAYETY OF SPIRIT"—Eileen Creelman, *Sun*•••"SINCERE AND IMPRESSIVE... the conversation of everyone who sees this picture will be full of it for a long time to come"—Alton Cook, *World-Telegram*.

VARIETY—"First week terrific"

Y. Papers Best Ever to Hollywood!

"A picture so good, so true; it has such a good, sturdy heart and sound, happy mind; it is so FULL OF LOVE and pride for America and American people; it is so TENDER AND HUMOROUS and serious and understanding; it is so honestly felt, so sincerely intended, and so successfully realized —that when it is over, you find it's not over at all. You have only begun to feel its impact."

—Cecelia Ager, *PM*

SAMUEL GOLDWYN'S

"The Best Years of Our Lives"

MYRNA LOY • FREDRIC MARCH
DANA ANDREWS • TERESA WRIGHT
VIRGINIA MAYO • HOAGY CARMICHAEL

Directed by **WILLIAM WYLER**
Screen play by **ROBERT E. SHERWOOD**

From the Novel by MacKINLAY KANTOR • Director of Photography GREGG TOLAND
Released Thru RKO Radio Pictures



Compel Exhibition Of Argentine Films

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 2 (By Airmail).—Cesar F. Marcos has resigned as director of the Public Entertainment Board (Direccion General de Espectaculos Publicos) after assuming the office comparatively recently with the general approval of all concerned. Although the motives for the decision have not been made public, it is generally attributed to political maneuvering. Direction of the Public Entertainment board has been assumed by Alfredo Bolognesi, who had the post a year ago. One of his first acts was delivery of a note to every exhibitor in the country asking full compliance with the clauses in the decree which require the compulsory exhibition of Argentine product in all Argentine theatres. At the same time he warned that non-compliance might mean the closing of the house for an indefinite period. In the case of transgressions on the part of producers it might mean the loss of product under government action.

Association to Build

Meanwhile, the Associacion Argentina de Productores de Peliculas (Argentine Association of Motion Picture Producers), formed by three of the most important local producers to curtail the actions of present circuits, has decided to build its own theatres in key zones of the country. To start with, it will build five houses.

The formation of an Argentine Chamber of Theatre, Cinema and Radio Activities took place at a meeting of representatives of the Argentine Society of Theatrical Impresarios, the Association of Cinema-house Operators, the Association of Argentine Radio Stations and the Association of Independent Producers of Argentine Pictures. Delegates of Associated Argentine Artists, Argentine Filming Establishments (EFA), Producers and Artists of America, Pampa Film, Sur and Terra also attended.

Dr. Nestor Maciel Crespo was appointed general counsellor of the new chamber and it was decided to issue special invitations to the Association of Producers of Argentine Pictures and to distributors of foreign product to join the organization.

Shartin in Albany

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 5. — William Shartin, recently appointed by Eagle-Lion as district manager for Albany, Buffalo, Cincinnati and Cleveland, is making his first official call in Albany, meeting with Joseph Miller, district manager of PRC, and Jack Armm, branch manager. PRC distributes Eagle-Lion.

Rev. H. S. Rubel, 48

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 5.—The Rev. Henry Scott Rubel, radio and motion-picture writer, also a composer, who was rector of Grace Episcopal Church, died in a hospital yesterday after a long illness. His age was 48.

Gillespie to Dallas

ATLANTA, Dec. 5.—James Gillespie, for the past few years in the publicity department of 20th-Fox here, is leaving to take over similar duties for the same company in Dallas.

Review

"Love Laughs at Andy Hardy"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

Hollywood, Dec. 5

ANDY HARDY is back from the wars, folks, and all that anguished speculation as to what a long hiatus might do detrimentally to the trade's most profitable picture-series turns out to have been unwarranted. For the Hardy Family, back again to beguile and bemuse all the other families there are, has taken the interruption quite as blandly as the citizenry in general, and that's perhaps the biggest and best news about this picture. That it's box-office goes without saying.

Far from undertaking to pretend that Andy hasn't been away, the screenplay, by Harry Ruskin and William Ludwig, based on an original story by Howard Dimsdale, opens with the young man's return to Carvel from two years in the services, and determined to resume his pursuit of education under provisions of the "GI" Bill of Rights. He's a somehow changed young man, however, as the family observes with wonderment, and it's a while before he sheds the signs of preoccupation and gets through vacillating between a choice of college and a job in the world of money-earning toil. Several girls moving in his orbit of interest have to do with all this, most amusingly, and there's one of those "man-to-man talks" with his father to clarify matters. College wins, which makes it easier to proceed to the next film in the series.

As in past numbers, the incidents and situations, together with gags, count for more than the story itself, and this number includes some of the best. Standouts are a jitterburg routine by Andy and a girl six feet tall, and a false-alarm sequence in which he gets locked out of the house in his aunt's bathrobe. But there are several others that collect wholesome laughter also. Mickey Rooney still is Andy, Lewis Stone his father, Fay Holden his mother and Sara Haden his aunt, the cast also including Bonita Granville, Lina Romay (who sings those songs on Bing Crosby's airshow), Dorothy Ford, Hal Hackett, Dick Simmons and others. Robert Sisk produced and Willis Goldbeck directed, both admirably.

Running time, 94 minutes. General audience classification, Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

3 New Stock Issues In London Shortly

LONDON, Dec. 3 (By Airmail).—Currently three new film stock issues are pending for the immediate future; another is planned for the new year. The three are British Lion Studio Co., Ltd., making another $4,000,000 issue; and two J. Arthur Rank companies, General Theatre Corp. and Moss Empires, the former to become exclusively a theatre organization, the latter to be concerned solely with vaudeville. At present the two organizations handle both.

Further, it is believed that Rank is planning yet another issue for early in the new year, this time for another $4,000,000 of Odeon Theatres stock, the proceeds of which will be devoted to the redemption of the company's short-term indebtedness.

$4,000,000 Issue

British-Lion—that is the name under which Sir Alexander Korda's sometimes termed Sound City Studios now are known—are making another $4,000,000 issue, composed of first mortgage debenture stock at par and five per cent convertible notes which will carry an option to convert into ordinary shares for a five-year period beginning April 1, 1947.

In accordance with his "rationalizing" plans, Rank has decided that for the sake of "tidiness," General Theatres shall sell to Moss Empires the music halls they own, with Moss selling to General Theatres their two motion picture houses. The occasion is marked by another of those refinancing operations, the aim of which is the ending of what the Rank coterie regards as unwieldy equities.

Ann Blyth Reception

Universal is giving a reception in the Club "21" this afternoon in honor of Ann Blyth, "U" player.

Hit Film Checking By Town Workers

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 5.—Employment of checkers who hold county or town jobs will lead to community taxes on gross ticket sales and also increases of license fees, Charles Niles, Allied-Independent Theatre Owners of Iowa-Nebraska director, told 43 Northwest Iowa independent exhibitors at a regional meeting at Decorah.

Cases Cited

Citing a number of cases, Niles charged that Confidential Reports, Inc., had hired and fired checkers at random, and employed persons connected with city, county and general taxation groups.

Niles denounced blind checking as an example of "Gestapo methods." In two resolutions, the group voted not to allow local persons to act in the capacity of checkers and asked the distributors to discontinue blind checking at once. He termed the latter a "double-faced, one-sided" practice.

John Branton Heads Minneapolis Variety

MINNEAPOLS, Dec. 5.—John Branton, film buyer for Minnesota Amusement Co.'s Mindako Theatres, Minneapolis, was elected chief barker for Northwest Variety by the newly installed board of directors at its first meeting. He succeeds A. W. (Art) Anderson, chief barker for two years. Anderson was named chairman of the Variety Heart hospital committee, a special post created to permit him to complete the heart fund campaign.

Others elected are: George Granstrom, first assistant chief barker; Max Torodor, second assistant chief barker; Al Lee, treasurer; Morris Steinman, secretary.

Induction of new officers will be held before Jan. 1.

Foresees Action On Films for Video

In a development which would greatly enhance television programming, relatively new and considerably more entertainment screen product from some film companies is seen on the way to video audiences by E. T. Woodruff, motion picture manager of Du Mont Television.

Until recently distributing companies cautiously made available to television only product of 1930 and '31 vintage, obviously wary of competitive factors. In a deal which Woodruff interprets as a forerunner to a new films-for-television program, Du Mont has acquired the rights to four Universal films which are about seven years old.

PRC, Others

Additionally, PRC is expected to provide product made as recently as two years ago, while Monogram and Republic are also understood to be considering opening their stocks. United Artists already has provided some pictures.

Woodruff said that Universal's films will be televised over Du Mont's WABD, here, and probably over other stations in Washington, Detroit, Chicago and other cities. The films are: "Black Doll," "Lady in the Morgue," "Danger on the Air" and "Westland Case." These do not constitute top product in terms of current theatre programs but, it was said, will make television more attractive.

The new program could hardly be construed as presenting a threat of competition to theatremen, Woodruff observed, since the number of video receivers in operation are so few. It is understood that New York has only between 5,000 and 10,000 sets in use, for example.

Will Renew Legion Pledge on Sunday

Roman Catholics around the country will renew their pledge to avoid films of indecent or immoral nature as members of the National Legion of Decency at masses on Sunday.

The pledge, which is renewed annually, states, in part, as follows: "I condemn indecent and immoral pictures and those which glorify crime or criminals, and will do all I can to strengthen public opinion against production of such films."

Legion of Decency Approves 5 Films

The National Legion of Decency has placed "Lady in the Lake," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer; "The Man from Morocco," English Films; "The Razor's Edge," 20th Century-Fox; "San Quentin," RKO Radio, and "The Time, the Place, the Girl," Warners, in Class A-II. Warners' "The Vedict" was classified in B.

Honor Cowan Film

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—The Library of Congress has notified Lester Cowan that his "Story of G.I. Joe" has been selected for permanent placement in the Washington archives.

Rohrs in New Post

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5. — Fred Rohrs, formerly in the Washington area, is now PRC manager in the Philadelphia district.

Building Bars

(Continued from page 1)

program. Wilson A. Wyatt, housing expediter, resigned his post last night, and told President Truman that the time for "relaxing emergency control has arrived." Truman, however, has followed Wyatt's observation with a statement asserting that he is interested in "continuing the housing pro-[illegible]"

Meanwhile, with the unexpected resignation today of CPA chief John D. Small, continuation of building controls will be handled by an overall liquidation agency to include the Office of Price Administration, CPA and other emergency agencies, with the housing agency to continue as a special bureau of the Government. However, the overall liquidation agency will handle all controls because the housing agency has no actual Congressional authority to regulate private and commercial building.

Earlier, the President was said to be planning a merger of agencies which would place the housing program under Small. However, Small had gone on record against building controls "which are drastic enough to cripple commercial enterprises." Small has said that he believes it unwise to control any "specific island of our economic system while other things go 'hog wild.'"

Heineman, Rank

(Continued from page 1)

their first meeting at the Hotel Blackstone here today.

Heineman, assisted by B. G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager, told the sales representatives that the achievement of their goal depended upon close cooperation with Universal distribution personnel. He explained that Rank division sales supervisors are charged with the responsibilities of the sales of Rank pictures and their liquidation in the various territories which they supervise.

"The Wicked Lady," Heineman told the sales representatives, has already been booked into 11 key city first-run situations.

Lawrence J. McGinley, sales manager of the Prestige Pictures department of Universal, will discuss Prestige product with the sales representatives tomorrow.

"U" Sales Parley In Albany Monday

Fred Meyers, Universal Eastern division sales manager, will hold a district sales meeting in Albany on Monday to be attended by branch managers and salesmen from Albany, Buffalo and New Haven exchanges.

Among those who will be present are district manager Dave Miller of Albany, branch managers Eugene Vogel, Albany; Arthur Greenfield, New Haven; Jerome J. Spandau, Buffalo, and salesmen George Reif, New Haven; Eugene Lowe, Albany, and Carl Heerdt, J. Callahan and George Sussman, Buffalo.

Nussbaum Joins Mono.

Herbert Nussbaum has resigned his post in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's legal department here, to join Monogram shortly after Jan. 1. He will leave M-G-M on Dec. 20 and make a visit to the Coast.

Empower States

(Continued from page 1)

SFA told the governors that complete elimination in many cities of places of amusement "might be necessary in the light of the drastic shortage of fuel and electric power."

At the CPA headquarters it has been generally agreed that by keeping theatres open an "actual saving of electric power and coal results."

Placing the burden of "power conservation" upon the states, the SFA now urges that every effort be made to keep every type of enterprise in operation in order "to keep community life on a normal course." At the same time, SFA asserted to the state leaders that, with the present "serious crisis," it may be an eventual necessity to close all "non-essential service" endeavors.

Hamilton, O., Is First City To Set Complete Blackout

HAMILTON, O., Dec. 5. — Hamilton has undergone a complete blackout, effective tonight. This is said to be the first such establishment of a complete blackout during the present coal strike crisis.

The Paramount, Palace and Rialto, units of Northio Theatres, are discontinuing matinees except Saturdays and Sundays and will be open evenings only, during which power will be conserved to the utmost.

Broidy, Ritchey

(Continued from page 1)

George N. Blatchford, assistant treasurer; Barnett Shapiro, assistant secretary.

Directors of the company continue as heretofore: Broidy, Ritchey, Edward Morey, W. Ray Johnston, Horne, Friedhoff, William B. Jaffe and George D. Burrows.

Mexican Barriers Not Seen Imminent

WASHINGTON, Dec. 5.—There is no "immediate" threat that legislation will be adopted in Mexico to impose barriers against American pictures, according to a Department of Commerce report issued here today. However, the report pointed out that it is highly possible that as Mexican production facilities increase, the Mexican product will be a threat to the American.

"It should be borne in mind that the Mexican motion picture industry is growing rapidly and that there probably will be strong agitation to restrict foreign pictures there," the report said. It pointed out that Mexican films are finding a "considerable outlet" in the United States. It is also understood that the income of Mexican producers from the U. S. in proportion to their total investment is much greater than the income of U. S. pictures distributed in Mexico, the report said.

Variety Installation

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 5. — Installation of officers of tent No. 13, Variety Club, will be held on Dec. 16 at the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel, here. William McCraw, executive director of Variety Clubs of America, will be on hand for the ceremonies. Al Davis, Monogram branch head, is the new chief barker for 1947.

Outside Newsreeler Permitted by Russia

Washington, Dec. 5.—For the first time since before the war, Russia will permit a newsreel photographer to enter that country.

At the request of the UNRRA, an Englishman who works for the international relief agency, will be permitted to take pictures in Russia. He is Peter Hopkinson. After the photographer returns, the footage will be distributed to American and British companies for distribution, UNRRA said here.

Shut Houses Due

(Continued from page 1)

reporting thousands of unheated homes.

The out-going CPA chief said he believes "cooperation" is better in power conservation programs than mandatory orders. Regulations hereafter will be handled on the local level, where the supply of coal available can best be determined, he disclosed.

State Control Seen

Small expressed the belief that the new orders will be geared toward state authorities. Some states will be asked to enter the second and third stages of power conservation regulations already in existence, he added. The later stages of the power orders recently issued include restriction or complete shutdown of theatres.

Buchanan, Allied

(Continued from page 1)

tion campaign on "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," first picture to be handled by Buchanan under the agreement, according to Louis S. Lifton, Monogram advertising-publicity chief. It is understood that a similar allocation will be made for all future Allied Artists films, each of which will be budgeted at a minimum of $1,000,000 for production.

The Allied Artists schedule, to date, includes "Marked Woman," "Tragic Symphony," "Low Company," "Gun Crazy" and "Last of the Bad Men," in addition to "Fifth Avenue."

McNeill, Others Buy Coast Speedway

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 5 — Purchase of the controlling stock in the Oakland Speedway has been made by Robert A. McNeil in behalf of Golden State Theatres. This represents an investment of $400,000 with plans for a large additional amount to be expended on development of the Speedway. The track takes in an area of over 60 acres, with bleachers seating 17,000 people and accommodating as many automobiles.

David Bolton, executive with Golden State Theatres, has been appointed President of the Track Association. Members of the board of the Speedway are: McNeil, owner of Golden State; M. Naify, head of T. and D., Jr., Enterprises; L. S. Hamm, attorney and theatre owner, and Clifford Allen and Charles Curryer.

Pagnol to U. S. for French Government

Marcel Pagnol, prominent figure in the French film industry, will come here from Paris shortly on commission from the French Government to act as "good will" ambassador, according to Leon Siritzky, head of Siritzky International Films, who has arrived in New York from Paris. The latter said here yesterday that Pagnol will perform his diplomatic duties in Washington and subsequently will go to Hollywood to make a film jointly with Siritzky.

Siritzky said that he has instituted proceedings to recoup 48 of his theatres from the French Government, which had taken them into "custody" at the end of the war. He has 18 houses in operation over there at present.

Siritzky's two sons, Sam and Joseph, will leave here in January for Paris with prints of three or four American films, now being negotiated for, for distribution in France. The company is now establishing distribution facilities in that country.

French May Make 100

(Continued from page 1)

will cost more than $16,800,000 to produce.

Cost of production here has risen sharply. In 1939 it cost about 2,500,000 francs for an average picture. Today it costs 10 times as much to produce the same picture—approximately 25,000,000 francs, or about $210,000.

Domestic gross for the 100 features is estimated at 10,000,000,000 francs, of which no more than 1,000,000,000 or 1,500,000,000 francs will go to the producers. Taxes, the exhibitors' percentage and costs of production will take more than the rest, putting the industry in the red.

It is known that an increase in admissions is now impossible as increases were levied only last October. The only hope of the industry would be in a reduction of the heavy taxes on gross receipts, but, due to the difficult situation of the State Treasury, such hopes are not allowed at present. Taxes would take 3,000,000,000 of the estimated 10,000,000,000 in gross receipts for the 100 features.

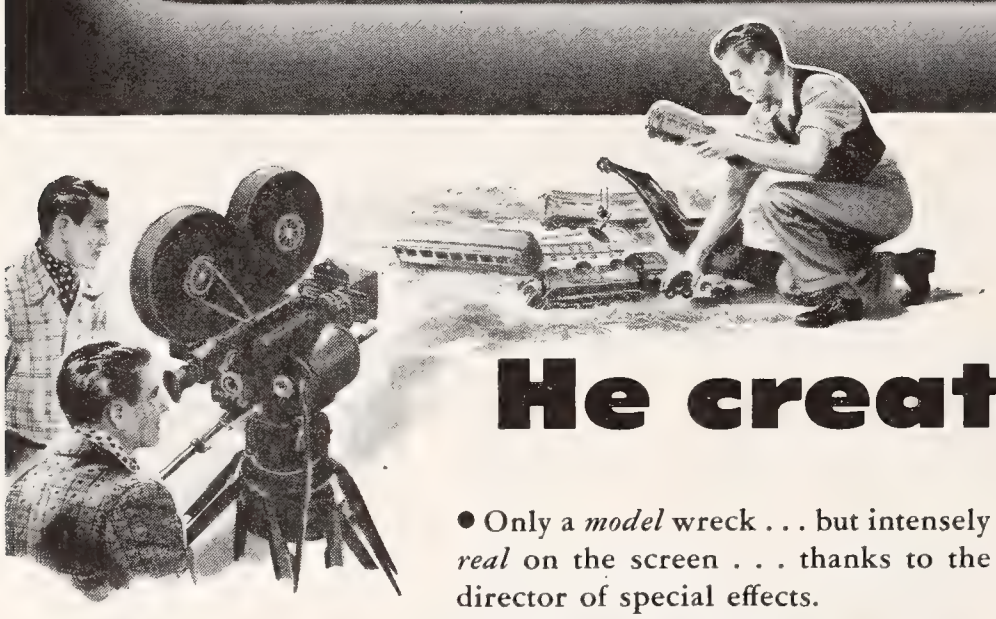
Eight American films have been released in Paris first-run theatres since Nov. 1, together with one British picture, "Brief Encounter"; one Italian picture, "Rome, Open City," and a French feature produced in Italy. The American pictures are: "Fantasia," "Destry Rides Again," "Conflict," "The Magnificent Ambersons," "Palm Beach Story," "You Belong to Me," "All This and Heaven Too" and "Mrs. Miniver."

Ben Goetz to England

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 5.—Ben Goetz, chairman and managing director of M-G-M London Films, will leave here Sunday for England following studio conferences. He reports that plans have not been definitely set as yet for filming at the Elstree studios.

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He creates reality...

● Only a *model* wreck . . . but intensely *real* on the screen . . . thanks to the director of special effects.

Because of his ingenuity and inventive art, pictures are made that without him would be impossible. And when audiences exclaim, laugh, or sit in silence before stark drama, it's often an unknowing tribute to his imagination and technical skill . . . to his power to create reality.

But if he is to exercise this creative power to the full, he naturally requires superior film, perfectly adapted to the particular problem at hand. That's the reason why so many directors of special effects prefer to use Eastman Background-X, Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Negative, Eastman Fine Grain Duplicating Positive, and other members of the large and well-known family of Eastman motion picture films.

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MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 112 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1946 TEN CENTS

Langer to Ask Exhibitors on Divorcement

Will Act Regardless of N. Y. Court Decision

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Senator William Langer of North Dakota flatly states that he will re-introduce his theatre divorcement bill when the new 80th Congress meets next month, regardless of what action is taken by the New York District Court in the industry anti-trust suit.

Langer said that he will call in several exhibitor associations for discussions on the "pattern which the bill should take."

The North Dakota lawmaker asserted that he does not think there is anything unconstitutional about such a legislative measure. He added that

(*Continued on page* 11)

PRC, E-L to Set Policy

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—A combined Eagle-Lion and PRC general meeting, to be attended by top executives of both companies, in which the entire future policy of Eagle-Lion and PRC will be formulated, will be held at the Blackstone Hotel, here, next Saturday and Sunday. Executives who will attend the meeting and address the 60 or more scheduled to attend, will in-

(*Continued on page* 11)

5-City Trip for 15 Top MGM Field Men

Fifteen M-G-M field men will participate in what is described as an unprecedented series of company conferences on sales and marketing problems in five major cities of the U. S. and at M-G-M's studio in Culver City, starting early in February, it was announced here by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, at the weekend.

The 15, selected on their records of achievement during the year ended Aug. 29, will confer with each of the five divisional sales managers and

(*Continued on page* 7)

Cooperatives Here To Stay, Kirsch Tells Allied Meet

By HAL TATE

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Film cooperative groups are here to stay and distributors need have no fear of them, National Allied president Jack Kirsch said in an address at the fourth anniversary dinner of the Illinois Allied Booking and Buying Circuit, held at the Congress Hotel, here, Friday night.



Jack Kirsch

The dinner was attended by some 400 Midwest film men who paid tribute to Kirsch for his efforts in organizing and guiding the destinies

(*Continued on page* 7)

250 to Oklahoma Owners Meet Today

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 8.—What is described as the "most important" convention in the history of the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma, will open at the Shirvin Hotel, here, tomorrow, in conjunction with the annual Variety

(*Continued on page* 10)

MPA to Renew Fight On State Taxes

Washington, Dec. 8. — The Motion Picture Association will make renewed efforts to fight any new state admission tax, an MPA spokesman here states in pointing out the likelihood of attempts to impose such additional levies. Increased expenditures for veterans' benefits and necessary construction of new roads will undoubtedly cause state governors to look for more tax revenues, it was said.

Carpenters in Suit For Right to Work

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—Fifteen studio carpenters, declaring they represent 1,000 others, yesterday filed Federal Court action against the Conference of Studio Unions, the IATSE and 11 studios, seeking a declaratory judgment on the ground that the defendants, involved in the current Hollywood strike, are depriving them of the right to work, which, they contend, is guaranteed them under the Constitution.

The court action calls for the observance of existing contracts, which, it is claimed, will restore the rights allegedly infringed and return the suing carpenters to their jobs.

Now entering its 11th week, the strike is generally attributed to a jurisdictional dispute between the CSU and the IATSE, both AFL.

Exhibitors' Move Against Non-Delivery Seen Illegal

An exhibitor movement to introduce rubber-stamped clauses voiding film contracts in the event of any distributor cancellations, as announced last week by Sidney E. Samuelson, general manager of Allied Independent Theatre Owners of Eastern Pennsylvania, which has adopted the plan, constitutes violation of one of the New York Federal District Court's findings in the industry anti-trust suit, according to well-informed distributor-counsel opinion.

Speaking in Milwaukee before the convention of the Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Samuelson disclosed that his Pennsylvania unit had decided to stamp clauses on all contracts involving more than one picture, although each has been negotiated separately, to the effect that the distributor must license all films in a pact or the entire agreement shall become void.

Such a clause, according to the distributor-counsel view, would have the effect of conditioning the sale of one picture upon the sale of another and thus would violate the court's prohibition of that practice, as contained in its June 11 opinion. A spokesman for the film company lawyers pointed out, however, that the block-booking prohibition has not yet been written into a final decree and that the entire decision is subject to appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court, where, it is understood, at least one of the distributors plans to oppose the anticipated directive ordering single sales.

Theatre Must Submit Data On Percents

Court Order Affects All Records, Tax Returns

PROVIDENCE, Dec. 8.—An independent exhibitor defendant in a distributors' local Federal Court percentage action has been ordered to submit to the companies, for inspection, daily box-office reports, bank records, ticket controls, booking books, admission tax returns and portions of Federal income tax returns relating to gross receipts. And, if not in the exhibitor's possession, he must procure from governmental agencies, banks or other third parties, all admission and income tax returns, bank deposit slips, bank statements and other like documents.

(*Continued on page* 7)

Dimout Ends On 12th Day

John L. Lewis' sudden termination of the 17-day-old coal strike re-lit the theatre marquees of Broadway and Main Street over the weekend at a time when the dimout, which had begun in 21 Northern and Eastern states on Nov. 26, was being extended to cover virtually the whole country. The electricity-conservation measure was cancelled by the Civilian Production Administration, effective Saturday at 6 P. M.

End of the coal crisis also averted shutdowns by film laboratories in the New York Metropolitan area, which had been caught with only a two- or three-day supply of raw stock when that commodity, as well as film equipment, was included in the nationwide embargo on freight. This embargo, along with those on express and parcel post shipments and a 50 per cent slash in rail passenger schedules, was lifted by the Office of Defense Transportation shortly after Lewis called off the strike.

Also expected to be rescinded at once were localized theatre closing orders, the first of which were reported Saturday from South Bend, Mishawaka and Elkhart, Ind.

In This Issue

"The Wicked Lady" is reviewed on page 11.

Personal Mention

F. J. A. McCARTHY, Southern and Canadian sales manager for Universal, leaves here today for Charlotte to open sales meetings. Other sessions will be held in Dallas, Oklahoma City and New Orleans.

•

HARRY GITTLESON, assistant to WALTER E. BRANSON, RKO Western Division sales manager, completed his 1947 Ned Depinet drive duties Saturday with a meeting in Los Angeles, where he will remain for a few days prior to returning to his home office Dec. 16.

•

ADOLPH ZUKOR, chairman of the board of Paramount; GEORGE WELTNER, president of Paramount International, and MR. and MRS. RAY MILLAND sailed from Southampton Saturday aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*.

•

WILLIAM PIZOR, foreign manager for Screen Guild Productions, left here Friday night for conferences at his company's home office on the Coast.

•

ERNEST PELSON, special home office representative for Screen Guild, is in Charlotte conferring with SCOTT LETT, manager, and FRANCIS WHITE.

•

BERNICE FELDMAN of the WB home office publicity department, and BEN GOLDENBERG plan to be married this Saturday.

•

CURTIS MITCHELL, publicity and advertising director for Paramount, returned here last Friday from Chicago.

•

BEN ROSENWALD, M-G-M manager at Charlotte, has returned there after a week in New York City.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners,will leave here tonight for Pittsburgh.

•

LEON SCHLESINGER, of WB cartoons, departs for the coast this week after a month in New York.

•

M. DONALD CURTIS, Hollywood player, has left Mt. Sinai Hospital after three months of illness.

•

ED HINCHY, head of Warners playdate department, will visit Albany and Buffalo this week.

•

WILLIAM KEYES, operator of the Victory Theatre at Dayton, is visiting Washington.

•

CARTER BARRON, Loew's representative in Washington, visited Atlanta recently.

•

GEORGE ROSCOE, Charlotte manager for Columbia, in in Chicago.

•

JOHN BRAHM, RKO director, arrived here from the Coast Saturday.

•

JERRY WALD, producer, is scheduled to arrive here the end of this month.

Unfair Unions Hit By Johnston Aide

Union demands, which unduly and unfairly restrict management in its proper administration, hold up productivity, E. T. Cheyfitz, assistant to Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association and formerly on the CIO national executive board, told the annual conference of the Society for the Advancement of Management at the Hotel New Yorker, here on Saturday.

"Unless management can manage, it cannot achieve any kind of efficiency," he added.

Analyzing both sides of the picture, union and management, he pointed out that full productivity is impossible without teamwork between management and the workers.

Existing union restrictions on full productivity, he said, include (1) featherbedding, make-work resistance to technological change, and restrictive rules and customs; (2) resistance to managerial productivity; (3) union demands, made at the collective bargaining table, which undermine proper management functions.

The three basic fears which give rise to those anti-social practices are the fear of unemployment; the fear of exploitation; and the fear of managerial power, he asserted.

"If we want labor to accept its share of responsibility for full productivity, we will have to eliminate these three fears which dominate the thought and work habits of millions of workers."

To dissipate the fear of unemployment, he suggested the achievement of continuous full employment. To eradicate the fear of exploitation, he suggested a policy of sound profits. To dissipate the fear of managerial power he suggested a partnership status for labor.

Burger to Columbia To Open Showcase

Samuel N. Burger, regional director for Latin-Ameria for Loew's International, is due today in Barranquilla, Colombia, to join William Melniker, director of the theatre division of Loew's International, for today's opening there of M-G-M's newest Latin-American showcase, the Cine Metro.

The Cine Metro is the first of seven new Latin-American theatres planned by Loew's International. M-G-M's all-Spanish "Gaslight" will lead off the M-G-M films at the new house. The president of Colombia will attend the opening, along with other government officials and local dignitaries.

Pine, Thomas Set High-Budget Product

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—William Pine and William Thomas have formed Clarion Productions to make a minimum of one high-budget picture annually for Paramount release, in addition to six program features, as previously scheduled. Their first under the Clarion banner will be "Albuquerque," Cinecolor production starring Randolph Scott.

Prestige Pictures In National Tieup

CHICAGO, Dec. 8.—Prestige Pictures has arranged a tie-up with the Junior League of America and its 159 chapters, under which the League will sponsor key city openings of its films, Lawrence J. McGinley, general sales manager for the Prestige Pictures department of Universal told sales representatives of the J. Arthur Rank division of Universal during the closing day of their two-day sales meeting at the Hotel Blackstone here on Friday. William J. Heineman, general sales manager of the Rank division and B. G. Kranze, assistant general sales manager, presided at the meetings.

McGinley explained that under the Junior League tie-up, Junior League chapters will sponsor the premieres of a minimum of four of the seven Prestige releases which are available, in key city theatres in the same manner as the League's concert series has been conducted. Profits from these showings, McGinley pointed out, will be devoted to the League's community causes, to be used directly in the local community where the money is raised.

The seven Prestige releases produced by the J. Arthur Rank companies in England are: "Brief Encounter," "Johnny Frenchman," "This Happy Breed," "A Lady Surrenders," "The Years Between," "The Captive Heart" and "I Know Where I'm Going."

McGinley announced that Prestige has secured the services of Mrs. Elaine Wayne to act as special promotional representative on the Junior League project.

'Pal' Show Tonight At NY's Garden

Charles C. Moskowitz, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer treasurer, and James Sauter, co-chairman of the entertainment committee for the Police Athletic League's annual benefit show, to be staged at Madison Square Garden tonight, have set a four-hour show featuring top screen, stage and radio personalities. Benefits of the "Stars Shine for PAL" event are earmarked for the League's program in behalf of the youth of the city.

Bremerholm Head of RKO Denmark Office

Aage Bremerholm has been named manager of RKO Radio's newly-organized office in Denmark. Bremerholm, who will have headquarters in Copenhagen, has been managing director for Gloria Film A/S, former distributing outlet for RKO in that territory.

Cowan Ruling Sustained

Judge Benjamin F. Schneider of the Appelate Division of the N. Y. State Supreme Court on Friday upheld a lower-court ruling which had set aside a jury verdict of $29,000 for Dale Belmont, singer, in her breach-of-contract suit against Lester Cowan. Miss Dale claimed she was under contract to appear in Cowan's "Story of G.I. Joe." A new trial has been ordered.

Newsreel Parade

ADMIRAL BYRD'S South Pole expedition, Mexico's presidential inauguration and highlights of the soft-coal crisis are featured in the latest newsreels; complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 29—Byrd expedition leaves for South Pole. News of the nation: Washington, Milwaukee, Wr Field, Chicago. New president of Mé sworn in. Spectacular plays in grid season's last games.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 227—Admiral Byrd heads Navy expedition into Antartic. Court pronounces sentence on Lewis and miners' union. Tragic scenes repeated at gates to Palestine. Prize cattle flown to animal show. Mexico hails Aleman. Professional football thriller reported by Bill Stern.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 30—Mexico inaugurates new president. New race to Antarctic. Strike: Government vs. Lewis.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 32—Byrd off to Antarctica. Mexico inducts new president. Dunkirk, N. Y., to Dunkirk, France. Cyprus deportation is legal. Search for parents of 30,000. Strike news.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 561 Mexico's president installed. Antarctica expedition sails. Christmas in the air. Magnificent premiere. Livestock show. Basketeers open season.

Postpone Hearing on Scophony Petition

Judge Henry W. Goddard in U. S. District Court here on Friday postponed until Dec. 17 a hearing on the petition brought by Scophony, Ltd., for dismissal for a $4,500,000 triple-damage cross-complaint brought by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur H. Levey, its general manager, in connection with the Government's Scophony anti-trust suit.

A hearing was held recently on similar petitions of Paramount, General Precision Equipment and Television Productions, which also were named in the cross-complaint. Scophony, Ltd., has been dismissed from the anti-trust action.

Mexican Exhibitors Cement Relations

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8.—Closer relations between exhibitors in Mexico were announced as assured as a result of the fifth annual convention here of their association, a feature of which was the election of the following officers for the new year:

Antonio de G. Osio, president (re-elected); Gabriel Alarcon, vice president (re-elected); Manuel Angel Fernandez, treasurer (re-elected); Francisco Sumohano, secretary, and directors; Eduardo Chavez Garcia, Luis R. Montes, Luis Alfonso Calderon, Adolfo Lagos, Guillermo Santibanez, Manuel Quiroga and Arcady Boytler.

Award for Goldwyn Film

The Page One awards committee of the Newspaper Guild of New York will officially notify producer Sam Goldwyn that "Best Years of Our Lives" has been voted the Page One film of the year, at a luncheon in Goldwyn's honor at Toots Schor's here, on Tuesday.

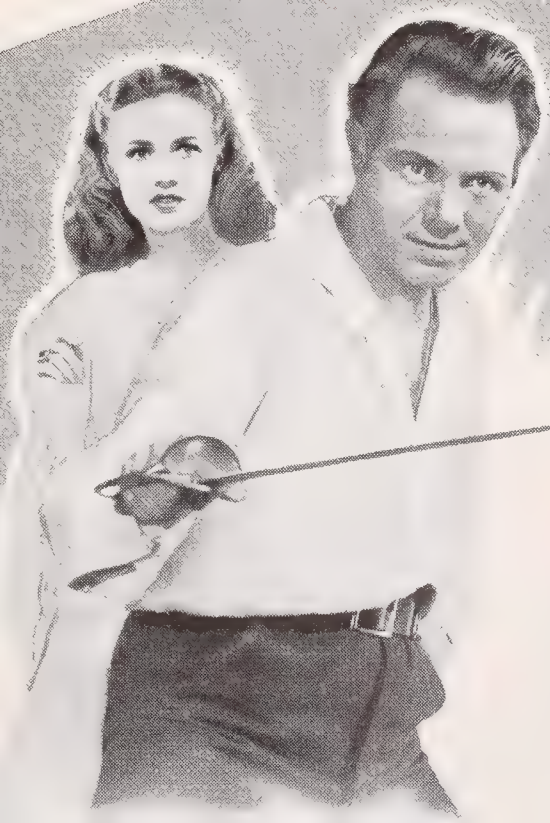
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The Return of Monte Cristo

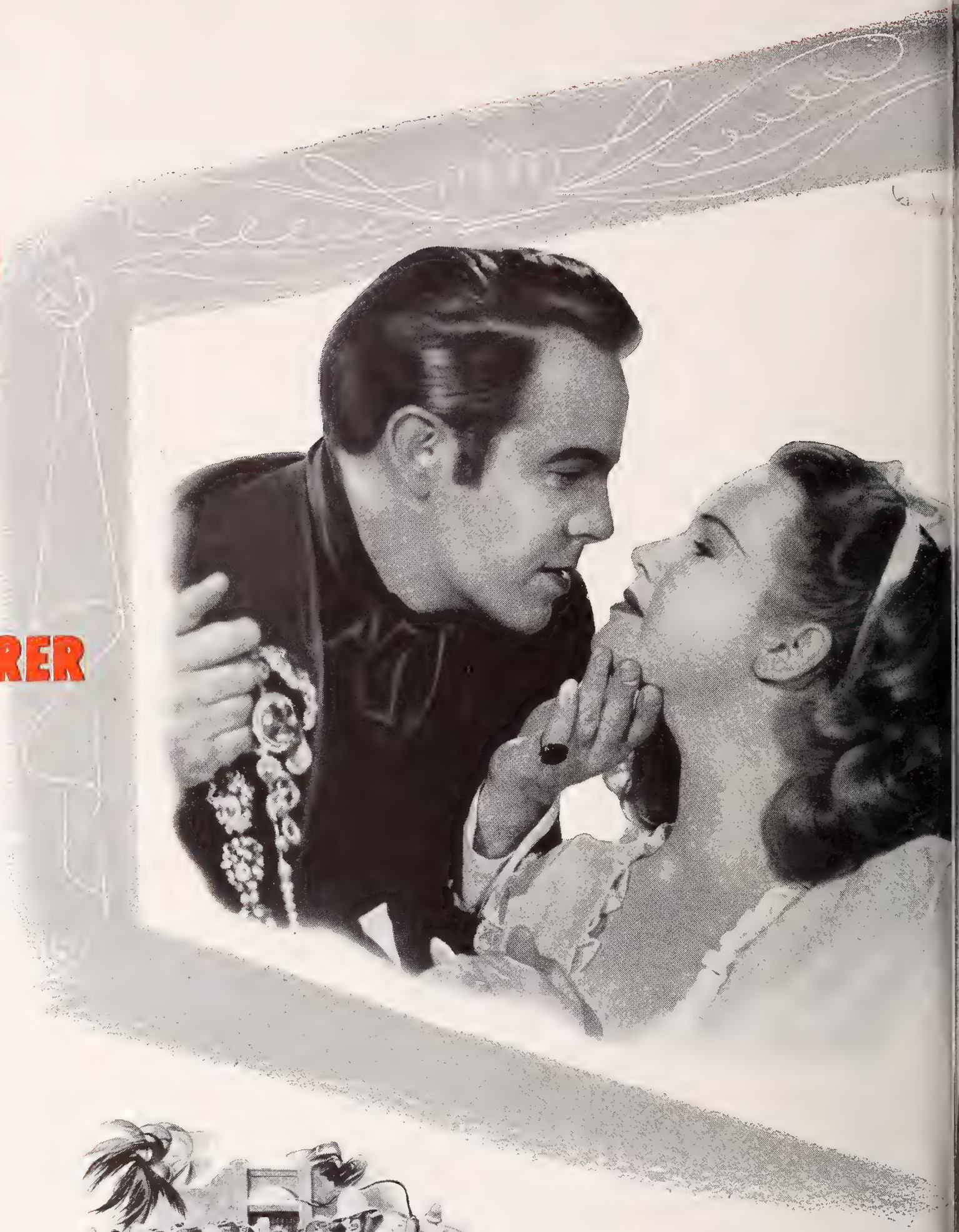
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Alexandre Dumas

fans!



THE MOST RECKLESS LOVER... THE BOLDEST ADVENTURER EVER TO BEAR THE MONTE CRISTO NAME!





COLUMBIA PICTURES

COLUMBIA PICTURES
presents

The Return of Monte Cristo



starring

LOUIS HAYWARD · BARBARA BRITTON

with GEORGE MACREADY

UNA O'CONNOR · HENRY STEPHENSON · STEVEN GERAY · RAY COLLINS · LUDWIG DONATH

Screenplay by George Bruce and Alfred Neumann

Directed by HENRY LEVIN · Produced by GRANT WHYTOCK

AN EDWARD SMALL PRODUCTION

The Return of Monte Cristo

has everything

drama! **romance!** **spectacle!**



BATTLING THE RUTHLESS JUNGLE
IN A FLIGHT FOR FREEDOM!



CONDEMNED TO DEVIL'S ISLAND
BY SINISTER INTRIGUE!



FIGHTING FOR LIFE AGAINST
TERRIBLE ODDS!



MONTE CRISTO UNLEASHES
THE MOB'S FURY!



A TYRANT TOSSED TO AN
AVENGING POPULACE!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Short Subjects

"Enric Madriguera and His Orchestra"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Enric Madriguera, and his orchestra supported by some trick photography, go through their musical paces. Patricia Gilmore sings such favorites as "Maria from Bahia," and "Take It Away," while exotic Lazara executes a torrid native dance as Eddie Gomez vocalizes. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Star Spangled City"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Here's the Technicolor film story of America's capital and a brief study of U. S. history as found in such historical sites as Mount Vernon, the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, Arlington Cemetery and Washington's monument. This Technicolor Special short includes a jaunt around Washington, D. C. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Desi Arnaz and Band"

(*Warner Brothers*)

Rhumbas, congas and sambas are played for you by Desi Arnaz and his orchestra. Opener in this Melody Master Band subject is "Pin Marin". Then Amanda Lee, Desi's vocalist, comes in for "Easy Street". For the finale, Desi sings and plays the tomtoms for "Babalu". Running time, 10 minutes.

"Artist's Antics"

(*Person-Oddity-Universal*)

The five subjects herein concern Clifford McBride who uses original models for his comic drawings; Ocie Nelsm, who conducts the world's largest swap shop; famous race horses and their life of ease as provided by Charles Howard. A collection of fishing tackle and modernistic puppets, concludes the subject. Running time, 7 minutes.

"Football Fanfare"

(*20th Century-Fox*)

The greats of football in action—Red Grange, Knute Rockne, Don Hutson, Sammy Baugh, Glenn Davis, Doc Blanchard and others. Highlights of 1945 are re-shown. Running time, nine minutes.

White, Little Form Ganco Theatre Corp.

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 8.—A charter has been granted to the Ganco Theatre Corp. of Charlotte. Incorporators were listed as T. A. Little, J. F. White, Jr., and Paul E. Young.

Little is president of the corporation which will handle certain theatre interests in the Carolinas and Virginia. About 20 houses are involved. Construction of several is planned when conditions permit.

Nicholas Aids Fund

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 8.—W. L. (Bill) Nicholas, veteran Fairmont exhibitor, long in retirement under doctor's orders, has emerged from the imposed inactivity to personally raise an additional $1,110 for Variety Club's heart hospital fund, after learning the club was short of its pledge.

3 Denver Houses to Open Warner Film

World premiere of "The Time, the Place and the Girl," Warner Technicolor musical will open simultaneously at the Denver, Esquire and Webber theaters in Denver on Dec. 24. After its day-and-date run in those three houses, the picture will go into the Aladdin and Rialto for additional playing time.

Eastern and Southern premieres will take place Christmas Day in 20 scattered situations, followed by more than 200 New Year's week openings. In New York, "Time, Place and Girl" will open Dec. 26 at the Strand.

Cooperatives

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the Illinois Allied booking and buying group, which now comprises well over 100 theatres. Mayor Edward J. Kelly headed a list of guest notables at the dinner, and Van A. Nomikos, Illinois Allied vice-president, was master of ceremonies.

"I believe that distributors know that the independent buying organization is here to stay," Kirsch said. "We aim to be constructive at all times and feel the distributors have begun to realize that we must make a profit in order to exist and make this a healthy business.

"Without a fair return to the exhibitor," Kirsch continued, "it becomes a very poor business and that doesn't do the distributor or the exhibitor any good."

Hits Distributors

Kirsch criticized distributors for what he termed their erroneous attitude toward film cooperatives. He said, "there is a deep-seated misconception on the part of film companies that buying organizations of theatres were organized primarily to 'chisel' on film rentals. That is farthest from the truth. Our buying department had its beginning during the height of the war. The owners had to have a central agency to which they could delegate the difficult task of buying and booking pictures so that the major part of their time could be devoted to the physical operation of their theatres which were then feeling the effects of the great shortage of manpower. Then too," he said, "film buying had become a full time job as a result of the consent decree which provided for the sale of pictures in blocks of five constituting almost a daily task in the negotiation of pictures. Since the end of the war, the exhibitor has continued to realize and consider the value of a central buying agency, having already seen the time-saving benefits it has provided him by permitting him to devote greater efforts to the immediate needs of his theatres' operation.

"It enabled him to become more closely acquainted with his clientele; to become a driving force in his community—all the requisites that go toward the making of a good showman."

Kirsch concluded his speech with arguments for film cooperatives with "the right to control one's property; the right to conduct one's business in privacy; the right to an open market in which supplies are equal to the demand, and the right to do business on fair and equitable terms."

He said these "are matters of basic principle and fundamental right which belong to the independent exhibitor. They are worth fighting for and such a fight should command the admiration, the respect and the sympathy of all lovers of justice and fair play."

Top MGM Field Men

(*Continued from page* 1)

also will be guests of Louis B. Mayer at the studio. First in the series of meetings will get under way as the Astor Hotel, New York, Feb. 6-9, when John P. Byrne, Eastern sales manager, will be the host. Similar sessions will take place in Pittsburgh, at the William Penn Hotel, Feb. 10-12, at which time John J. Maloney, Central sales manager, will conduct the meetinges; next will be at the Drake Hotel, Chicago, Feb. 13-15, where John E. Flynn, Mid-western sales chief, will preside; then at the Roosevelt, New Orleans, Feb. 16-19, where Southern sales manager Rudolph Berger, will be in charge; and at the Ambassador, Los Angeles, Feb. 21-26, at meetings with George A. Hickey, West Coast sales head.

"The purpose of these visits," stated Rodgers in announcing the plan, "is to acquaint these men more fully with operations of our company on the whole and familiarize themselves with activities as they embrace sales and production. We believe that those who have been selected to make this trip are representative of the very best of our field personnel, since their records during the past fiscal year were the best in their respective spheres of work. We further believe that in addition to the benefits they will receive from the contacts such a trip will provide, they also are probably best equipped because of their abilities and enthusiasm to bring back to their associates at home much that will help them in their efforts to give M-G-M customers efficient service."

Included in the list of 15 are: John S. Allen, district manager, Washington; and Louis Formato, Philadelphia; Jack Mundstuk, Buffalo; Saal Gottlieb, Pittsburgh; Benn Rosenwald, Carlotte; D. C. Kennedy, Des Moines; and L. C. Wingham, San Francisco, all branch managers; Frank Jelenko, Philadelphia; Irvin Jacobs, Pittsburgh; Ray Irvin, Charlotte; Howard Dunn, Des Moines; Phil Bobys, Washington; and Alex W. Weissman, Los Angeles, all salesmen; Joseph Kronman, Washington, office manager; Max Shabason, Pittsburgh, first booker.

The men were selected by a home office committee comprising Edward M. Saunders and Edwin W. Aaron, assistant general sales managers; and Alan F. Cummings, in charge of exchange operations.

Philco Declares Dividend

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 8.—The board of directors of Philco Corp. has declared a year-end dividend of 20 cents per share of common stock, payable Dec. 23, to stockholders of record Dec. 13. This dividend brings total payments for 1946 on the common to $1.00 per share, the same amount paid in 1945.

'Razor' Tradeshowing

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has set tradeshowings of "The Razor's Edge" in all exchange centers for Wednesday. The Darryl F. Zanuck production will enter its fourth week at the Roxy Theatre, here, on Wednesday.

New Mexican Firm To Produce, Exhibit

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 8.—Filmadora Mexicana, S. A., (Filmex), has registered with the local city government as a picture production, distribution and exhibition company, with headquarters here, and Jack Wisnack, Gregorio Wallerstein and Soledad R. de Pardave as its organizers. Filmex announces it will lead all other Mexican picture companies in the new year with 18 releases.

Principal Is Chartered

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 8.—Principal Pictures, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. Fitelson, Mayers and London, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Percentage Data

(*Continued from page* 1)

The opinion—handed down by Judge John P. Hartigan, in the distributors' suits against Henry Horgan and the Opera House, Inc., Newport—further ruled that the records to be submitted must cover every day of the entire period—six years—during which alleged falsification in payments on percentage pictures are said to have occurred.

No Inspection

Despite opposition by exhibitors' counsel the decree, in granting a complete inspection of all theatre records for every day of operation during the six-year period prior to the commencement of the suits, denied the defendant counsels' contention that the right of inspection, if any, was limited by four-month or one-year time limitations on the right to audit, as stipulated in the contracts of certain of the distributors. The Court held that the six-year right to pre-trial inspection under Federal rule No. 34 was in connection with the fraud suits, and not under the contracts and, therefore, was limited only by the statute of limitations.

A separate suit was brought against Horgan and the Opera House, by United Artists, 20th Century-Fox, Universal, RKO Radio, Columbia and Warner Brothers.

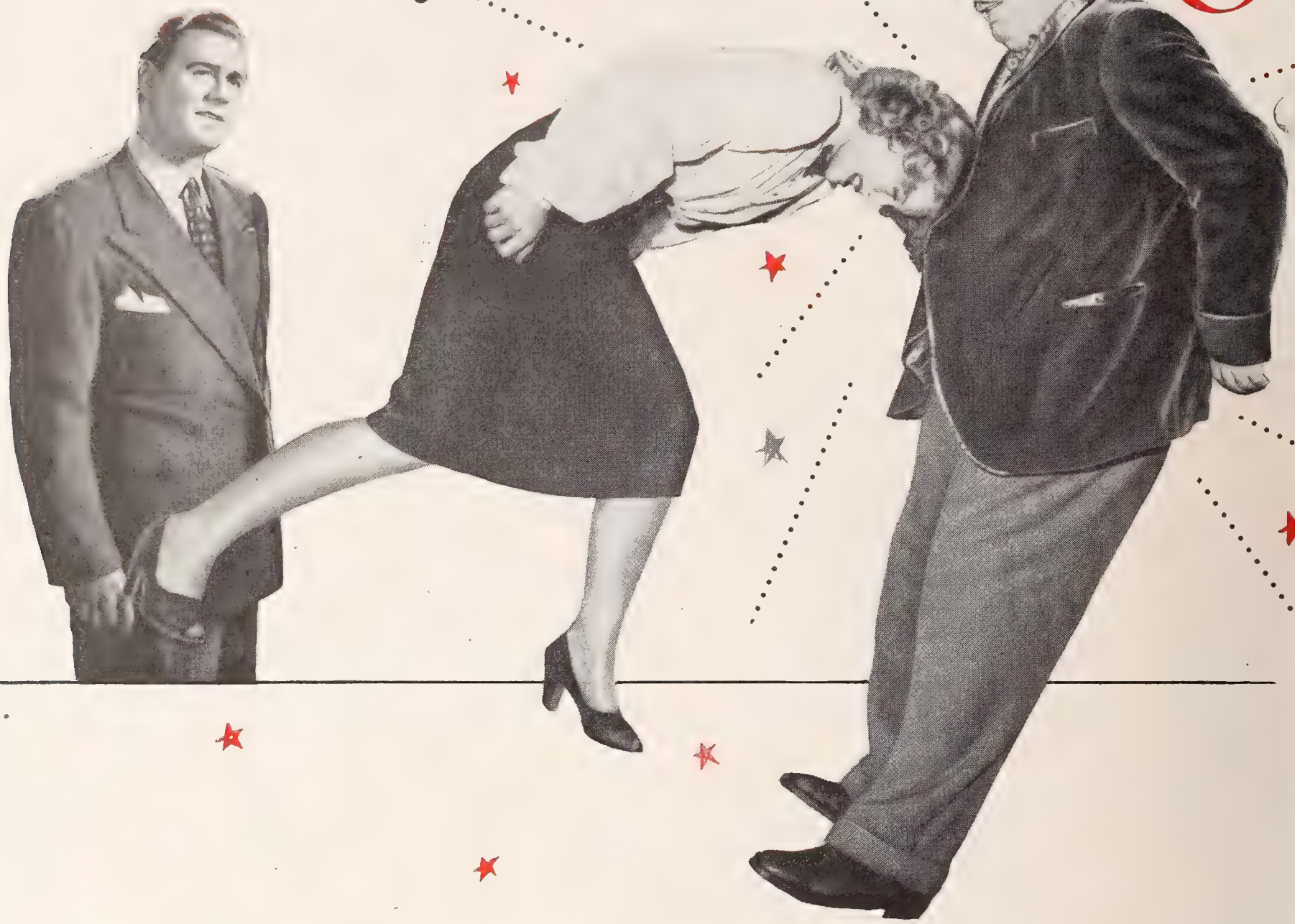
Attorneys for the distributor plaintiffs were S. Everett Wilkins, Jr. of the Providence firm of Hinckley, Allen, Tillinghast and Wheeler and Robert W. Meserve of the Boston law firm of Nutter, McClennen and Fish.

Loew Dividend

Directors of Loew's have declared a quarterly dividend of 37½ cents per share on the company's common stock, payable Dec. 31, to stockholders of record on Dec. 13.



Betty Bowls Ov



"Hilarious! Gag-strewn! Hutton field day! Click potentialities!"
—*Film Daily*

"Should mean happy days for the average exhibitor everywhere!"
—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Should meet enthusiastic reception! The laughs come heartily!"
—*Boxoffice*

"Combines thrills and action to guarantee good boxoffice response!"
—*Daily Variety*

"Slick pace! Good entertainment! Humor and fun all the way!"
—*Independent*

"'Love Is The Darndest Thing' destined for great popularity!"
—*Film Bulletin*

"Michael Chekhov plays his screwball assignment to the hilt!"
—*Variety*

er the Trade Critics

As

PARAMOUNT

Delivers

Its Third

New-Season

Knockout...

"Cross My Heart"

starring

Betty Hutton

and

Sonny Tufts

with

Michael Chekhov

Directed by

John Berry

Produced by Harry Tugend · Screen Play by Harry Tugend and Claude Binyon · Based on a Play by Louis Verneuil and Georges Berr

Picked as the

N. Y. PARAMOUNT'S

CHRISTMAS SHOW

...successor to Paramount's

all-time-biggest, "Blue Skies"!

French and Italians To Co-Produce 15

By MAURICE BESSY

PARIS, Dec. 2 (By Airmail).—French and Italian interests will co-produce 15 bi-lingual features—10 in Italy, five in France—under the terms of the Franco-Italian film agreement signed in Paris. Highlights of the agreement are:

No limitations are placed upon the importation of French films into Italy or Italian films into France, although each country's quota is preserved—four weeks of native product out of each 13 weeks for France, two weeks of each quarter for Italian product in Italy.

The exchange of newsreels and cultural and non-commercial films will be extended.

Rules governing equipment sales between the two countries will be included in the next Franco-Italian agreement.

Additional Concessions

Other concessions on taxes, methods of selling and the speeding up of censoring films are also granted.

The 15 mutually-produced features must be authorized by both French and Italian official cinema organizations. Both French and Italian writers and technicians will work on the productions, with the approval of film unions of both countries.

The first co-produced feature will be "La Chartreuse de Parme," from Stendahl's novel. It will be produced in Italy by Andre Paulve, French, and Scalera Film, Italian, and will be directed by Christian Jaque.

Will Build Studios

Meanwhile, due to the difficulties in enforcing the rule, the chief of the French Information Department, Robert Bichet, has decided to postpone the application of that part of the French quota decree which states that no distributing company is allowed to rent to any exhibitor more than six features in six months.

The French will build studios in French-occupied Germany at Remagen. They will be used first for dubbing French films in German. The production there of feature and short films in French and German versions in also being considered. Up to the present all cinema activities in the French zone were under military control. Now this control will be transferred to a new company formed in the zone, International Film Allianz. Fifty-one per cent of the shares of the company are owned by Union Francaise Cinematographique, a new company to which belong all French producers showing features in the occupied zone.

The remaining shares are owned by two companies: Rex Film of Berlin, which has 35 per cent of the stock, and IFA Wochenschau, a German newsreel company partly created by the French state newsreel company, Actualites Francaises, which owns 14 per cent.

Garland in New MGM Pact

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—Judy Garland has signed a new long-term contract with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. She is slated for two Arthur Freed productions, the first of which will co-star her with Gene Kelley in "The Good Old Summertime."

One-Half of Chicago Releases Are Reissues

Chicago, Dec. 8.—No major distributors are releasing any of the 38 reissues that comprise almost half of the December release of 78 features available to subsequent-run exhibitors, here.

New Production Is Seen for Australia

By CLIFF HOLT

SYDNEY, Dec. 1 (By Airmail).—There is considerable evidence here that powerful film interests are prepared to stop their dabbling and invest big money in Australian production. Facts which draw attention to encouraging local production are:

The deal by which Universal-International, Greater Union Theatres and the Rank group have jointly backed the Australian producer, Charles Chauvel, to make "Sons of Matthew" as the first of several features.

The announcement by Nick Pery, Columbia's managing director in this territory, that Columbia will make a second feature in Australia, possibly in color. This would be a follow-up of Columbia's "Smithy."

Hall to London

The departure of Ken G. Hall, director of "Smithy," to London to purchase equipment with which to equip Greater Union Theatres' studios at Pagewood in Sydney.

The announcement by Ealing Studios, England, producers of "The Overlanders," that the company has obtained options on six Australian stories and that one or more will be filmed in 1947.

Plans to equip studios at Herne Bay in Sydney.

Sir Alexander Korda's decision to send a unit here.

The willingness in Australian financial circles—hitherto skeptical of Australian production—to provide capital for producers of accepted ability who have a sound proposition to offer.

A few years back any producer was regarded as foolhardy if he exceeded a budget of $80,000 for negative costs. It is now agreed that those days are gone and that no important Australian film can be made for much less than $400,000.

The Commonwealth Government is unofficially reported willing to waive tariffs on essential studio equipment provided no satisfactory substitute equipment is manufactured in Australia. This will represent a tremendous saving. On American purchases, the levy stands at 60 per cent of the purchase price.

Although anxious to see production developed as a secondary industry, the government will not commit itself to an official pronouncement on the subject, preferring to treat each case on its own merit.

'California' Screening Set

"California," Paramount Technicolor production produced and directed by John Farrow, will be screened for the trade in all exchange areas on Friday, Dec. 13.

New Argentine Deal Calls for Exchange

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 3 (By Airmail).—Spain and the Argentine have reached a commercial agreement looking to free interchange of motion pictures and various publications, but the situation still remains one-sided. Spanish pictures may be exhibited and exploited here in the Argentine because legislation does not forbid it, but Argentine producers will not be able to introduce their product in Spain because the laws of that country, although allowing for exhibition and exploitation of Argentine product, enforces the freezing of monies earned by those pictures. The agreement reached is, in part, as follows:

"The Government of Spain and Argentina shall take the necessary measures in order to warrant and expand the interchange of books, magazines, newspapers and other publications and motion pictures.

Special Agreements

"Until the time that the above purposes are consolidated by means of special agreements both Governments will do whatever necessary so that the importation, exploitation, exhibition and taxation of books, other publications and motion pictures produced in one country and introduced in the other, enjoy the maximum facilities approved by their respective legislatures."

Oklahoma Meet

(*Continued from page* 1)

Club awards presentations. Some 250 delegates will attend. The meeting's agenda includes discussions of policies for the theatres during the forthcoming state legislative session, as well as discussions encompassing trade problems posed by the New York equity suit, and admission taxes.

Speakers

Gov. Robert S. Kerr, of Oklahoma, is scheduled to welcome the delegates at the beginning of the morning session. Speakers will include C. B. Akers, Griffith executive, who will discuss city tax threats and opposition of tax-supported institutions to theatre projects; Claude Lee, Paramount public relations chief, who will talk on exhibitors' problems; H. M. Richey, M-G-M public relations head, who also will discuss exhibitor problems; Herman Levy, general counsel of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America, on the New York equity suit, and M. Lowenstein, MPTOA state president, who will outline the new by-laws which provide for the organization's affiliation with the American Theatres Association and which also set up a board of directors representing each Congressional district in Oklahoma. The Variety Club banquet is slated for tomorrow evening.

Election of officers and talks by Ted Gamble, executive director of ATA, and Fred Wehrenberg, president of MPTOA are scheduled for Tuesday. National Variety president R. J. O'Donnell will headline the closing dinner-dance, on Tuesday evening, when he will present to Ralph Talbot, chief barker of the Oklahoma group, the Variety achievement award.

Danes Give Permits For Film Theatres

By KRIS WINTHER

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 3 — (By Airmail).—Never before has it been so clear that there is a shortage of theatres in Denmark. Not only do the distributors meet difficulties when trying to place their product, but the Danish public has discovered that even standing in queues guarantees a seat in a house. As a rule tickets must be ordered several days in advance. The government is granting new licenses to build theatres. At present Denmark has 430 houses, with a total seating capacity of 120,108, or one for every 32 inhabitants. In Copenhagen, the 52 houses have a capacity of 120,108, or one for every 275 inhabitants. In Copenhagen, about one-half of the year five houses, with a total seating capacity of 5,504, are used for other purposes, like circus and stage shows, leaving a capacity of approximately 32,200.

The shortage of houses, resulting from considerably longer runs than was normal before the war, has caused first showings in houses hitherto considered second or even third run. Several pictures, even big "A" pictures, have been released in better houses in the provinces before having been shown in the metropolis.

British Films Benefit

During the past season British pictures have been forging ahead in the Danish market. They were assisted by the exclusion of American pictures. Before the war, under normal conditions, British pictures generally held fourth or fifth place in releases. In this past season 58 out of 147 films playing in Denmark were British, or 39 per cent.

During the first months following the close of the 1945-46 season, the situation was considerably changed and American pictures are once more regaining their leading position on the Danish market, with 22 U. S. against eight British films out of a total of 41. The French supplied four pictures, the Swedes three, the Danes two, and the Norwegians, and others, one each.

The only important change affecting the Danish industry during the past year, besides the re-entry of American product, has been the raising of the direct state tax on ticket sales from 40 to 60 per cent. This has, however, in no way lessened the runs at theatres and it seems that prices have little effect on the Danes' desire to see pictures.

Western Hemisphere Gets French Films

Western Hemisphere Films, Inc., has secured American distribution rights to three more French motion pictures. Western Hemisphere's initial entry into the U. S. field is "Clandestine" titling and editing of which have just been completed by Prentiss Howe of 20th Century-Fox. The film is scheduled for a Broadway premiere early in 1947.

Variety To Honor Judge

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 8.—Judge Isadore Bookstein, recently elected to the Supreme Court for a 14-year term, will be honored by the Albany Variety Club with a dinner on Dec. 16, Neil Hellman, new chief barker, announces.

PRC, Eagle-Lion

(Continued from page 1)

clude the following: Arthur B. Krim, president, Eagle-Lion; Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager; Harry Thomas, president and general sales manager, PRC; Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production for Eagle-Lion; Max Roth, PRC Eastern sales manager, and Max Youngstein, director of advertising and publicity for Eagle-Lion.

Meeting delegates will include special sales representatives of Eagle-Lion, district managers and branch managers of PRC, publicity and exploitation representatives of both companies and many representatives of PRC's general sales staff. Special sales representatives of Eagle-Lion who will attend are: Harry Mandell, Chicago; M. A. Raymon, Kansas City; M. J. Weisfelt, New York; H. Segal, Boston; J. Minsky, Philadelphia, and William Shartin, Cleveland.

PRC district managers who will attend will include Abbott Swartz, Minneapolis; Beverly Miller, Kansas City; Bill Sherman, St. Louis; Joe Miller, Albany; Jimmy Hendel, Pittsburgh; Al Herman, Boston; Fred Rohrs, Washington; S. Schussel, New York.

A screening of "Bedelia," first picture to be released by Eagle-Lion will be screened at the meeting. A special luncheon has been arranged for Saturday, with representatives of the Chicago daily press and trade papers invited.

Weisfeldt Named to E-L Sales Position

M. J. Weisfeldt has been appointed Eagle-Lion's special sales representative for Metropolitan New York and to handle special other assignments, by Alfred W. Schwalberg, E-L's vice-president and general sales manager. He will begin his duties today.

Weisfeldt was for 10 years with Columbia Pictures in an executive sales capacity, and prior to that was Western sales manager for FBO and RKO, and was previously district manager of the Central district for the old Fox Film.

PRC Boosts Budget

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—Producers Releasing Corp., Harry H. Thomas, president, announces a $500,000 increase in the budget for "Red Stallion," bringing the total for the negative cost of the film to $1,500,000. The Cinecolor feature is now on location in the Mount Shasta region of Northern California.

Miller with PRC

Max Miller has joined PRC as field exploiteer in the Philadelphia area, under Lige Brien. Miller, who has been in the industry for 12 years, was recently with Republic as a special exploiteer in the East.

Ann Blyth Reception

Universal was host here Friday at a press reception at the "21 Club" for Ann Blyth, co-star of "Swell Guy," who returned to the Coast at the weekend after a two-week visit here. Trade press reporters and editors as well as many New York newspaper and magazine critics attended.

Review

"The Wicked Lady"

(Gainsborough-Universal)

STANDARDS of film decency here dictated certain alterations in "The Wicked Lady" for the American market; some scenes were re-shot and deletions made. The result suggests that not too much soap was used in these expurgation processes of the British film.

A period, costumed melodrama whose locale is England, the film brings Margaret Lockwood, Patrcia Roc and James Mason together in a story that centers around the affairs and escapades of the disagreeable "lady" of the title, Miss Lockwood, who in her quest for adventure and riches becomes an adultress and a murderess.

The story is an eventful one, but not too likely an affair and short of being commensurate in value with the known talents of stars of the picture. Treatment of the more ribald phases of the subject matter could hardly be construed as subtle. Miss Lockwood's affairs with Mason during the course of the film are calculated to leave no doubt of what is taking place or about to.

Opening of the picture brings Miss Lockwood to the manor-type home of Griffith Jones on the eve of the latter's marriage to Miss Roc. Miss Lockwood takes a fancy to him and, shortly after it is she who marries him. Stretches of dialogue at this point of the story are expertly written and delivered and constitute the most engaging part of the film.

Miss Lockwood loses her jewels in a game of cards. Newspapers of the day relate the nortorious thefts by a highwayman, Mason, and she decides to try the same. That Mason and Miss Lockwood, both masked, should cross paths was obvious. From thereon she spends her evenings robbing stagecoaches with Mason, each followed by celebrations in a room atop a highway inn.

Before her infamous career is brought to an end by a bullet, Miss Lockwood murders three persons, the last of them Mason, whom she had betrayed. "Wicked Lady" is a mild description of her.

The screenplay by Leslie Arliss is from the novel, "The Life and Death of the Wicked Lady Skelton," by Magdalen Hall-King. Arliss also directed and R. J. Minney produced.

Running time, 103 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, not set.

GENE ARNEEL

'Aid CSU,' Coast Lab Urges '702'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 8.—IATSE laboratory local, No. 683, supporting the Conference of the Studio Unions strike, has telegraphed the New York laboratory local No. 702, urging its cooperation "against our common enemy, the motion picture producers."

Citing 702's experience in its strike against the Duarte Laboratory, in which it charges IATSE president Richard Walsh supplied replacements, 683's wire described the Hollywood situation as parallel and declared that "victory here will be reflected in your pay checks."

Radio Merger for Mutual Problems

WASHINGTON, Dec. 8.—Closer cooperation on major radio problems, including development of FM, television, and other services, is the objective of a joint committee established by the Radio Manufacturers Association and the National Association of Broadcasters, appointed respectively, by president R. C. Cosgrove of the RMA, and president Justin Miller of the NAB, each group consisting of leaders of the respective industries.

The nation's broadcasters and radio manufacturers this week are joining forces in celebrating "National Radio Week," jointly sponsored by the NAB and RMA.

Saroyan Play to Cagney

Screen rights to William Saroyan's play, "The Time of Your Life" have been acquired by William Cagney, who distributes through United Artists, the latter announced here.

French Film Rights Acquired by Loew's

Loew's International has acquired a French film, "La Bataille du Rail" (The Battle of the Rails), for M-G-M's handling here, possibly in the same manner in which the company distributed the Swiss picture, "The Last Chance." While terms have been agreed upon with the owner, Cooperative du Cinema of Paris, the financial transaction must be approved by the French government. The picture was exhibited at the recent Cannes film festival.

Langer Divorce Bill

(Continued from page 1)

the bill may be written to include a ban on block booking, but that he will let exhibitor representatives who consult with him decide that point.

Inasmuch as the New York case is nearing the point of final disposition, Langer is not expected to suffer opposition from the Justice Department when his bill comes up in the Senate. The lawmaker said that Attorney General Tom Clark had asked him not to introduce the measure last year because of the pending trust suit.

Will Press Passage

Langer indicated that he intends to press passage of the divorcement measure even if the Supreme Court upholds the Justice Department contention that "theatre interests of producers and producers must be completely divorced."

Clark and Langer disagree on one point, however. Clark contends that legal litigation under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act would set a better precedent than to have legislation passed. Langer, on the other hand, thinks legislation would solve the problem better than having a high court decision calling for divorcement.

$1,173,335 Net for UA Theatre Circuit

A net income of $1,173,335 has been reported by the United Artists Theatre Circuit, Inc., for the year ended Aug. 31, 1946. This marks an increase of $545,513 over the preceding fiscal year, when the net earnings totalled $627,882.

Net income before deducting interest, depreciation, amortization, provision for Federal taxes on income and loss on sales of properties for the year was $1,861,417, compared with $1,682,609 last year. Taxes this year totalled $931,263, while taxes for the 1945 fiscal year amounted to $1,252,915

M-G-M TRADE SHOW
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"IT HAPPENED AT THE INN"
(French dialogue version with English subtitles)
FRIDAY
DEC. 13th—10:30 A. M.
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3143 OLIVE STREET • ST. LOUIS, MO.



RKO RADIO PICTURES INC.
NEW YORK TRADE
SHOWING *

LARAINE DAY
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ROBERT MITCHUM
GENE RAYMOND

in

The Locket

with

SHARYN MOFFETT
RICARDO CORTEZ
HENRY STEPHENSON

•

Produced by BERT GRANET
Directed by JOHN BRAHM
Written by SHERIDAN GIBNEY

* NORMANDIE THEATRE

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MONDAY, DEC. 16, at 10:30 A.M. SHARP

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VOL. 60. NO. 113 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1946 TEN CENTS

MPEA Is On The Move; UA Deal Expected

Would Embrace Majority Of UA's Producers

While the Motion Picture Export Association progresses in its "push" abroad in behalf of Hollywood product, a deal whereby the majority of United Artists producers, if not all, will enter the MPEA fold is expected to be concluded within two weeks.

Samuel Goldwyn Productions' position is as yet undecided. James Mulvey, president of that company, states here that while the MPEA's foreign marketing agency is not rolling too speedily, in his opinion, he does look

(*Continued on page* 10)

Proposed Change to Control Licenses

Designed to prevent the New York City license commissioner from acting against exhibitors unless a conviction has first been obtained for showing films of questionable moral nature, an amendment to the city administrative code will be introduced today in City Council by Eugene P. Connolly, member of the council, which would bar suspension, cancellation or revocation of a theatre license unless the licensee "seeks to perform, or continues, or permits the continuance of the performance" after conviction for endangering public morals.

Arising out of the still-unsettled

(*Continued on page* 8)

MPF May Receive Funds This Year

The Motion Picture Foundation, plans for which were launched by all branches of the industry in New Orleans last week, now is being rushed toward legal formalization in the hope that companies intending to contribute to the foundation's $10,000,000 initial fund, which would be tax-exempt, may do so within the 1946 fiscal and calendar year, a spokesman for the organization reported here yesterday.

Meanwhile, the chairman of several special committees are at work on

(*Continued on page* 10)

To Report on Quota Moves

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Before altering the current British quota law for motion pictures, which presently reserves 17½ per cent of playing time for British product and provides for an increase to 20 per cent next March, British officials and business executives wish to observe how their films register on the American market, according to Eric A. Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, who will report on this finding and other features of his recent visit to England at the MPA's annual meeting here on Wesdnesday.

(*Continued on page* 7)

Price Foresees No Dope Film Flood

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—There will be no wave of dope pictures as a result of the recent amendment of the Production Code which permits films which display narcotics, Byron Price, vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, predicted here today.

Price said that the MPA board of directors amended the code at the suggestion of the Justice Department to permit the production of anti-narcotic films. He disclosed that a picture planned by Columbia, in cooperation with the Justice Department, was the case which caused revision of the code.

(*Continued on page* 8)

10 Company Heads At MPA Meeting

Washington, Dec. 9.—Ten company heads have indicated they will attend the board of directors' meeting of the Motion Picture Association, to be held here Wednesday, Kenneth Clark, MPA executive, disclosed here today.

Those planning to attend are: Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Ned E. Depinet, John J. O'Connor, E. W. Hammons, Austin C. Keough, Robert W. Perkins, Nicholas M. Schenck and Spyros P. Skouras. J. Robert Rubin may also attend.

In addition to MPA president Eric Johnston, other staff members scheduled to attend the meeting are: George Borthwick, Francis Harmon, Carl E. Milliken and Byron Price. Price, Coast vice-president of the association, arrived today in Washington from Hollywood.

Oklahoma Owners Gird for Tax Fight

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 9.—Off-the-record warnings of impending taxation threats from both city and state governments today spurred reorganization of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Oklahoma as 158 dele-

(*Continued on page* 10)

Seeking Local Aid for 'Dimes' Drive, Jan. 15-30

Formation of a theatre division for the March of Dimes, Jan. 15-30, was announced yesterday by president Basil O'Connor of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis, headed by Emil C. Jensen of New York, who has been appointed director of the division. He will begin his duties at once, O'Connor said. Under the theatre division a new plan of soliciting funds for the March of Dimes with theatre participation will be inaugurated. Local theatre managers will cooperate with March of Dimes chairmen in their various communities to work out, the best program for the solicitation of funds in theatres. In campaigns of the last few years, the theatre solicitation was on an industry basis. Now, it will be

(*Continued on page* 7)

UA Meets Today on Selznick Dispute

United Artists' board of directors will again occupy itself with discussion and possible action on the company's contract dispute with David O. Selznick at a meeting at the home office today. Meanwhile, Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, is now on the Coast along with a number of other sales and advertising-publicity executives. The group is expected back in New York next week.

Fight Brewing Over Ticket Tax Reduction

Republicans in Congress Seen Heading for Split

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Senate opposition to a reduction of theatre admission and other wartime excise tax increases is brewing and a possible split between the Republicans in Congress over it is likely.

Confronted with a platform of general tax reduction, the Republicans are bound also by their first promise, which was to cut the Federal debt. At the same time, the Armed Forces

(*Continued on page* 8)

St. Louis Theatres Face Another Tax

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 9.—The motion picture and entertainment industries in St. Louis once more face the threat of additional city taxes in order to help the city extricate itself from approaching financial disaster.

The latest development was the referral to the legislative committee of the Board of Aldermen a proposal to impose a three per cent tax on gross receipts of theatres and other amusement enterprises. The bill when originally drawn provided for five per cent tax—the same amount proposed last

(*Continued on page* 8)

Baruch and Swope At Dinner to Rose

Bernard M. Baruch will be among those who will honor Billy Rose, his friend and once his private secretary, at the 1946 dinner of the amusement and allied industries division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies, on Thursday, at the Hotel Pierre, an-

(*Continued on page* 8)

In This Issue

"The Time, the Place and the Girl" is reviewed on page 8. Estimates of key city grosses appear on page 11.

Fidler Challenged On Air Reviewing

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 9.—The proposal that aircaster Jimmy Fidler set up reviewing groups in each exchange center to get a cross-section of the film public's taste, or else discontinue his rating of pictures, was made by Trueman T. Rembusch, president of the Associated Theatre Owners of Indiana, in a letter to the radio commentator.

The letter was in answer to Fidler's comments on the ATOI's action in censuring some columnists and commentators for publicity unfavorable to the motion picture industry, particularly to exhibitors. The resolution, calling on the industry to refuse its facilities to such columnists and commentators, was passed at its annual convention in November. Fiddler, in a recent broadcast, indicated that the resolution was partially directed at him, although no names were mentioned.

Paramount Sets up Int'l Theatre Firm

ALBANY, Dec. 9.—Paramount International Theatre Corp. has been registered here, listing authorized capital of $2,000,000. Incorporators are George Weltner, Roger Clement and Clement Crystal.

Further Paramount theatre expansion abroad is indicated in the formation of the new Paramount International Theatre Corp., headed by George Weltner, who also is president of Paramount International Films. The change in corporate structure amounts to a means of separating the theatre from the foreign film company.

Other officers of the theatre company are: Clement S. Crystal and J. William Piper, vice-presidents, and Milton Kirschenberg, secretary-treasurer.

Enterprise Expands To Build Studio

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—Enterprise Productions, which recently undertook a huge rebuilding program to modernize the former California Studios, has leased a large tract of land on the Old Providencia Rancho in San Fernando Valley for the construction of permanent studios as well as storage rooms for sets and properties. Joseph C. Gilpin, studio manager, is directing building plans.

Mrs. Esther Reisman

ST. PAUL, Dec. 9.—Mrs. Esther Reisman, mother of Phil Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, and of Bert Reisman, the company's manager for Venezuela, passed away Saturday at her home in St. Paul. Funeral services were held today, with both sons in attendance.

Personal Mention

GUS EYSSELL, managing director of New York's Music Hall Theatre, was a White House guest over the weekend. He is now visit-visiting Williamsburgh, Va., before returning to New York.

•

AL SCHUMAN, general manager of Hartford Theatres, in that city, and MRS. SCHUMAN, are due back there from New Orleans and Hot Springs, Ark., before Christmas.

•

LOU GOLDSTEIN, Schine Circuit film buyer at Gloversville, N. Y., and MRS. GOLDSTEIN, are parents of a girl, PAULA HELENE.

•

FRANK MEADOW, United Artists branch manager at New Haven, and MRS. MEADOW, are the parents of a girl, CAROLINE.

•

PETER LAWFORD and KEENAN WYNN, M-G-M players, have returned to the Coast from New York.

•

HERBERT CROOKER, M-G-M home office publicity manager, has returned here from the Culver City studios.

•

NAT LAPKIN, director of real estate for Fabian Theatres, New York, is in Albany and Troy, on business.

•

RALPH MCCOY, new Eagle-Lion Southern manager, has returned to Atlanta from New York.

•

CLAUD BOYD of Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co., Atlanta, is on a business trip to Dallas.

•

J. V. SCULLY, Republic home office representative, is in Atlanta from New York.

A. W. SCHWALBERG, Eagle-Lion vice-president and general sales manager; MAX E. YOUNGSTEIN, advertising-publicity manager, and L. E. GOLDHAMMER, special sales representative in the Los Angeles area, left New York yesterday for a Dallas meeting.

•

ENRIQUE MOLINA, Paramount International's branch manager for Colombia, has arrived in New York for conferences with A. L. Pratchett, Latin American division manager, and other home office officials.

•

JOSEPH MOSCOU, counsel for Confidential Reports, here, and MRS. MOSCOU, are the parents of a baby girl, PATRICIA JO., born at Mercy Hospital, Rockville Center, L. I.

•

WIN BARRON, Paramount's special representative in Canada, will fly from New York to Montreal today. He will return to his desk in Toronto on Thursday.

•

HENRY NATHANSON, president of Regal Films, Toronto, and TED GOULD, sales manager, are due here today for M-G-M home office conferences.

•

ARTHUR KRIM and BRYAN FOY of Eagle-Lion, left Hollywood by plane yesterday for Dallas. They will be in Chicago on Dec. 13.

•

SID MESIBOV, Paramount's assistant exploitation manager, here, is back from a Chester, N. Y., vacation.

•

HENRY FONDA is en route to Mexico City, from Hollywood, by American Airlines.

Academy Governors Restore Old Rules

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—The Academy board of governors has restored its original rules concerning eligibility of pictures for its annual awards. The aciton was taken by rescinding an amendment adopted Nov. 21 which provided that producers unable to open their pictures commercially in Los Angeles during the calendar year could submit them for award on giving written notice and making them available to Academy membership seven times before the balloting date.

Under the rules now restored a picture must open on a commercial run not later than Dec. 31 and continue in exhibition seven days to qualify.

The board's action rescinding the amendment followed widespread criticism which took the direction of suggesting that the Academy had taken a move that gave special consideration to independents.

Cobb Daughter Killed

ATLANTA, Dec. 9.—Mrs. Lucile Cobb, owner of the Cobb circuit of theatres in Alabama, lost her daughter, Peggy, in the Winecoff Hotel fire on Saturday.

RMA Conference Opens Here Today

A three-day Radio Manufacturers Association conference of industry leaders in radio, to consider problems arising from OPA decontrol, will open here today at the Biltmore Hotel. This annual RMA mid-winter conference will be the first "free enterprise" industry session in five years. Now without price, production, or inventory controls for the first time since 1941, radio leaders will review the numerous new situations and problems. Prices are of immediate concern, with some manufacturers now announcing increases, mostly on higher-priced radios, with others maintaining price lines and also with some reductions, particularly on table models. Continuing shortages of raw materials, some because of veterans housing priorities, are other major problems.

"Tender... brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

NEW YORK THEATRES
RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHO
She Learned About Love Before She Learned About Life! "THAT BRENNAN GIRL"
Starring
JAMES DUNN • MONA FREEMAN
WILLIAM MARSHALL • JUNE DUPREZ
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NOW! BRANDT'S GOTHAM BROADWAY & 47th STREET
RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR
Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.
LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN First N. Y. Showing M-G-M presents 'GALLANT BESS' (Photographed in NATURAL COLOR)
IN PERSON BERT WHEELER (Recent Star of Harvey")
EXTRA! "THINK-A-DRINK" HOFFMAN plus OTHERS
IRVING BERLIN'S "BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE
Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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It's a Wonderful Life

Now that showmen once more can book

a Frank Capra PRODUCTION

LIBERTY FILMS INC.



it's a Wonderful laugh !!



it's a

LIBERTY FILMS INC.

presents

FRANK CAPRA'S

"IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"

starring JAMES STEWART

and DONNA REED

LIONEL BARRYMORE • THOMAS MITCHELL • HENRY TRAVERS • Directed by FRANK CAPRA

BEULAH BONDI • WARD BOND • FRANK FAYLEN • GLORIA GRAHAME


...onderful love
Jimmy and Donna going steady...
in the picture that tops all the fun of "It Happened
One Night"; all the heart-warming joy of "Mr.
Deeds Goes To Town"; all the happiness of
"You Can't Take It With You"
Capra's triple-slam Academy
Award triumphs!
Distributed by
RKO RADIO PICTURES
Screen Play by FRANCES GOODRICH · ALBERT HACKETT · FRANK CAPRA · Additional Scenes by JO SWERLING

It's a Wonderful Life

for exhibitors to know they've got a big show coming that's backed by national advertising in

40,703,987

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SATURDAY EVENING POST

WOMAN'S HOME COMPANION

GOOD HOUSEKEEPING – TIME

TRUE STORY – SEVENTEEN

the FAN LIST and THE AMERICAN WEEKLY.

LIBERTY FILMS INC.

See 200 Millions In Obsolete Video

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—Purchasers of black-and-white television receiving sets will invest $200,000,000 during 1947 in obsolete equipment if the Federal Communications Commission does not take immediate steps to commercialize color television, Frank Stanton, president of Columbia Broadcasting told the commission today as hearings opened on color video.

Arguing that the CBS color-wheel method of color is "ready for the market," Stanton urged against waiting further color experimentation. As the CBS president spoke, 13 representatives of other companies were present in the hearing room, most of them scheduled to appear against adoption of the CBS color method of television transmission.

Primary contestor is RCA-NBC, which has been conducting experimentations on an electronic method of high-frequency color video, which is said to be less complicated, more economical, and more practical.

Stanton asserted that CBS is ready to start a nation-wide network of color television stations as soon as FCC establishes commercial standards for color.

Representatives of Dumont Laboratories were present at the hearing. Dumont has also been conducting experimentations on the electronic method of color.

A majority of the company spokesmen want color held back until the more efficient electronic method has reached a point of practical use. In a letter to the Commission, John Gerl, president of Sonoro Radio and Television Corp., said that the FCC must not adopt standards until RCA's electronic system has been perfected.

Representing CBS, Donald Horton told the Commission that he has conducted a poll of 520 set owners in New York, and finds that 69 per cent of them would be willing to pay $100 more for color sets. Black-and-white sets can be converted to fit color, with an overhaul job and insertion of the CBS color disc, it was said.

Schine Group Buys Coast Ambassador

MIAMI BEACH, Dec. 9.—Operating control of the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, has been acquired by J. Meyer Schine and his associates of Gloversville, N. Y., it was announced here today. The hotel is now being operated under a trusteeship, and no change in management, personnel or operating policy is contemplated at this time, it was said.

The Schine group also controls the Roney Plaza in Miami Beach, the Boca Raton Club of Florida, and other class hotels. Schine, now at the Boca Raton Club, here, expects to visit California soon after the new year to inspect the property.

James O'Gara Named Assistant to Grainger

James V. O'Gara has been named by James R. Grainger, distribution vice-president of Republic Pictures, as his executive assistant. O'Gara will also act in the same capacity for Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, while John P. Curtin will continue to serve as assistant to both Grainger and Walton.

Film Delivery Men Strike in Kansas

Kansas City, Dec. 9.—Drivers and truck film handlers of Film Delivery Service struck here this morning after failure of negotiations to produce a new contract. The union has demanded a 65 per cent increase in wages, but the company insists that it is unable to grant an increase of that size.

The company notified exhibitors by telegram and exchanges by telephone. Prints normally carried by truck are going out and being returned in the territory by Railway Express.

CSU Again Presses For Peace Parley

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—The Conference of Studio Unions has telegraphed the major producers reiterating its offer to resume strike settlement discussions on the three conditions previously stated: establishment of arbitration machinery to settle future disputes, completion of signed contracts, and the return to work without discrimination of all on strike or observing picket lines. The producers admitted receipt of the wire, but made no comment.

A CSU spokesman has disclosed that strikers' representatives are at present in Mexico, San Diego, San Francisco, and New York, acquainting local unions with the issues of the strike and urging passage of resolutions favoring intercession with the producers. The spokesman added that a movement to encourage patrons to remain away from theatres until the strike is settled is being set in motion in those cities.

Honors for Smith And Sister Kenny

In carrying forward its program of affording recognition to people of all faiths for their outstanding contributions to American democratic principles, Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, here, will pay tribute to Kate Smith and Sister Elizabeth Kenny at the Hotel Astor on Tuesday evening, Dec. 17, Jack H. Levin, Cinema president announces.

Miss Smith and Sister Kenny will become the second and third women to receive recognition from Cinema Lodge for contributions to American democracy. The first was Helen Hayes, who was presented the Cinema "Honor Scroll" early this year. Motion picture industry leaders who have been thusly honored include Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn and Robert M. Weitman.

Lawrence Doyle, 50

DENVER, Dec. 9.—Lawrence D. Doyle, 50, motion picture director and former New York actor, died yesterday in St. Luke's Hospital here after a long illness. Throughout the war he directed foreign shows for the USO and returned to the U. S. from Japan last February. Burial will be in Columbus, Ohio.

Gehring Concludes Chicago Meeting

CHICAGO, Dec. 9.—W. C. Gehring, 20th Century-Fox Central division manager, concluded a two-day meeting with his district managers at the Blackstone Hotel here today with discussions of the present "Spyros Skouras Drive," which winds up Dec. 28, highlighting the meet. Also discussed were selling plans for "The Razor's Edge," as well as a discussion of scheduling the company's Technicolor productions. Ordinarily, 350 prints of "Margie" would have been made, but because of the current labor strife in Hollywood only 140 prints are available.

Here for the meet were: Jack Bloom, Gehring's assistant, who has headquarters in New York, and the following district managers: Jack Lorentz, Great Lakes, Chicago; Moe Levy, Prairie, Minneapolis; Ward Scott, Midwest, Kansas City; James Grady, Mideast, Cincinnati; Syd Samson, Canadian, Toronto. Also here as observers were Chicago sales forces headed by Tom Gilliam, Chicago branch manager.

NY 'Lab' Local 702 Refuses to Aid CSU

New York's Laboratory Local No. 702, IATSE, is definitely not on the side of the Conference of Studio Unions in the Coast labor conflict, John J. Francavilla, president of 702, said here yesterday in rejecting what he termed an unofficial request for cooperation made by Hollywood Laboratory Local No. 683 which, although an IATSE unit, is giving its support to the CSU.

Francavilla said his union is guided solely by the mandate of the "IA" and will not align itself with CSU or any other group giving that organization its support.

He said that the telegram from the Coast laboratory unit urging cooperation against motion picture producers, was addressed to Nicholas Koutrouley, secretary-treasurer of 702, and was not signed by any officers of 683.

AFL Exchange Local Re-elects Johnson

Members of the Film Exchange Employes Union, Local No. B51, IATSE, have re-elected Lou Johnson as president and business agent for the ninth consecutive term. Johnson is head shipper at Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's local exchange.

Others elected are: Max Goldstein, night assistant shipper at 20th Century-Fox, as vice-president; Gerard Lee, M-G-M, elected by acclamation as recording secretary, and Harold Marenstein, M-G-M, as financial secretary-treasurer. August Kubart, M-G-M, was chosen sergeant-at-arms.

Wil-Kin Holds Meeting

ATLANTA, Dec. 9.—Wil-Kin Theatre Supply Co. held a sales meeting here yesterday. Representatives from Atlanta and Charlotte attended, including Bill White, W. F. Harris, W. Timmons, R. L. Coltrane, Joe B. Reeves, Jimmy Wilson, Charlie Moore, Joseph Glandorf and Harry Paul.

Quota Moves

(*Continued from page* 1)

Johnston said he had encountered talk of boosting the amount of screen time available to British films still higher, but these are "only ideas, so far, and no minds have yet been set." The quota law, which continues in effect until March, 1948, was the focal point of much of Johnston's investigation. He added that he plans to return to England in April or May to participate in more concrete discussions on the quota, at which time he expects the British government to be entertaining proposals with sharper definitiveness.

In urging the tearing down of international barriers in order to "avoid living within ourselves," the MPA head said he had pointed out repeatedly the threat raised by quota laws and other barriers which beg retaliation and foster trade wars, thereby endangering the economic systems of all countries. With this in view, he continued, he advocated formation of an international film council which, while initiated by British and American interests, would be open to the film industries of all nations.

He intimated that the proposed organization would be strictly an industry matter, apart from any government or United Nations-sponsored group. Whether state-managed film industries would fit into his world council, sitting as an equal partner with privately-owned industries, was not made clear in his remarks since the suggestion is still in its exploratory stage.

Johnston also said he had heard talk of British nationalization of its film industry but that he came across no indication of its serious consideration.

'Dimes' Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

on a local basis with the theatre manager as a member of the Dimes committee in his locality. Trailers featuring Greer Garson will be exhibited in theatres in connection with the drive.

Jensen is president and general manager of Artcinema Associates, Inc. He has had long and varied experience in the motion picture industry.

Cornelia Otis Skinner Named

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9.—The National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis said today that Cornelia Otis Skinner, New York actress and author, will be chairman of women's activities in the 1947 March of Dimes. Miss Skinner will greet women State advisers to the Foundation at their second annual conference in New York, Dec. 12 to 14.

Zanuck May Produce Humberstone Story

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—An original story by Bruce Humberstone, 20th-Fox director, reportedly a musical but which is said to lampoon some individuals for seeking publicity by hitting motion pictures and their makers, is being considered for production by Darryl Zanuck. Zanuck is known to dislike the practice of some people in getting newspaper space by flailing their own industry. Humberstone himself may direct the story, titled "Wadda Ya Know!"

Fight Over Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

must be kept intact and veterans' benefits must be continued.

Present indications are that the admissions tax will be the last reduction made. The priority one will be personal income taxes, and second will come a lowering of the corporation tax.

On the House side, Congressman Harold Knudson, Republic, of Minnesota, is reported to be backing down on his promise that excise taxes will be lowered.

Strongest opposition to any admissions tax cut can be found in the Senate, with a majority of ranking Republican members of the Banking and Currency Committee going on record against "too much cut in taxes."

Iowa Senator Hickenlooper said today that he favors a general and gradual reduction of taxes. However, he asserted that luxury taxes will have to "be last on the list." The senator stated that the Republicans must work out a long-term plan for tax elimination and balancing of the budget; he also stressed the importance of maintaining an adequate defense force and continuation of all veterans' benefits.

Senator Milliken, Republican of Colorado, another committee member, said that careful consideration must be given "before any reduction in taxes is approved by Congress." The Colorado lawmaker expressed the belief that excise taxes will be the last for reduction.

Senators Tobey, of New Hampshire, and Taft, Ohio, who were members of the committee last legislative session, are both reported to have cautioned fellow lawmakers against "rushing into a tax reduction program" without first reducing the budget and setting aside money for the operation of the Government.

Pointing out that it is "essential that taxes be reduced," Senator Hickenlooper added that after budget estimates have been made, the surplus must be judicially used for tax reduction.

The Senator stated that excise taxes are not imposed on fundamental necessities. Therefore, Hicklenlooper concluded that any cut in admission tax rates must wait until last on the docket.

Hickenlooper praised the value of motion pictures and other entertainment, which he called "necessary for morale building and relaxation." He said, however, that a theatre patron does not miss an extra 10 cents on an admission as much as $250 on personal income.

While it looks like there may be no "immediate" reduction of the admissions tax when the 80th Congress meets, it is still uppermost in the minds of GOP leaders to reduce it as soon as possible to the pre-war 10 per cent rate.

Guild Opens Branch In Oklahoma City

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 9.—F. A. Bateman, general sales manager of Screen Guild Productions, is here from Hollywood for the opening today of a new Screen Guild exchange, headed by Carr Scott.

Bateman will fly from Oklahoma City to Dallas on Wednesday to confer with circuit heads and Screen Guild's John Franconi.

Review

"The Time, the Place and the Girl"

(Warner Brothers)

Hollywood, Dec. 9

ALEX GOTTLIEB has blazed no new trails in this Technicolor production of a musical which sticks to the formula first adopted 20 years ago. There is a slender story about a boy and a girl, lavish, if uninspired production numbers, and a certain amount of comedy.

Dennis Morgan and Jack Carson portray a pair of nightclub entrepreneurs who run into trouble with the owner of the house next door to their club, and who is a world-famous conductor. The latter's wife, and his attorney, attempt to close the club, despite the protests of the musician who, as played by S. Z. Sakall, has a sense of humor and a heart of gold. Before the piece is completed Martha Vickers, cast as the conductor's granddaughter, has fallen in love with one of the nightclub lads. She saves the day by starring in a musical which the two produce, and her grandfather adds the crowning triumph by conducting the score himself. There is not much to distinguish "The Time, the Place and the Girl" from its many predecessors, with the possible exception of a production number in which the ladies of the chorus are costumed as cattle.

David Butler directed the screenplay by Francis Swann, Agnes Christine Johnston and Lynn Starling, from an original story by Leonard Lee.

Running time, 108 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

Control Licenses

(*Continued from page* 1)

dispute, which is making its way through the courts, over the exhibition in New York of Howard Hughes's "The Outlaw," the proposal would further prevent the rejection of an application for a license, or transfer or renewal of one, unless performances were given after the conviction.

The proposal will probably be sent to committee today for further study. Connolly asserted yesterday that he would press for quick action to arrange public hearings for expressions from all interested parties.

The effect that adoption of the amendment would have upon the controversy over "The Outlaw" is speculative, since any one of several actions in litigation might settle the immediate issue. It was understood, unofficially, from a spokesman for the city administration, that the city would continue to oppose any limitation on the license commissioner's powers because it would restrain police officials from performing their duties.

On the other hand, the key of the brief submitted by United Artists attorneys in their appeal for a temporary injunction to restrain License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur Wallander from revoking the licenses of the Gotham, Rialto and Republic theatres, which suspended a scheduled showing of the picture in October, was that the city administrative code specifically requires a conviction before the license commissioner can revoke or suspend an exhibitor's license.

350 at Variety Club Affair at Albany

ALRANY, N. Y., Dec. 9.—Some 350 persons were present at the first motion picture ball of the local Variety Club, held at the DeWitt Clinton Hotel. Elmer Lux, Buffalo, district director of the National Variety Clubs, placed in office a new crew, headed by Neil Hellman as chief barker. Screen players Eddie Gargen, Dewey Robinson, Barbara Hale and Bill Williams were introduced.

Visitors included: George Lynch, Sid Deneau, Doug Leishman, Gus Lampe, Bill Kramer, Lou Golding, Joe Eagan, Ray Moon, Moe Grassgreen and Norman Pearlman, Binghamton zone exhibitor.

Price, Dope Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

The MPA vice-president asserted that there is no danger of a wave of films which encourage dope. Price pointed out that Production Code Administration has "great laxity" in prohibiting any dope picture which does not meet decent standards.

Commenting on state censorship of films, Price pointed to the danger of any state measure which restricts "freedom of expression."

Citing the record for the past few years, Price said state authorities are attempting to "get away from censorship" rather than legislating it.

That the press is assisting to prevent and eliminate local censorship over the motion picture was expressed by Price. He concluded that the press is "naturally interested," because any censorship against the motion picture is a natural threat to all other media of information.

Regarding youth delinquency problems, Price expressed the belief that "not one single Government agency feels that films cause youth crime." He added that, on the other hand, pictures can be put to good use in discouraging delinquency.

New St. Louis Tax

(*Continued from page* 1)

spring but which was defeated. The amended measure would require each theatre to post either a $2,000 bond or a $1,000 cash deposit to guarantee payment of the tax.

St. Louis is facing critical fiscal problems, what with legal attacks on the current municipal income tax (during which payments are being held up pending outcome of legal action) and other sources of income likewise being attacked in the courts.

Fred Wehrenberg, president of the local MPTO, as well as the national organization, has often expressed the opinion that the entertainment industry in St. Louis, particularly the theatres, were always going to face the threat of additional taxation if other city methods of obtaining revenue failed. The latest aldermanic maneuvers seem to bear this out, though theatres again are marshaling their forces to fight the tax.

Kalmenson, Cowdin In Stock Dealings

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9. — Benjamin Kalmenson has acquired 2,000 shares of Warners common stock on a stock split-up, according to the latest report of the Securities and Exchange Commission, here. The acquisition brings Kalmenson's holdings to 4,000. Charles S. Guggenheim of New York, has purchased 300 shares of Warners, and Samuel Carlisle, New York, has acquired 100 shares.

J. Cheever Cowdin has disposed of 1,050 warrants for Universal common, bringing his holdings to 11,637. Charles D. Prutzman has disposed of 400 shares of Universal common, bringing his holdings to 6,100.

In an August transaction, L. L. Metzler, Los Angeles, exercised his opinion for the purchase of 1,000 shares of 20th Century-Fox common.

Lehman Brothers, New York, sold 100 shares of Paramount common, and John D. Hertz reported holding 2,000 shares of Paramount common.

Dinner to Rose

(*Continued from page* 1)

nounces division chairman Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres, Inc.

Herbert Bayard Swope will be master of ceremonies and Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation, will speak at the dinner, one of the highlights of "Federation Week," which started yesterday. The week, devoted to an intensive public solicitation, will mark the climactic period of the Federation's current campaign to raise $12,000,000 for the 1946-47 budgetary needs of its 116 medical and welfare agencies, which annually serve more than 350,000.

Acting on behalf of Rose's friends and associates in show business, Baruch will present to him a gift commemorating his "distinguished achievments as a showman, journalist and humanitarian." Kingsberg will preside over the dinner, which will be the major event of the amusement industry's participation in the current city-wide Federation drive.

Serving as Kingsberg's co-chairmen in the industry effort are Barney Balaban, Paramount Pictures; Jack Cohn, Columbia Pictures; Spyros P. Skouras of 20th Century-Fox; Albert Warner, Warner Brothers.

Radio Manufacturing Progressing Quickly

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9. — October production of radio receiving sets broke all previous monthly records and indicated that the industry's output in 1946 will surpass that of its largest prewar year, the Radio Manufacturers Association announced today as radio manufacturers and broadcasters prepared to celebrate "National Radio Week," Nov. 24-30.

RMA member-companies reported manufacturing 1,670,444 sets during October, compared with 1,323,291 in September. The entire industry's output in October, 1941, was 1,252,000.

Party for Maureen O'Hara

RKO Radio will give a reception this afternoon in Hampshire House Cottage in honor of Maureen O'Hara, who recently completed the RKO Technicolor production, "Sinbad the Sailor."

Stockholder Move In Scophony Case

Legal actions on behalf of individual stockholders of Paramount and General Precision Equipment Corp., the latter part-owners of 20th Century-Fox, are being prepared by attorney Carl O. Hoffman with a view to forcing those two companies to accept a consent decree in the Scophony anti-trust suit and thus speed the fullest possible development of television, Hoffman said here yesterday.

Hoffman, who is a director of Colonial Airlines and 18 other corporations and represents a substantial group of bankers, including Robert Young, declares that he has made an independent study of the Scophony case and has gone directly to the boards of Paramount and General Precision with a view to breaking the impasse. Also, he has conferred with heads of the Department of Justice in Washington and is prepared to testify before the Congressional Small Business Committee. "If the Government wants the patents developed, the bankers must be satisfied." A disposition of the television holdings forced by a court order and not satisfactory to the banking interests might well succeed in holding up the money needed to skyrocket the commercial development of television, he added.

Although both Hoffman and Arthur Levy, head of Scophony, concede that a consent decree is their basic desire, they both speak of vigorous persecution of the anti-trust suit as the next step to be taken, presumably as a means of forcing the decree. Meanwhile, Joseph B. Marker of the Department of Justice's anti-trust division was reticent here yesterday on the consent-decree question and emphasized that the case was being prepared for trial.

Primarily involved in the disputes are Scophony's patents on the "Supersonic" and "Skiatron" television systems, which Levey describes as "revolutionary" in that they "enable the projection of television pictures on a very large screen as easily as though they were motion pictures."

"In view of the present controversy on color television between the Radio Corporation of America and Columbia Broadcasting," Levey adds, "it is interesting to note that SCA's color television developments can be most effectively adapted to any type of color transmission standard."

Geissinger Resigns

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—W. B. Geissinger, vice-president of Batten, Barton, Durstine and Osborn, here, has resigned from active management of the office, and A. W. Neally, vice-president and account executive of the San Francisco office, has been appointed his successor. In another shift, O. H. Ferguson, vice-president in charge of the San Francisco office, has been named West Coast manager for BBDO.

RCA Sets 2 Dividends

RCA announces the following dividends have been declared:

On the first preferred stock, 87½ cents per share, for the period from Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 1946, payable on Jan. 2, 1947, to holders of record on Dec. 16; on the common stock, 20 cents per share, payable on Jan. 29, to holders of record on Dec. 20.

'Razor' Campaign Result Of Scientific Planning

The advance campaign on "The Razor's Edge," climaxed by the elaborate world premiere of the picture at the Roxy Theatre here, Nov. 19, has been acclaimed by industry advertising men as one of the most extensive and smoothly executed within memory.



Charles Schlaifer

Moreover, the campaign has won the attention and piqued the interest of such national advertising media as *Printers' Ink, Tide* magazine and others well outside industry boundaries.

Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director of 20th Century-Fox, credits the success of the campaign, of which the Roxy premiere was an integral part, to the "scientific planning, in advance, of even the most minute details of the whole."

"Months were spent in thinking about and planning the campaign," Schlaifer said. "Enthusiasm over bright ideas which were contributed from time to time during the advance stage was not permitted to overshadow the whole plan. They were fitted into their proper niche and were made a part of the campaign rather than, as happens so often, a campaign in themselves."

Mapped in Advance

"Activities for all departments, advertising, publicity, exploitation and radio, were mapped out in advance and coordinated. There were no separate departmental campaigns," Schlaifer said. "There was one master plan. It was changed and improved upon from time to time in its details but its framework, devised months in advance of the picture's opening, remained the same."

The effectiveness of the "scientific approach," Schlaifer points out, has been demonstrated already in the huge volume of publiicty for "The Razor's Edge" in media reaching every segment of the motion picture audience and in the record-breaking business which the picture, now entering its fourth week at the Roxy, has done. The picture will continue there through the coming holiday weeks and into the New Year.

Key City Openings

Nationally, the campaign has set the stage for similar "Razor's Edge" openings in 65 key cities during Christmas week. The national campaign provides the pattern for local and regional campaigns in every situation in the country and for future pictures, as well, Schlaifer pointed out. In line with this, a home office representative will be on hand for every one of the 65 key city openings, already rehearsed for his job through experience in the New York premiere.

One result of the careful planning of the campaign in advance was that virtually every conceivable detail was anticipated and provided for in advance.

"Our planning actually got us more for our money than was realized from many a more costly campaign," Schlaifer observed.

While the planning of the campaign began early last June, the original publicity campaign by the studio forces under Harry Brand had been in progress long before. It began with purchase of the screen rights to the W. Somerset Maugham novel by 20th Century-Fox and continued with the selection of players, director, screen writer and the decision by Darryl F. Zanuck to personally produce "The Razor's Edge."

Campaign Statistics

A few statistics which reveal the magnitude and completeness of the master plan for presenting the picture to the public follow. Ads in sizes varying from "teaser" type to double spreads ran in 13 leading national magazines of general circulation and 16 motion picture "fan" magazines, representing a total circulation of nearly 79,000,000. The ads are timed to appear with the national release dates and key runs of the picture.

The trade paper advertising campaign was begun last May and was keyed to emphasize the stature and importance of the picture. The trade campaign included a special "Razor's Edge" over-size supplement to MOTION PICTURE DAILY which featured the largest half-tone ad plate ever produced for a motion picture publication.

Posters and accessories in great variety and anticipating every possible requirement for indoor and outdoor display have been prepared. They include 48 and 24-sheets, circus paper in varying proportions and a special series featuring the Norman Rockwell art, all in striking color combinations.

The posting campaign for the current month includes 24-sheet showings in 27 key cities with a potential total of 17,000 boards.

The cooperative ad campaign in newspapers is regarded by the company as the greatest it has ever prepared.

Long Publicity Plan

Publicity to date has included copy and illustrations in every top publication over a two-year period, intensified with the picture's opening in national and fan magazines and newspapers. Twelve covers of fan magazines have been devoted to "Razor's Edge" up to date. News syndicates have thoroughly covered the picture's progress and newspapers have given columns of space to it at times when advertising was being rejected.

Exploitation for the picture was keyed to the vast readership which had been won by the Maugham novel, a readership estimated in excess of 30,000,000. Tie-ups and promotion, while national in scope, were chosen for the opportunities they offered for local tie-ins. They included leading department and fashion stores, book stores, tobacco and drug stores, book clubs, jewelry stores and many others. Doubleday, original publisher of the novel, ran ads in scores of newspapers throughout the country.

Special exploitation included semi-monthly press mailings begun last August; brochure distribution; pins representing Maugham's good luck emblem, postage meter slugs and other devices. The world premiere in New York was attended by 87 newspaper critics, who reported on the event in numerous columns, and a West Coast screening attended by critics of that area was held.

Radio coverage was extensive and extended; including everything from hundreds of spot announcements to a half-hour show on a national hookup. The New York premiere was covered by both radio and television.

The largest spectacular on Broadway, re-lit once more after the enforced dimout period due to the coal strike, is devoted to the picture. It dominates the heart of Times Square and is seen by an estimated 1,250,000 persons daily.

A 68-page press book, designed as a guide to the reproduction of the best in the national and New York campaigns in other cities, is ready for exhibitor use.

"What was done in New York with the record-breaking box office results," Schlaifer said, "can be done wherever the picture is released. The campaign was conceived and has been carried through with precisely that in mind. Its results in ticket selling attainment have been demonstrated. They need only be duplicated elsewhere."

Four Plead Guilty in Army Film Theft

Frank Raymond Tiriolo, George John Sinisgalli, Abe Goldstein and Melvin Maurice Baker pleaded guilty yesterday before U. S. Judge Robert Inch in Brooklyn to charges of intent to steal 16mm. prints from the U. S. Army Signal Corps photographic center at Long Island City. A fifth defendant, Nicholas Peter Peruso, was given until Dec. 17 to enter his plea.

These defendants were among 13 arrested in New York by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last April after a probe had allegedly shown that sub-standard prints of films contributed by the industry for use of the armed service overseas were being shown illegally in schools and churches throughout the country. Sixty features were seized at the time. Four of the five defendants were civilian employes at the Long Island photographic center.

Appearing for the prosecution yesterday was Mathew F. Fagan, assistant to the U. S. Attorney General. Working with the FBI on the preliminary investigation were Edward A. Sargoy and Joseph L. Stein, special counsel for the distributors in connection with the Copyright Protection Bureau, and Eric Haight of Films, Inc.

Vidor Trial Starts

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—Suit brought by director Charles Vidor against Harry Cohn for declaratory relief from a Columbia contract has gone to trial before Federal Judge Ben Harrison with Vidor as the first witness. About 30 are scheduled to testify. The suit asks for Vidor's release from his contract and payment of $78,000 representing salary, at $2,000 a week, for unexpired 39 weeks. The case is expected to run several days.

MPEA Move

(*Continued from page* 1)

favorably upon it. Meanwhile, his attitude is one of "wait and see."

While official confirmation of UA's joining the MPEA is being withheld, pending culmination of negotions, a contract is looked for shortly, according to an MPEA spokesman. Francis Harmon, MPEA vice-president, states that the negotiations are rolling along, but no announcement will be made until the "entire crossword puzzle is worked out," thus indicating that a few UA "holdouts" are still being sought for membership.

MPEA has received a report from Czechoslovakia that among U. S. pictures now being handled in that country are "Wilson," "The Sullivans," "It Started with Eve," "So Proudly We Hail" and "Here Comes Mr. Jordan." MPEA is now releasing only those films which the U. S. Government approves in Germany, Japan nad Austria.

Jean Birkahan is now en route to Sofia to meet Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, where efforts will be made to open the market in Bulgaria. Maas is expected back in New York in about three weeks.

The MPEA organization in Holland is well established and is now engaged in pre-release campaigns. As arranged with that country's film industry monopoly, actual distribution of Hollywood product will begin on Jan. 3.

MPEA is functioning in Rumania and Hungary with old films for the present, as in the Netherland East Indies, where an interim distribution deal allows for 40 films to be taken from stockpiles in Singapore. This market will open in May with only currency restrictions.

Negotiations with Poland are now underway, it is understood. Arrangements with Yugoslavia and Russia have yet to be made.

Oklahoma Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

gates gathered for is first big convention since 1941. By-laws changes calling for an enlarged legislative program during coming session of the state legislature were approved after a half-dozen speakers made references to needs along that line.

Insert in story to kum on convention of Independent Theatre Owners of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan

Henderson M. Richey, head of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, called upon the exhibitors to institute research and planning to prevent other businesses from getting the edge in buying equipment and supplies that will be needed for theatres, once such materials start flowing.

Noting that many outside interests probably will enter the theatre business in the near future, with the distributors forced by court decree to give equal consideration to them in selling product, Richey said this development "will demand the highest degree of merchandising efficiency on the part of the present theatre owner."

The speaker called for organized thought on the problem of bringing new audiences into theatres. "We have been told, and it has been proven, that only 18,000,000 people see 'A' pictures out of a potential audience of nearly 60,000,000," he said.

Both Richey and Leon Bamberger, national public relations director for RKO Radio, praised the public relations record of the Oklahoma exhibitors. Bamberger said the industry could not survive additional taxation.

The RKO Radio executive also pleaded for better advertising techniques on the part of small town exhibitors. He pointed out that only 19,000,000 of an 82,000,000 weekly audience now patronizes the industry.

C. B. Akers, Griffith Amusement executive and chairman of the State Exhibitors Legislative Committee, reviewed the municipal tax picture in the state in an off-the-record talk. Akers obtained approval of by-laws revision providing for 20 on the board of directors with equal geographical representation from all over the state.

Affiliation with the American Theatres Association will headline tomorrow's program, with national leaders of ATA to speak in favor of this proposal.

Coast Production Rises Another Notch to 47

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—Production has climbed another notch, as nine films faced cameras, and eight went to cutting rooms. The shooting index stands at 47; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "King of the Wild Horses."

Started: "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman), with Dick Powell, Signe Hasso, Maylia, Ludwig Donath, Vladimir Sokoloff; "For the Love of Rusty," with Ted Donaldson.

Shooting: "Three Were Thoroughbreds," "The Swordsman," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Enterprise

Shooting: "The Other Love."

M-G-M

Finished: "Cynthia's Secret."

Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "A Love Story," "The Birds and the Bees," "Undercover Maisie," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Finished: "Fall Guy," "Drifting Through," "The Guilty" (Wrather).

Started: "High Conquest," with Anna Lee, Gilbert Roland, Warren Douglas, Helene Thimig; "Black Gold," with Anthony Quinn, Katherine DeMille, Elyse Knox.

Paramount

Shooting: "Saigon," "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl."

PRC

Finished: "The Red Stallion."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Tarzan and the Huntress" (Lesser).

Started: "Flight," with Steve Brodie, Andrey Long, Freddie Steele.

Shooting: "Seven Keys to Baldpate," "Out of the Past," "Magic Town" (Riskin); "The Long Night" (Hakim-Litvak).

Republic

Started: "Bells of San Angelo," with Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, Andy Devine, Bob Nolan, Sons of the Pioneers.

Shooting: "Gallant Man," "Wyoming," "Nelson Eddy Production."

Screen Guild

Finished: "Bells of San Fernando."

20th Century-Fox

Started: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," with Gene Tierney, Rex Harrison, Edna Best, Natalie Wood.

Shooting: "Moss Rose," "Captain from Castile," "The Big Heart," "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights."

United Artists

Started: "Heaven Only Knows" (Nebenzal), with Robert Cummings, Brian Donlevy, Jorja Curtwright; "Copacabana," with Carmen Miranda, Groucho Marx, Andy Russell, Gloria Jean.

Shooting: "Christmas Eve" (Bogeaus); "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "The Unfaithful," "Dark Passage," "Deep Valley," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Night Unto Night."

MPF Funds

(*Continued from page* 1)

amending their reports, following which a full report on the New Orleans meeting will be sent to key people in the 31 exchange areas by the MPF's national steering committee: Barney Balaban, Tom J. Connors, S. H. Fabian, H. A. Cole, Fred Wehrenberg and Edward G. Zorn. This material then will be presented in the field as an aid in setting up local steering committees.

Although field leaders who were present at New Orleans will be depended on to handle the brunt of the organization work in the exchange areas, it is anticipated that trips also will be made by some of the national committeemen or their representatives.

The foundation is designed to provide for the welfare of industry members in need and possibly to embrace educational and scientific support for persons and projects identified with the industry.

Actors to See Capra Film

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—Some 100 film personalities who have appeared in films produced or directed by Frank Capra, William Wyler and George Stevens, attended Liberty Films' presentation here of its first post-war production, Capra's RKO Radio-released "It's a Wonderful Life."

Bacon Gets McGraw

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—In a trans-Atlantic telephone call producer-director Lloyd Bacon yesterday closed a deal for a term contract on the services of Michael McGraw, former Abbey player, who is resuming his acting career after dropping it to serve on the cabinet of Ireland's President Eamon De Valera. Bacon wants McGraw to play a featured role in his forthcoming "The Glittering Hill."

Lull at Many N. Y. Ist-Runs; 'Clouds' Rolls up $141,000

The dim-out, together with other unfavorable factors, was held responsible for another slump at a number of New York first-run theatres. Although business in the main picked up as marquees were illuminated again Saturday night, income during most of last week's "dark" period was poor in many cases. The annual pre-Christmas shopping competition, of course, continued in evidence.

As is generally the case, some attractions managed to go over big in spite of handicaps of the day. Outstanding among these is "Till The Clouds Roll By," along with the Music Hall's Christmas pageant on the stage. The show drew $86,500 in its first four days and figures to wind up its first week with an excellent $141,000.

"The Razor's Edge," with Rosario and Antonio, among others on the stage at the Roxy, is headed for a $130,000 in a third week, which is terrific business, but is a drop of over $30,000 from the previous week. "Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra at the Paramount, will do about $70,000 in its eighth week, which is fair enough; it will continue. "My Darling Clementine" is good, but not unusually so, at the Rivoli, where the first week is estimated to gross $42,000.

"Best Years of Our Lives," in its third week at the Astor, is holding to the $60,000 mark reached in it second week; this is splendid. Admission scales at the house remain at $1.80 top for weekdays and $2.40 maximum for Saturdays and Sundays. "Undercurrent," with Frankie Carle's orchestra, at the Capitol, fell off considerably in its second week, estimated at $74,000, after a very hefty first week's gross of $98,500.

Business dropped similarly at the Palace, where "Song of the South" is headed for a $36,000 second week after a huge $52,000 in the preceding week. "Never Say Goodbye," with Ray McKinley's orchestra, is faltering at the Strand, where only $33,000 is in view for a third week; "The Verdict" will open on Friday for two weeks and will be followed by "The Time, the Place and the Girl."

The first week of "Magnificent Doll," at the Criterion, is good at $28,000, while at the Winter Garden "The Notorious Gentleman" promises to bring in $20,000, a fairly tidy sum, in a fourth week; both will continue. "Deception," at the Hollywood, is going along in modest fashion with $15,000 expected for the eighth week. "That Brennan Girl" should provide the Gotham with a favorable $14,000 in its first week.

"Wanted for Murder" will open at the Victoria tomorrow, following "King's Row," a re-issue, which winds up its second and final week tonight with a mild $11,000. "The Chase" is fair at the Globe where the fourth week's business will probably amount to $15,000.

"So Dark the Night" is near average at the Rialto, with $7,500 indicated for the first week; it will be replaced on Friday by "The Falcon's Adventure." At the Republic, "Fantasia" is on its way to a fair $6,000 for an 11th week; it will continue until Dec. 19.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BALTIMORE

First-run films are playing second fiddle to Christmas shopping. Grosses are hovering around averages, despite excellent weather and no competition from outside. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 12:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) –CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $15,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) — KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $12,600)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—NEW(1,500) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $10,750)

DECEPTION (WB) — STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $17,500)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) — HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days. With stage show. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $18,000)

THE GREAT MR. HANDEL (English Films)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $3,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days, 8th week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—VALENCIA (1,466) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,500)

ATLANTA

Business and the weather both have been good. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 10:

DECEPTION (WB)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-44c-66c) 4th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $8,200)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c) 2nd week, moveover from Fox. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $5,600)

THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND (UA) and INSIDE JOB (U)—CAPITAL (2,446) (44c-50c). Gross: $4,800. (Average: $4,200)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) —LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) 2nd week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $15,000)

TORONTO

With stores jammed for Christmas shopping, theatres are taking second place in popularity, matinee attendance being particularly affected. In spite of this competition, however, British pictures were held for a second week at three theatres. Hockey continues to be real opposition, but professional basketball is in precarious shape. The weather has been unsettled, with occasional wintry blasts. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 12-13:

THEY WERE SISTERS (British) — EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,300. (Average: $4,700)

THE RENEGADES (Col.) — IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,300)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c 60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $14,100. (Average: $14,600)

CARAVAN (British) — UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,900. (Average: $11,400)

THEY WERE SISTERS (British) — VICTORIA (1,240) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,300. (Average: $6,800)

MINNEAPOLIS

Theatre business is holding close to average despite a heavy turn toward Christmas shopping. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 12:

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) —CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $7,500)

BEDLAM (RKO Radio)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $18,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover from RKO Orpheum. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $13,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $2,500)

Workman Returns to Minneapolis Post

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 9.—W. H. (Bob) Workman, veteran manager of the local M-G-M branch, on leave of absence for his health since September, is expected to return to his post from a Florida vacation in two weeks. Eph Rosen, city salesman, has been pinch-hitting for Workman.

Meantime, promotion of John Kelly from Northern Minnesota salesman to head sales of reprints in Jack Flynn's Midwest division, including the Minneapolis, Milwaukee, Omaha and Des Moines branches has resulted in a shift in the sales staff, with Al Putz, former office manager taking over Kelly's former territory. Also in the realignment, George Turner comes in from Wisconsin to handle city sales temporarily.

Akron Christmas Party

AKRON, Dec. 9.—Akron Theatre Managers Association will hold a Christmas party Dec. 26 at the Mayflower Hotel to entertain all Akron theatre employes, Cleveland branch managers and salesmen.

Jack Bernstein in RKO Toronto Post

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice president in charge of domestic distribution, has appointed Jack Bernstein to the post of acting manager at Toronto.

Bernstein has been with the company since 1939 in various capacities and was promoted to salesman less than a year ago.

RKO Radio Philadelphia branch manager Charles Zagrans has promoted veteran salsman Ely Epstein to the post of sales manager. John McFadden has been brought to the city staff from the Allentown, Marvin Wolfish was moved from Scranton to Allentown, and William Adler has been assigned to the Scranton territory.

Warner Shorts by Reagan

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 9.—Ronald Reagan, Warner star now before the cameras in "Night Unto Night," will write and direct a series of short subjects to be produced by Gordon Hollingshead for Warner release.

Don't Miss

AMPA'S

CHRISTMAS PARTY

INTERNATIONAL LUNCHEON

Honoring

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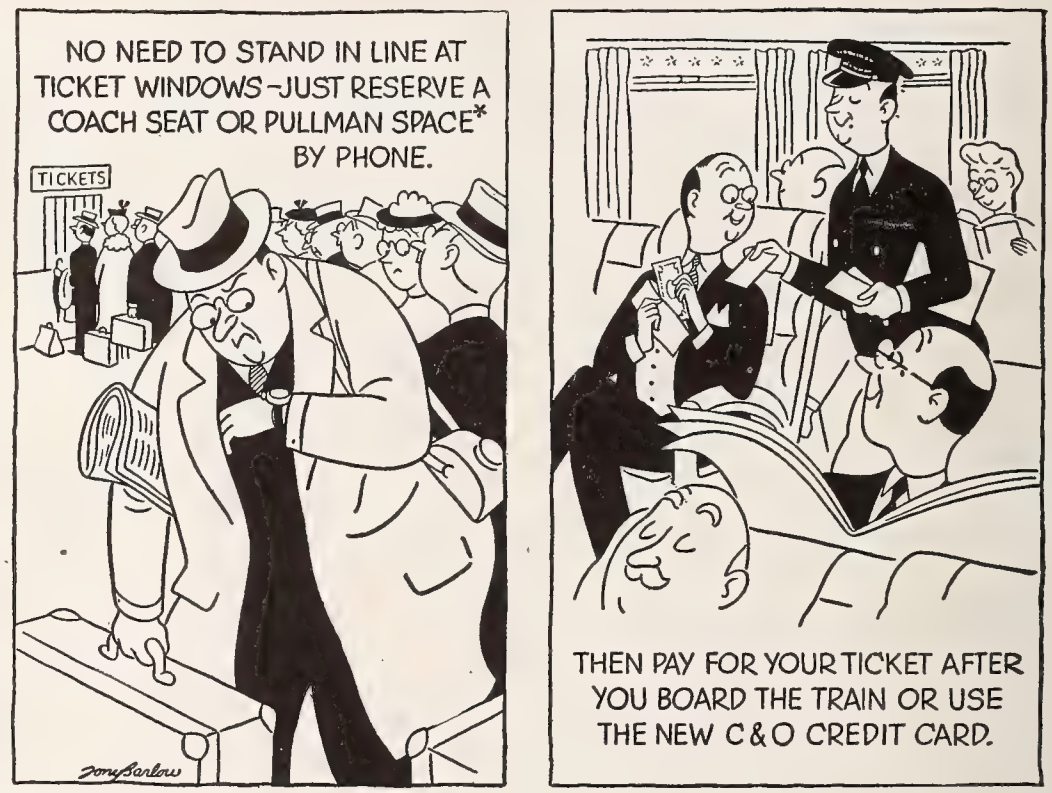
MEMBERS.....$2.00 (Including Tip)

NON-MEMBERS.....$2.50 (Including Tip)

Coming Soon on the Chesapeake & Ohio

"PAY AS YOU GO" TRAIN TRAVEL!

This new optional service, now being worked out by the C & O, should be available in January.



WHY should the business of arranging a train trip be such a nuisance? Why should the traveler be put to a lot of trouble? Why shouldn't the railroad take the trouble?

Why should you have to stand in a ticket line, or send someone, often days in advance of your journey, just to get your tickets?

Why shouldn't you be able to reserve space by telephone, go right to your place on the train, then simply pay for your ticket en route?

The Chesapeake & Ohio asked itself these questions—and came up with the answer: "Pay as you go—on the C & O." Under this new plan you'll be able to phone in advance for either a coach seat or Pullman space.* You'll go straight to the train, take your reserved space, and pay for your ticket there or you can use the new C & O credit card which is now being planned.

Detailed arrangements for this new service are at present being worked out. The C & O is seeking the help of other organizations whose co-operation is needed. It is hoped and believed that you can "Pay as you go—on the C & O" in January.

Watch for the announcement. Plan to use this service in the territory served by the Chesapeake & Ohio. It will make the planning of your trips much quicker and simpler, and cost nothing extra. It will be the latest—but not the last—of many services rendered by the Chesapeake & Ohio to make rail travel more sensible and more enjoyable.

* * *

* A credit card will be necessary to hold Pullman space reserved by phone unless, of course, you want to buy your ticket in advance, for Pullman space carries a penalty if not used or properly canceled.

PAY AS YOU GO - ON THE C&O

The Chesapeake & Ohio Railway, Terminal Tower, Cleveland 1, Ohio

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 114 NEW YORK, U.S.A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 1946 TEN CENTS

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Names . . . *in Today's News*

PAUL WHITE, former Paramount publicist, has been appointed to head the continental European and North African interests of Vanguard Films, it was announced yesterday by Neil Agnew, vice-president in charge of distribution. White, who will leave New York for Paris on Dec. 14 to set up headquarters, will supervise sales, distribution, advertising, publicity, exploitation and studio interests for Vanguard from that point. Mrs. White will accompany his abroad.



Paul White

During the war, White served on the staff of Lt. Gen. Holland M. Smith, commanding general of the Fleet Marine Force Pacific, in charge of the U. S. Marine combat photography, and took an important part of the production of "To the Shores of Iwo Jima" and many other Pacific war-in-action films. Additionally, he is credited with having accomplished the first successful wire recording ever made under battle fire for radio.

SMPE of Atlantic Coast Elects James Frank, Jr.

James Frank, Jr., New York manager for National Theatre Supply, has been elected chairman of the Atlantic Coast Section of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers for 1947, succeeding Frank E. Cahill, Jr., director of sound for Warner Theatres.

Other new officers are: H. E. White of Eastman Kodak, secretary-treasurer, and F. J. Grignon of 20th Century-Fox, Theodore Lawrence of M-G-M International, and W. H. Rivers of Eastman Kodak, managers.

All new officers assume their posts Jan. 1.

Ray Moon Heads New York Film Board of Trade

Ray Moon, of 20th Century-Fox, was elected president of the New York Film Board of Trade at a meeting here yesterday. Others elected were Ralph Pielow, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, vice-president; Jack Ellis, United Artists, second vice-president; David A. Levy, Universal, treasurer; Robert Fannon, Republic, secretary, and William Murphy, Republic, sergeant-at-arms. The new officers will be installed in January at a ceremony at the home of Louis Nizer.

Commons Debate on Johnston's Visit; Film Imports Hit

LONDON, Dec. 10.—Questions concerning the purpose of the recent visit to London of Eric Johnston, Motion Picture Association president, were raised in the House of Commons today following new remarks on the importation of American films in relation to food and other needed imports.

Discussions on both subjects ended inconclusively.

Replying on behalf of Sir Stafford Cripps, president of the Board of Trade, Jack Belcher told a Commons questioner that discussions of increased exhibition of British films in America took place frequently during Johnston's visit here with both mem-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Columbia's Quarter Net Up $421,000

Columbia's net profit for the 13-week period ended Sept. 28 amounted to $965,000, Harry Cohn, president, announced yesterday. This figure is $421,000 higher than the net profit reported for the same period in 1945. Operating profit for the period this year was $1,540,000, compared to $924,000 for the same period in 1945; federal taxes for this year's period

(*Continued on page 4*)

Allied Board Meets In D. C. on Jan. 31

Washington, Dec. 10.—Members of the board of directors of Allied States Association have been called to attend a meeting at the Statler Hotel here on Jan. 31, according to an announcement sent out yesterday from Allied's national headquarters in this city.

Those planning to attend are being urged to make their reservations well in advance.

Films Now in Top Public Service Role

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Increasing prestige of the motion picture has placed the industry on the same public service level with the press and radio, Abram F. Myers, chairman of the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Oklahoma Rejects ATA Membership

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 10.—Although approving the American Theatres Association by resolution and commending it to its membership, the Theatre Owners of Oklahoma today

(*Continued on page 7*)

Films, Science Link Cited By Wallis at Nobel Dinner

The place of the motion picture in the world today—as an instrument of science, a medium for portraying the lives of great scientists and a force aiding in the establishment of lasting peace—was outlined last night by producer Hal B. Wallis, this year's film industry spokesman at the Nobel anniversary dinner at the Hotel Astor here.



Hal B. Wallis

"In many fields of both pure and applied science," Wallis said, "the motion picture is now relied on as a precision instrument. Its most dramatic use, I suppose, was its recent recording of the explosions of the atomic bomb."

With regard to biographical pictures, Wallis cited "The Story of Louis Pasteur," "The Story of Alexander Graham Bell," "Yellow Jack," "Dr. Ehrlich's Magic Bullet" and "Madame Curie" as some which have helped popularize science for the masses. He said he himself is considering building a film around the life of Alfred Nobel, the 50th anniversary of whose death was marked at the dinner.

Turning to the place of the motion picture in the drive for a peaceful world, Wallis said: "The one-ness wrought by technology is not enough. What the world needs, and needs in a hurry, is the far more important un-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Selznick Seen Launching own Sales Company

Aftermath to UA Board Authorizing Legal Action

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—An announcement that David O. Selznick is prepared to launch his own selling company was expected here tonight following receipt of word from New York that the United Artists board of directors had approved the taking of legal action by the company against Selznick for alleged breach of contract with the distributing company.

Although no official statement had been issued by Selznick up to a late hour tonight there were indications that one was being considered or actually was in preparation, perhaps for announcement tomorrow.

That the statement might be in the form of an announcement that Selznick was prepared to form his own selling organization was given credence by general knowledge that he

(*Continued on page 4*)

Reels to Assist in Gov't Film Program

As requested by the industry's so-called "study" group, which was designated in Washington Nov. 19 for the purpose of establishing a means of facilitating the handling of government films, the five newsreel companies have agreed to cooperate on the program and have named M. J. Clofine, of News of the Day, to represent them on the proposed industry coordinating committee.

However, the reels have yet to re-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Action Delayed on NYC License Bill

New York City License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding has declined to comment on the bill designed to prevent the city license department from acting against exhibitors unless a conviction has first been obtained for showing films of questionable moral nature, which was introduced in the city council yesterday by Councilman

(*Continued on page 4*)

City Files Answer In Hughes Action

Asserting that it is the duty and responsibility of the city license commissioner and police commissioner to guard against indecency and obscenity in the exhibition of motion pictures, the New York City Corporation Counsel yesterday filed its answer in the proceedings instituted in New York Supreme Court by the Hughes Tool Co., owner of "The Outlaw," for a declaratory judgment against the city officials to restrain them from threatening to revoke the licenses of exhibitors of the picture.

The city legal office emphasized that the state education law, which established a motion picture division, does not in any way relieve the city officers of their duty in assuring that there will be no offenses against public morality or decency, and that since Benjamin Fielding, license commissioner, believed that "The Outlaw" is indecent and would constitute such an offense, he was obligated to advise Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer, operators of the Gotham, Republic and Rialto, that he would act against them if the film were exhibited last October as scheduled.

Referring to a case before the Supreme Court, the suit against Amity Amusement Co. by United Artists seeking to compel the theatres to fulfill their contract by showing the motion picture, the corporation counsel said he believed the court's determination in that proceeding would have a bearing on the most recent suit. The brief also pointed out that Fielding's attempt to have the state motion picture division to revoke its seal from "The Outlaw," if successful, would settle the question of the immediate suit in New York.

Charges of fraudulent advertising were also raised in the city's brief.

Charles Jones Named 'Dimes' Publicist

Charles Reed Jones, former director of advertising-publicity with Republic, was named yesterday national advertising-publicity manager of the Motion Picture Division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. He will make his headquarters at the Hotel Astor, where Emil C. Jensen, director of the division, has set up offices.

Jones will publicize the motion picture industry's participation in the 1947 "March of Dimes" campaign.

MGM Holiday Bonus

Employes of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in the home office and exchange, of the home office of Loew's Theatres and Station WHN, who earn up to $60 a week, will receive a holiday bonus equalling two weeks' salary but not exceeding $50, it was announced yesterday by Nicholas M. Schenck, president. Employes who have been with the company less than one year but more than six months will receive one week's salary, but no more than $25.

Personal Mention

GEORGE J. SCHAEFER left by plane for the Coast yesterday for a two weeks stay.

•

SPYROS SKOURAS, 20th Century-Fox president, has returned to New York from Mexico City.

•

A. J. O'KEEFE, Universal assistant general sales manager, has left New York for a trip to Chicago, Indianapolis, Memphis and Washington.

•

ALBERT GALGANO of Producers Releasing accounting department and MRS. GALGANO are parents of a son, born yesterday.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, is on a business trip to New Orleans and Memphis.

•

HARRY MCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation chief, will leave here today for Springfield, Mass.

•

G. L. CARRINGTON, Altec president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, Loew's assistant treasurer, will celebrate another birthday today.

•

WILLIAM G. BRENNER of the M-G-M home office will leave here today for Toronto.

•

JACOB WILK, Warners' Eastern production manager, is in Washington.

•

JOE FELDER of Favorite Films, has returned here from the Coast.

RICHARD F. WALSH, ITASE president, will be in Indianapolis today.

•

J. O. BIDDLE of the Fay Theatre at Jasper, Fla., and MR. and MRS. FRED G. WEIS of the Bibbs Theatre at Macon, Ga., and the Roxy and Savannah theatres at Savannah, were recent visitors in Atlanta.

•

CHARLES FELDMAN, Universal Western sales manager, is in Los Angeles from New York and will proceed to San Francisco, Portland and Denver on a trip through his territory.

•

RURY BERGER, M-G-M Southern sales manager, and BURTUS BISHOP, JR., district manager with headquarters in Dallas, are in Oklahoma City.

•

HUGH OWEN, Eastern and Southern division manager for Paramount, has been visiting Atlanta.

•

LYNN DUNN, branch manager for Kay Exchanges in Memphis, visited Atlanta recently.

•

E. D. MARTIN and J. H. THOMPSON of the Martin and Thompson circuit, visited Atlanta recently.

•

F. A. BATEMAN, Screen Guild Productions general sales manager, is in Oklahoma City from the Coast.

•

M. C. MOORE of Riverside Theatres, Jacksonville, Fla., was a recent Atlanta Film Row visitor.

•

TED HAMMER and FRANK SOULE, special PRC home office representatives, are Atlanta visitors.

Joseph Weinstock, Retired Exhibitor

Funeral services for Joseph Weinstock, 63, retired theatre builder and motion picture exhibitor, were held here Monday at the Riverside Memorial Chapel, with interment at Mt. Lebanon Cemetery. Weinstock, a native of Austria who came to the U. S. when he was eight years old, died Saturday at Montefiore Hospital after an illness of several months. Surviving are his widow, three sons and four daughters.

Active in the industry since 1911 when he purchased and operated the City Hall theatre in New York, he also built several theatres in the Bronx, later selling them to Marcus Loew. He also was associated with Billy Minsky.

Seeks Bergman for British Production

Sidney Bernstein, British producer, is in New York from London to discuss with Ingrid Bergman a starring role in the production, "Under Capricorn," which is scheduled to be started next May 1.

From here, Bernstein will go to Hollywood to discuss production plans on the picture with Alfred Hitchcock, who will direct it.

Goldmark Urges FCC To Adopt CBS Color

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—As hearings on color television continued at the Federal Communications Commission today, Dr. Peter C. Goldmark, director of research of CBS, testified. He developed the CBS color video system.

Urging the FCC to adopt the sequential color television standards proposed by CBS, Dr. Goldmark said the color wheel method gives "the most effective utilization of the frequency space in the ultra-high frequency television band."

Final witness for CBS, Dr. Goldmark disclosed that he has built a dual band combination receiver which would permit the reception of both color and black and white.

'Blue Skies' Sets Record in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 10.—Grossing $30,025 in its first full week at the Ambassador Theatre here, Paramount's "Blue Skies" set a new house record. Previous record was held by "Going My Way" with $29,408. Last Saturday and Sunday, first two days of the second week for "Blue Skies," the gross was $10,790. Weekly average for the Ambassador is $18,000.

Newsreel Parade

ATLANTA'S hotel holocaust is spotlighted in all current newsreels. RKO Pathe claims to have the most complete coverage of the catastrophe, and reports that its cameramen, Jesse Edwards and Wilmer Kimberly, both Atlanta residents, were the first newsreel representatives to reach the scene. A wide variety of additional subjects complete the reels. Full contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 30—Atlanta hotel fire worst in U. S. history. Soft coal strike called off by Lewis. Truman awards seven medals to hero soldier. Indian leaders arrive in London. Greek prime minister arrives in New York. Raid on black market in Italy. U. S. Navy visits Lebanon. Underwater Santa Claus. Sports: beauty shop for dogs, wrestling in Canada.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 228—Atlanta fire. Hero extraordinary. Greek envoy to U. S. Food raids in Italy. Lewis calls off coal strike. Submarine Santa Claus. Wrestling in Montreal.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 31—Atlanta disaster. New crisis—India parley fails. Palestine—return from Cypress. Lewis backs down. Giants win Eastern "pro" title.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 33—UNRRA aids Formosa rice crop. Lewis calls off coal strike. Atlanta fire. Germany's bombed Eder Dam reopens. Giants whip Redskins.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 562—Atlanta hotel disaster. Sgt. Chilson receives medals in Washington. Churchill's birthday. Submarine Santa Claus. Sports: football—Giants vs. Redskins, wrestling in Canada.

Damon Runyon Dies; Famed as Columnist

Damon Runyon, noted nationally as a newspaper columnist and writer of Broadway life, died in Memorial Hospital last night at the age of 62 after a long illness. For more than a year a throat ailment had interfered with his speech. His son, Damon, Jr., and Paul Small, friend and agent, were at his side at the time of death.

Runyon went to Hollywood in 1941 and signed with RKO as a writer producer, later going with 20th-Fox. His first production was "The Big Street." Several of his stories were filmed, notably "Little Miss Marker" and his "Madam La Gimp," which was screened under the title "Lady for a Day."

Lust Offers All Aid To Welfare Program

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Exhibitor Sidney Lust today wrote E. V. Richards, who was a host to industry people during the recent New Orleans meeting where the Motion Picture Foundation was born, pledging his complete support to the welfare program. Lust is a member of the scope committee, which will plan the overall activities of the organization.

Siegel Leaves MGM

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—M. J. Siegel, a member of the executive staff of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer for the past three years, last night severed his connection with the studio to organize his independent producing company, it has been announced by M-G-M.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

A TAIL OF TWO CITIES!



EXTRA!

Biggest business
of *any* M-G-M picture
in Music Hall history!

Selznick

(*Continued from page* 1)

has had such a step in mind for a long time and the indicated break yesterday with United Artists is regarded as ample reason for bringing his long pending plans into being.

It is known that Selznick has had deals under discussion with three distribution companies recently regarding the use of physical distribution facilities in the event that Selznick set up his own sales organization. Neil F. Agnew, major distribution executive for many years and a vice-president of the Selznick organization, would head up the sales comapny. Considerable executive manpower already is on the Selznick-Agnew sales roster and more could be added rapidly.

Start of Controversy

Selznick's controversy with UA which resulted in the presently indicated split with that company evolved from an action filed against him by Charles Chaplin, co-owner in UA, over Selznick's "Keys of the Kingdom" and "Jane Eyre" deals with 20th Century-Fox. The suit, never decided, charged that production assets to which UA laid claim were diverted by Selznick, to the loss of UA.

More recently, Chaplin and Mary Pickford alleged Selznick breached his UA contract in making deals with RKO Radio involving "The Spiral Staircase," "Till the End of Time" and Selznick talent. It is on this score that the UA board yesterday, at the behest of Miss Pickford and Chaplin, authorized legal action against Selznick. Recent intimations here were that Selznick would reply to action of that kind with legal moves of his own against UA. These still may be forthcoming.

Would Affect Distribution

The Selznick-UA break, if it materializes fully, would result not only in distribution of Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" going elsewhere but also in the withdrawal from UA of earlier Selznick product handled by that company, it is said. Also involved in the rupture between the company and the producer was the former's insistence that Selznick's distribution deal, which starts at 25 per cent and scales down to 10, according to picture grosses, had to be revised. Selznick had been insistent on maintaining the terms of the contract as written.

The United Artists board, following its meeting here yesterday, confined its statement on the result of its discussion of the controversy with David O. Selznick to the following:

"The board passed a resolution appointing a committee to retain special counsel in New York for the purpose of taking such action as counsel may advise in connection with the company's affairs with Vanguard Pictures, Inc., and David O. Selznick."

Officers and directors of UA, approached individually, declined to amplify or comment upon the statement as issued.

Weisman on UA Board

Herman Weisman, member of the law firm of Weisman and Grant, has been appointed a director of United Artists in behalf of Mary Pickford, co-owner, replacing Isaac Pennypacker, whose resignation had been expected. The latter's Philadelphia commitments prompted his resignation, it was said.



Commons Debate

(*Continued from page* 1)

bers of the government and leaders of the British industry. He added that the discussions were "useful" and "informal" but that no commitments were being entered into by either side as a result of them.

Questions also were raised in Commons as to whether American film imports would be cut in the event it was necessary to reduce general imports from America planned for 1947 as a result of the agreement to send imports to the American and British-occupied zones in Germany.

Hugh Dalton, Chancellor of the Exchequer, replied that this was a hypothetical position which possibly might never arise. "We shall take into account all relevant considerations if the question arises," he said.

Supplementary questions which Dalton declined to answer were of this kind: "Will you remember the British housewife would rather have her weekly can of pork from Chicago than a weekly can of Hollywood dope?" and "Will you remember we cannot eat films?"

The subject was pressed on the chancellor by both governmental and opposition sides, the matter concluding with Quentin Hogg, Conservative, asking caustically: "Under the present administration, aren't films the opiate of the people?"

The Parliamentary secretary was questioned regarding the recommendations of an unofficial subcommittee that the government acquire 500 theatres and provide them with production and distribution of government documentary films, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 5. Questioners were informed that Cripps has given preliminary consideration to the proposals and is studying them more carefully now in connection with the framing of new legislation to replace the present Films Quota Act.

A questioner asked when Eric Johnston had seen the recommendations and was told: "Mr. Johnston is reported to have said that he had seen the report. I do not know when that may have been."

Gov't Film Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

ceive any specific knowledge from any source on how they can help, Walton Ament, head of Pathe News, stated here yesterday, adding that any subject which the government seeks to have covered in all probability would be covered by the reels as a matter of course.

Meanwhile, John Steelman, director of the Office of War Mobilization and Reconversion, has expressed his thanks in letters to all those who participated in the Washington meeting, which he had called.

Nobel Dinner

(*Continued from page* 1)

ity of the mind, and the values and ideals of humanity. To this unity it is my belief that the motion picture can make an important contribution. We have succeeded in bringing to many millions some conception of the selfless struggle of our great men and women of science. But in the larger area of pictures there is even a more exciting prospect. One can list with pride and dignity such pictures as "Zola," "Gone With the Wind," "Wilson," "Going My Way" and "Watch on the Rhine." These are typical of pictures that jump national boundaries and attitudes with the universality of true art."

In an appeal for closer cooperation between scientists and film people, Wallis declared: "We shall welcome the scientist as he emerges more and more from what may have been a too narrow definition of his responsibilities, and we for our part shall be eager to provide the talents and skills we have developed over the years, in a joint contribution to human welfare and world peace."

Other speakers at the dinner included Norwegian Ambassador Wilheim Morgenstierne; Lennart Nylander, Swedish consul in New York; Dr. Otto Meyerhof; Edward R. Murrow, vice-president of the Columbia Broadcasting System; Michael Straight, Norman Corwin, Congressman Sol Bloom, Mildred Thompson, Representative Helen Gahagan Douglas, Benjamin Cohen, Charles Bolte and Dr. G. S. Delatour. Pearl Buck was dinner chairman.

Columbia's Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

amounted to $575,000, as against $380,000 for the 13 weeks last year.

Earnings per share of common stock amounted to $1.42 for this year's period, compared to 79 cents last year. The comparative earnings per share of common stock, after preferred stock dividends, have been calculated on the increased amount of common stock which was outstanding on Sept. 28, 1946. The number of shares outstanding on that date, Cohn discloses, was 622,782, and the number of shares which were outstanding on Sept. 29, 1945, was 392,987.

Three Golden Films For United Artists

United Artists' board of directors at a meeting here yesterday approved a contract with Edward A. Golden and his son Robert S. Golden for the distribution of three pictures at the rate of one a year, beginning in 1947.

The first will be "Eddie and the Archangel Mike," based on a *Saturday Evening Post* story; the second, an original titled "Barnstorming," based upon the life of Frank Bacon, to be directed by Lloyd Bacon, and the third is as yet unset.

Saroyan Play to Cagney

Screen rights to William Saroyan's double prize-winning stage play, "The Time of Your Life," have been acquired by William Cagney.

NYC License Bill

(*Continued from page* 1)

Eugene P. Connolly. The bill, which would amend the city administrative code, has been referred to the Council's Committee on Welfare, according to Council Clerk White who reports additionally that the committee is not expected to meet and vote on proposed legislation until after the coming holidays.

Said to have arisen out of the still-unsettled court dispute over the exhibition in New York of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw," the proposed amendment would bar suspension, cancellation or revocation of a theatre license unless the license "seeks to perform, or continues, or permits the continuance of the performance" after conviction for endangering public morals, and would prevent the rejection of an application for a license, or transfer or renewal of one, unless performances were given after the conviction.

Films Now in Top

(*Continued from page* 1)

board of Allied States, said here today.

Pointing to the special considerations given the motion picture by government officials during the coal strike Myers said that pictures are now classed "with the other two major media of communications."

Myers said it is significant to note that the government now gives the industry the same priority that has always been given the press.

The Civilian Production Administration went "all out" to keep theatres in operation during the coal crisis. The Interstate Commerce Commission made specific exemption of films in its embargo order.

Executives, Stars at AMPA Lunch Friday

Industry leaders and stars will be present at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers Christmas luncheon in the Town Hall Club here on Friday, honoring Ernest W. Fredman, British trade paper publisher, who will speak on "The International Viewpoint in Publicity." Fredman will return to England via boat the following day.

Among the executive heads who have signified their intention of sitting on the dais are: Spyros Skouras, Murray Silverstone, Ned E. Depinet, Phil Reisman, and Joseph Friedman. Hollywood will be represented by Maureen O'Hara, Gracie Fields and Annabella.

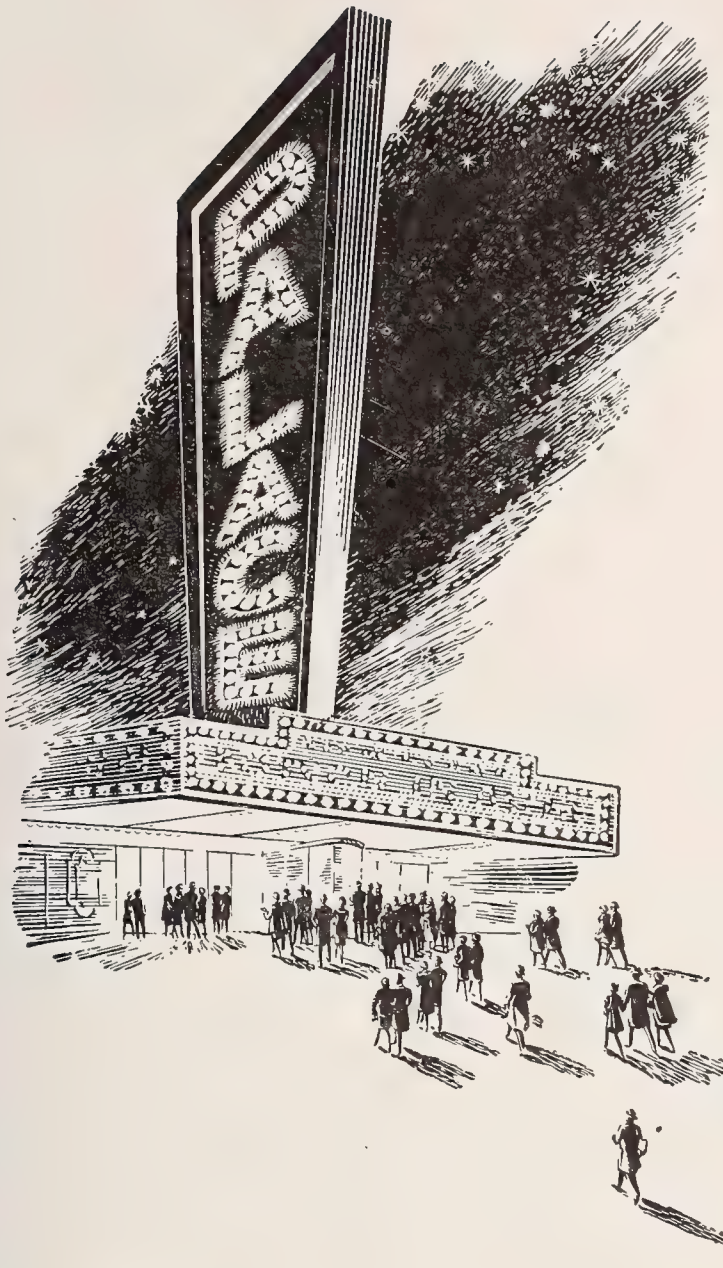
Rutgers Neilson, AMPA president, will preside.

Award to 'Green Years'

Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "The Green Years" has been selected as the year's "outstanding" motion picture by *The Sign,* national Catholic monthly, it was announced yesterday by Jerry Cotter, motion picture editor of the magazine. The picture is the fifth to receive the citation.

New Post for Rogers

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—Randy Rogers, who has long been an assistant to Jesse Lasky, has been elected secretary of Jesse Lasky Productions.



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Managers of small theatres find that Simplified High Intensity Projection actually attracts more customers to their shows. The reason?

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This advertisement appears in **Better Theatres, December 14, January 11; Film Daily, December 6, January 10; Motion Picture Daily, December 11, January 8; International Projectionist, January, February; Modern Theatre, January 4, February 1; Physical Theatre, January 15; Showmen's Trade Review, January 4, February 1; also adapted for Film Daily 1947 Yearbook.**

Seek Aid of Films In D. of J. Tour

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Top industry officials met with Attorney General Tom C. Clark here today for an hour-long conference to work out a plan for cooperation in a Justice Department program to have a train visit cities throughout the United States, which will carry the original Declaration of Independence and the Bill of Rights. The train will stay on the road for one year.

Clark told the group, which included Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, and Donald M. Nelson, president of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers that he is sending the train around the country in order to give people an opportunity to view the nation's "two most important documents of liberty."

The Attorney general asked the industry for cooperation by issuing films to follow the train for exhibition at local theatres. All of the industry spokesmen agreed to cooperate. Among those attending the conference were Barney Balaban, Nicholas M. Schenck, Spyros P. Skouras and Abram F. Myers, chairman of the board of directors of Allied States, and others. The Attorney General also invited a few representatives of the press and radio to attend the meeting. He described it as "most successful."

Closes Theatre to Protest 10% Levy

ARAB, Ala., Dec. 10.—Enforcing his opposition to an "unfair" 10 per cent admission tax adopted by the town council, R. D. Word, owner and operator of the Ritz theatre, has closed the doors of his motion picture house until "the fair-minded people of the city can convince the council that the tax is unjust." It is understood that the revenue from the new amendments tax is earmarked for the purchase of a fire truck.

In voicing his objections to the levy, Word declared that more than 50 per cent of the admissions come from persons living outside the city limits of this town and that they would, therefore, be paying for a service which they do not receive. He added that he would be prepared to contribute a fixed sum, equal to any other local donation, for the truck.

St. Cabrini Filming To Start Monday

Based on the life and miracles of St. Frances Cabrini, the feature-length motion picture, "Citizen Saint," to be directed by Harold Young, will go before the cameras next Monday at the RKO studio in Manhattan, it was announced yesterday by Clyde Elliott, producer of the film. Harold Orlob, writer-composer, who prepared the script, also has written a "prayer in song" for the film.

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Review

"The Falcon's Adventure"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 10

THE last of the "Falcon" series, in which Tom Conway and Edward S. Brophy have leading roles, is swiftly-paced melodrama, studded with action. It is regrettable that the story's flow is too frequently interrupted by "corny" wisecracks and strained attempts at humor. It's among the best of the series.

Conway, with his penchant for pretty girls, makes the acquaintance of a Brazilian lass whose uncle has perfected a formula for the manufacture of industrial diamonds. Other interests are out to get the formula away from him, and sinister characters turn up from time to time in Audrey Wisberg's screenplay, leaving death and destruction in their wake. The uncle is murdered; his friend and associate also meet with an untimely end, and things look dark for the Brazilian girl for some suspenseful moments. Kidnapped and held prisoner aboard a yacht, she is rescued at the last minute by Conway and his faithful friend, who put some 20 able-bodied seamen out of action before the police arrive and put an end to the fray.

Herman Schlom produced under the executive supervision of Sid Rogell. William Berke's direction is up to his usual standard.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

Call SAG Meeting To Review Strike

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 10.—The strike situation remained static here today except for the issuance of statements by interested locals.

Acting on a petition from members, the Screen Actors Guild's board of directors has approved the calling of a special membership meeting to review the guild's policy with respect to the current studio strike.

Simultaneously, the board restated its previous view that this is a jurisdictional strike, that no jurisdictional dispute should be allowed to close the studios and deprive 30,000 workers of a livelihood and that actors should respect their contracts with the producers and report for work.

Late today business agent John Martin of IATSE Laboratory Local 683, observing picket lines, said: "Leaders of the SAG are as neutral in this dispute as Franco was toward Hitler. They are on the side of the producers and their 'stooges'.

"I invite all leaders of the SAG to appear at our next membership meeting to defend their so-called neutral position."

Routine picketing continued.

Film Truck Drivers Extend Picketing

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 10.—Striking drivers of Exhibitors Film Delivery Service yesterday picketed the Central Shipping Co., subsidiary of an organization that inspects and ships film for Monogram, Screen Guild, Film Classics and PRC, thereby interfering with delivery of film to that office, as well as inspection and shipping routine.

Meanwhile, local exhibitors are calling for prints at exchanges generally, and some out-of-town exhibitors are also picking up prints for two and three programs in advance.

Gillespie Transferred

James Gillespie, 20th Century-Fox exploiteer, has been transferred from Atlanta to Dallas, where he will cover the Southwest territory, including the area serviced by Dallas, Oklahoma City and Memphis exchanges. He replaces Richard Owen, who resigned.

N.Y. Board Orders Poll of Managers

Theatre managers who have been on strike since Nov. 1 against six houses operated by Combined Bronx Amusements, Inc., have won the first round in their campaign for recognition, with the New York State Labor Relations Board directing the company to conduct an election among the managers and assistant managers. The month-old strike, which was enforced by picketing of the theatres, is reported to be the first of its kind in the country.

Contentions advanced by the company, which maintained that the managers are executives and not employes, were rejected by the state board in its decision. Hailing the ruling as a "smashing victory for our union," George Dunn, president of the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild, pointed out that the board further held that only strikers would be able to vote in the election and that replacements would be excluded from the poll.

The six theatres involved are: Craft, Beach, Park, Melba and Allerton, all of the Bronx, and the Alpine, of New York City.

Highest Court Backs FCC License Refusal

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Asserting that the Federal Communications Commission must be satisfied that public interest will be served by a radio license renewal, the Supreme Court yesterday upheld the FCC's rejection of Albany's WOKO for renewal of license on the grounds that the stock ownership of Sam Pickard, former vice-president of the Columbia Broadcasting Co. was concealed for 12 years. Justice Robert H. Jackson wrote the opinion, which had the concurrence of his seven associates, and Justice Hugo L. Black did not participate.

Sponsors Video Show

The Gulf Oil Co. has signed to sponsor Jon Gnagy's program over NBC's television station WNBT, Thursdays at 9 P.M., EST, it is announced here by Reynold R. Kraft, sales manager for the NBC television department.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 10

CONSTANCE BENNETT, who, in many commercial ventures has proven herself to be a very smart woman indeed, will star in "Smart Woman," first of three films she has contracted to make for Allied Artists. They will be known as Constance Bennett Productions, and the initial one is to be produced by Hal E. Chester. The story, whose protagonist is a woman lawyer, is an original by Edwin V. Westrate and Leon Gutterman.

•

Joan Fontaine, busy and beautiful vice-president of Rampart Productions, is set to star in "Ivy," based on a novel by Marie Belloc-Lowndes. Sam Wood will produce for U-I, and William Cameron Menzies will direct. Miss Fontaine replaces Olivia de Havilland, who was previously announced for the stellar spot. . . . Donald Woods has abandoned his radio career to concentrate on film work. He recently completed a starring role in Screen Guild's "Bells of San Fernando."

•

Michael Curtiz Productions has arranged to borrow Jerry Wald from Warners to produce "Serenade," film version of James M. Cain's best-seller of some years back. The picture, second on Curtiz' schedule under his new independent producing arrangement, will go before cameras shortly after the first of the year.

•

Arrivals-of-the-week: Producer Adrian Scott and director Edward Dmytryk, back in Hollywood after a summer spent in England filming "So Well Remembered" for RKO Radio. The picture, made under an arrangement with J. Arthur Rank, features top British stars, including John Mills and Patricia Roc.

•

Robert Cummings, who has played many an unusual role in his time, is set for a new one that's out of this world. Producer Seymour Nebenzal has signed Cummings to portray an angel in "Heaven Only Knows." . . . Samuel Engel, who has just had his 20th Century-Fox contract extended, will produce "The Valiant Seven," a factual story of the Oregon Trail, for that studio. . . . Monogram has engaged Anna Lee for the leading feminine role in "High Conquest," which Irving Allen is producing and directing.

•

Ruth Warrick, according to Enterprise Productions, is the first film actress in history to adorn the cover of Butterick's Pattern Book. The illustration will feature an ensemble worn by Miss Warrick in "Arch of Triumph." . . . American Eagle Films has acquired screen rights to two more Broadway plays: "The Middle Watch" and "Honors Are Even." . . . William Elliott's next starring vehicle for Republic will be "Pike's Peak," original by Gerald Geraghty. Part of the picture will be filmed on location at Central City, famed Nevada ghost town. Joe Kane is slated to produce and direct.

Oklahoma T. O.

(*Continued from page* 1)

voted against joining ATA as a unit.

Arrangements will be made by the Oklahoma organization to obtain memberships for individuals in this territory who wish to join ATA and to transmit contributions from the area to ATA.

Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, spoke preceding the vote.

The Oklahoma theatremen reelected Morris Loewenstein president at the closing session. Other officers also were renamed.

The newly elected board of directors named Harry Lowenstein as the representative of the Oklahoma organization on the board of directors of the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of America. Morris Loewenstein, also a member of the local organization, is an ex-officio member of the MPTOA board by virtue of being secretary of the national organization.

Herman M. Levy, general counsel of MPTOA, in an address to the convention stated that in his opinion the New York court will have to rewrite its opinion before entering a final decree, due to the fact that the court has stated that two alternatives for relief were divorcement or auction selling and since the court refused divorcement and intimated that it might discard auction selling a new decision and new relief will have to be rendered.

He added that since the basic philosophy of the former decision was free and open competition, exhibitors must expect that that will be included in any new decision and in the final decree. Levy said that the decision was and is an industry problem and not only one of exhibition. He consequently called upon all exhibitors to look upon it and upon all other major issues with a long view perspective and not an individual one.

Levy reiterated MPTOA'S disapproval of divorcement as a cure-all. He stated that as early as 1939 the organization went on record against divorcement and has reaffirmed that position many times since it believes that divorcement would merely create a new set of problems and evils. Levy stated that it was his opinion that the trade press had done the greatest reportorial job in its history in the coverage of the trial, the decision and the hearings that followed. In the most difficult task facing the trade press of analyzing and reporting complicated legal situations and opinions, they had acquitted themselves with great glory. He paid tribute also to the judges of the court for their patience and kindness in granting audience to independent exhibitors.

Levy pointed out that MPTOA was the only association in court to go beyond auction selling and to object to other aspects of the decision and to elicit from the court the answer that the judges never intended pictures to be licensed on the auction block basis.

Representing ATA at the meeting were Si Fabian, president; Robert Coyne, executive secretary, and Ned Shugrue, public relations director.

Walter Calls Meeting

CLEVELAND, Dec. 10. — Ed. Walter assistant to Republic general sales manager James R. Grainger, is scheduled to hold a local sales meeting in Cleveland on Thursday.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"The Secret Heart," sole new offering of the week, did excellent business at four first-run houses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 11:

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,660) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $8,900)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $19,000)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,00. (Average: $14,000)

BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,700)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $12,700)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $23,700)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $26,200)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $27,000. (Average: $24,600)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,100. (Average: $10,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,100)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $15,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $5,800)

BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue) and STRANGE CONQUEST (U)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 5th week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $23,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,500. (Average: $15,400)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average: $9,300)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U) — STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,400. (Average: $8,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,100)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $12,500)

BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,100. (Average: $8,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $21,600)

DECEPTION (WB) — WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $16,100)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,800. (Average: $15,700)

CHICAGO

Although the weekend in the Loop was good following lifting of the dimout, weekday business is slumping as expected during the pre-Christmas season. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 11-12:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 8th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c) On stage: Tony Martin. Gross: $75,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) Twice daily. 18th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) — GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $18,000)

BLACK MARKET BABIES (Mono.) and MURDER IN THE BIG HOUSE (WB reissue) — LA SALLE (675) (35c-50c-70c) Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox) — ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 2nd week. On stage: Star and Garter Revue. Gross: $52,000. (Average: $45,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c) Gross: $19,000. (Average: $24,000)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $18 000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $29,000)

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 7th week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

End of the dimout has boosted grosses, with "The Killers" in the lead. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 10-12:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $14,000)

HOLIDAY IN MEXICO (M-G-M) — ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $6,800. (Average: $7,250)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $22,800)

WIFE WANTED (Mono.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days of vaudeville starring the Andrew Sisters. Gross 6 days: $38,000. (Average 7 days: $28,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $28,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) — GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $26,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,800)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $43,000. (Average: $28,300)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $37,500. (Average: $24,900)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $11,200)

Gen. Bradley Lauds Goldwyn Picture

WASHINGTON, Dec. 10.—Strongly commending the treatment of the veteran problem in "The Best Years of Our Lives," Gen. Bradley, head of the Veterans Administration, declared in a letter to Samuel Goldwyn that he is "helping the American people to build an even better democracy out of the tragic experience of this war."

Explaining that he and his chief assistants were "so impressed with the honesty" of the film that he immediately asked for another special screening to show it again to his aides in Washington, the general continued: "I wanted them to see it not only because it will help them to do for these young men but because it will also help them to realize what these veterans mean to the people of this country.

"Sometimes we forget that when men are veterans they are also men . . .", he added, pointing out that this picture "takes those men with their wounds, their pride, their hopes, their setbacks and tells what happened to the lives of their girls, their wives, their families."

Lift 'Blue Law'

LEWES, Del., Dec. 10.—Motion pictures were shown here this week for the first time on Sunday in the history of this southern Delaware community, signalling the end of another blue law here. The town was founded by the Dutch in 1631.

Winner and still champion!!!!

BILL STERN

again voted

NATION'S MOST POPULAR SPORTS ANNOUNCER

for the

7th STRAIGHT YEAR!

A record that's never been beaten by any artist in any category.

Exclusively—National Broadcasting Company



WE'RE BUBBLING OVER!

It all began Saturday, November 30th, and continuing for 8 consecutive weeks, Hedda Hopper's Radio Show "This is Hollywood" for Procter & Gamble's Camay Soap...is dramatizing a Universal-International picture!

OVER C.B.S. NETWORK EVERY SATURDAY NIGHT, 10:15-10:45 p. m. E. S. T.

THE CAMAY RADIO SHOW

"This is Hollywood"

featuring **HEDDA HOPPER**

FOR PROCTER & GAMBLE'S CAMAY SOAP

November 30, "Notorious Gentleman" · December 7, "The Stranger"
December 14, "So Goes My Love" · December 21, "White Tie and Tails"
December 28, "Along Came Jones" · January 4, "The Egg and I"
January 11, "The Dark Mirror" · January 18, "Magnificent Doll"

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 115 NEW YORK, U. S. A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1946 TEN CENTS

Johnston Will Resume Trade Survey Abroad

MPA Board Studies UK Quota and Strike

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, will return to Europe next April to continue his interrupted tour of the Continent, he told the quarterly meeting the MPA board of directors here today.



Eric Johnston

The board gave unanimous approval to Johnston's 1947 budget recommendations, the figure being kept confidential by the board. In reporting to the board, Johnston outlined the foreign

(*Continued on page 7*)

NCCJ Achievement Luncheon Today

Irving Berlin, Spyros P. Skouras and Robert E. Sherwood will be honored by 1,000 leaders in the motion picture, theatre and entertainment industries at the annual luncheon being given by the National Conference of Christians and Jews in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel here today.

Berlin will be cited for his contributions to American life for the past 30

(*Continued on page 7*)

Jewish Federation Dinner Here Tonight

Some 200 representatives of the motion picture and general entertainment industries will gather at the Hotel Pierre, here, this evening to honor Billy Rose for "his distinguished achievements as a showman, journalist and humanitarian," at the annual dinner sponsored by the amusement and allied industries division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. The dinner will be one of the high

(*Continued on page 7*)

Video Scoops Seen Forcing Speedier Newsreel Service

Barring unforeseen developments, the newsreels will have to devise speedier methods in purveying their material to the public in order to compete with eventual television news coverage, according to Paul Alley, formerly with M-G-M's News of the Day and now television film editor of National Broadcasting.

Alley pointed to video's filming of events, such as a spectacular fire on Staten Island, coverage of which was brought to audiences on the same day. The newsreels had the "story" a week later, he said.

The extent of television's coverage of spot news is, of course, limited at present, due chiefly to expense, Alley said. However, he added, NBC staff

(*Continued on page 7*)

Film Officials Due From Europe Today

Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of Paramount; George Weltner, president of Paramount International; Joseph Moskowitz, vice-president of 20th Century-Fox, and Walt Disney are among the executives of the motion picture industry who will arrive here today aboard the *Queen Elizabeth* on their return to the U. S. from their trips to England and the Continent. Also on board are Ray Milland, Arthur Dent, former representative of

(*Continued on page 4*)

SELZNICK FORMS SALES COMPANY

UA Seeks Davis Law Firm on Selznick

One of New York's leading law firms, Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and Kiendl, has been approached with a view to handling possible litigation for United Artists in its controversy with David O. Selznick. John W. Davis, senior partner of the firm, is counsel for Loew's in the government anti-trust suit.

E. C. Mills and Herman Weisman, comprising the UA board of directors committee, authorized to retain counsel for the company in the Selznick dispute, conferred with the law firm yesterday. A decision is expected within a few days.

Breaks with UA; Names Top Executives, Lists 7 to 10 Films Yearly

Formation of a new David O. Selznick releasing organization with Neil F. Agnew as president and Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Selznick's Vanguard Films, as chairman of the board, was announced by Selznick in New York and Hollywood yesterday.



David Selznick

Simultaneously, O'Shea announced that Vanguard advised United Artists yesterday that it considers its distribution contract with that company terminated "as a result of wrongful acts and violations of contract by United Artists."

O'Shea added that the notice of termination of the distribution con-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Berge Says Trusts Threaten Economy

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Economic trusts maintained by big industry, such as films, are a danger that threatens the freedom of economic opportunity in the country, Wendell Berge said tonight, speaking before the Chicago

(*Continued on page 7*)

UA Halts Work on 'Duel' Advertising

Orders to halt all advertising and exploitation work on David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" were issued by United Artists to its advertising-publicity department yesterday following notification by the Selznick organization that it considers its distribution contract with UA terminated.

An official of the company estimated that UA has expended approximately $500,000 to date on advertising and advance exploitation of the $5,500,000 Selznick property, which, the producer said yesterday, will open in several

(*Continued on page 7*)

U. S. Pictures Still Meet Barriers in 21 Nations

By JIM H. BRADY

WASHINGTON, D. C., 11.—American films are still meeting difficult economic barriers in 21 nations, George Canty, State Department film consultant, said here today. They are serious barriers—state monopolies, threatened film restrictions and satellite nations.

Most serious barriers, placed in Class I, at the State Department, are imposed in Great Britain, France, Italy, Spain, The Netherlands, China, Argentina and Chile.

Quota restrictions in Great Britain are being extended to several of the Dominions, Canty disclosed. He termed the situation "serious for the industry."

Falling in Class II are five countries where there is a state monopoly of the domestic production field. Those nations are: Poland, Bulgaria, Albania, Russia and Czechoslovakia. American picture companies do not even attempt to operate in Poland, Bulgaria and Albania.

In Russia and Czechoslovakia the industry attempts to function "in a feeble fashion."

Grouped in Class III, where films are threatened by restrictions, are Portugal, Greece, Mexico and Colombia. In China, new import re-

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"Unexpected Guest" and "Out California Way" are reviewed on Page 6. Estimates of key city grosses also appear on Page 6.

Personal Mention

A. A. SCHUBART, manager of RKO exchange operations, has returned to New York from Hollywood.

•

HOPE GRAY of Universal's foreign publicity department and WILLIAM RAYNOR, JR., of RKO's advertising staff, will be married here this morning in the Little Church Around the Corner.

•

A. M. KANE, district manager for Paramount in Boston, has been visiting the Schine offices in Gloversville, N. Y., with EDWARD RUFF, new Paramount branch manager in Albany.

•

SAM CLARK, Warners studio representative, leaves here tomorrow for the Coast, stopping en route at Cincinnati, Detroit and Chicago.

•

MARIO MORENO (Cantinflas), Mexican film star, and JACQUES GELMAN have arrived in New York from Paris en route to Mexico.

•

CARL FLOYD and "LUCKIE" STEIN of the Floyd and Stein circuit in Georgia and Florida, have been visiting Atlanta.

•

HENRY L. NATHANSON and TED GOULD of Regal Films are scheduled to return to Toronto today from New York.

•

LEON J. BAMBERGER, RKO sales promotion manager, is scheduled to return here today from Oklahoma City.

•

WILLIAM DIETERLE, Selznick director, has left here on his return to the Coast, following a trip to Europe.

•

KAY FRANCIS, Monogram star and co-producer, has arrived in Hollywood to undergo a minor operation.

•

ED SABEL, film buyer for National Theatres, has returned to the Coast from New York.

•

WILLIAM BERKE, Screen Guild producer, is back in Hollywood from New York.

•

JACK SAYERS of Audience Research, who returned here last week from Hollywood, is confined to his hotel with illness.

•

JOHN W. MANGHAM, president of Screen Guild of Georgia, is in California.

•

RICHARD WHORF, director, and RAY MACDONALD are here from the Coast.

•

SIDNEY FRANKLIN, M-G-M producer, has left here for the Coast.

•

MELVIN DOUGLAS has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

HERMAN WOBBER is in New York from San Francisco.

•

LARRY PARKS will arrive in New York today.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 11

SAM GOLDWYN, who recognizes a headline when he sees one coming up, may be making more of them one of these days. He has not abandoned long-brewing ideas about his own distributing organization. In fact, the word filtering into these parts from that far country to the East, known as New York, insists there have been conferences.

Of course, conferences are old stuff in this conference-type business. Even Goldwyn has had them before, and on distribution, too, so that the current outburst need not necessarily carry any more weight than their predecessors. However, don't sell short on the chance this could be it.

■

It all breaks down into what looks like two phases which, actually, may be one. His existing arrangement with RKO Radio is an annual event running out every June 30. The deal provides that an attraction of his goes into release, not when RKO sounds the gong, but when Goldwyn "releases" it. By that is meant an initial theatre date which has come to mean the Astor Theatre, New York. Once done, RKO may regard the film as part of its official celluloid family. Thus, for the fun of it, it could be that the new Danny Kaye might be finished and waiting and for RKO not to get it unless, or until, Goldwyn comes through with the first playdate. Don't ask us why; that's the way it appears to be.

At any rate, discussion lapsing into occasional standoff has been under way about a deal beyond next June. Goldwyn, paying his low 17½ per cent, proposes paying no more. RKO, citing increased overhead, wants five per cent more, making it 22½.

■

In the background, and well understood on both sides, is the fact RKO was "from hunger" when the Goldwyn alliance was made originally. The distributor's situation, product-wise, has undergone a very considerable change in the last couple of years. And, while there is nothing to suggest RKO looks any way but the kindly way on a renewal there is enough in the overall pattern to indicate a perceptible stiffening in attitude.

Another factor which RKO cannot permit itself to forget is its relations with other outside producers—Liberty, Disney, Riskin, for example—whose mathematics inform them 17½ per cent is cheaper than 25. For RKO to use as rebuttal the explanation that the Goldwyn deal is steeped in history, and, therefore, stands all by its lonesome may be an argument. But 17½ from 25 is still 7½.

■

Consequently, the possibility is around that Goldwyn and RKO may fail to line up on a renewal. If they do renew, Goldwyn's own releasing ambitions will wait. If they do not, the ambitions may translate into deed. His blueprint today is quite consistent with earlier models. It calls for 10 to 12 attractions a year, all designed to be top calibre. Goldwyn would not attempt them all, but probably would make four. The others would come out of the ingenuity and inventiveness of established creators, perhaps three or four of them delivering two each per year. They would be partners in the general enterprise, sharing its aches and enjoying its pleasures. In all likelihood, there would be joined an extension of the Astor idea around the country. Not a large number of theatres, but key city show-windows which would be self-contained insofar as product is concerned.

Goldwyn long has been impressed by rentals, possible until now at any rate from long-run engagements. His return in revenue from the Astor, New York, and the Woods, Chicago, are responsible for his thinking along such lines. His conclusion appears to be predicated on the infallibility of two-times-two and the four which always comes out. For some time now he is known to have been figuring it ought to work just as well in the higher multiples—as high as the 32 exchange cities anyway.

■

In early June, it was remarked here Goldwyn then had "The Best Years of Our Lives" in production. Coupled was this facetious observation: "Something for the exhibitors to remember Sam by?"

This was far closer to the truth than was suspected, or intended. His film is superb. It adds another memorable chapter to Hollywood's record of distinguished achievement and proves brilliantly that motion pictures can have something to say, and say it in terms of dramatic entertainment.

Award Scrolls to Radio Poll Winners

Presentation of scrolls to first place winners in the 11th annual poll of radio editors and critics of the United States and Canada, conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY for *Fame* magazine, is now in progress. Presentations of the scrolls which cite the championship classifications voted to the individuals and programs by the radio writers are made a part of the regularly scheduled broadcasts of the winners.

Awards already made include those to H. V. Kaltenborn, voted Best News Analyst, Dec. 4, and to Bill Stern, Best Sportcaster, Dec. 6, both on NBC.

Fred Allen, voted Champion of Champions, highest honor in the annual poll; Best Comedian, and whose program was voted Best Comedy Show, will be presented with scrolls for the three honors on his broadcast of Dec. 22. Fred Waring, whose show was voted the Best Daytime Program, will receive his scroll during his regular Friday morning broadcast tomorrow. Presentation of the scroll for the Best Dance Band will be made to Guy Lombardo Monday night on his 9:30 p.m. (E.S.T.) Mutual broadcast.

Arrangements are being completed here and in Hollywood for scroll presentations to other winners in this year's poll.

Grainger and Walton Off for Sales Meets

James R. Grainger, Republic executive vice-president and general sales manager, left here by plane last night for Mexico City, with a stopover at New Orleans, where he will hold a sales meeting tomorrow and Saturday.

Following his visit to Mexico City, Grainger will go to Los Angeles, where he will arrive on Dec. 22, returning to New York about the first of the year.

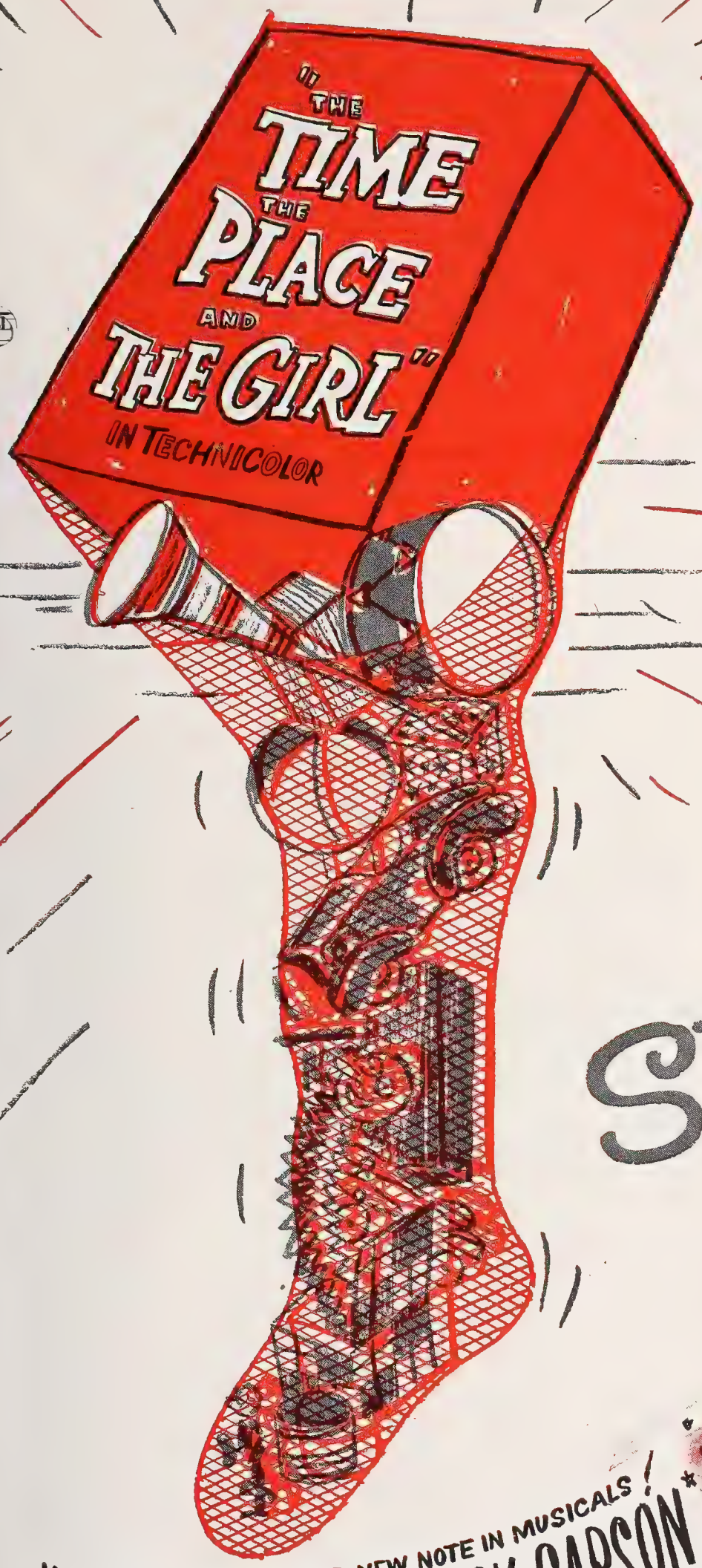
Edward L. Walton, assistant general sales manager, and James V. O'Gara, his executive assistant, left here last night for Chicago, where a sales meeting will be held today, Friday, and Saturday, at the Blackstone Hotel.

Jeffrey Named E-L Exploitation Head

Arthur Jeffrey has been appointed exploitation manager of Eagle-Lion Films, it was announced yesterday by Max E. Youngstein, E-L director of advertisng-publicity-exploitation.

Jeffrey began his industry career with Paramount-Publix in the publicity department of the Rialto Theatre, here. He then became advertising-publicity director for Warner Bros. New York theatres and later was United Artists' publicity manager. He resigned in 1944 to become Eastern publicity director for International and in Oct., 1946, moved to Eagle-Lion.

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A SOCK FOR EVERY STOCKING!!



WARNERS HIT A BRAND NEW NOTE IN MUSICALS!

DENNIS MORGAN ☆ JACK CARSON
JANIS PAIGE ☆ MARTHA VICKERS

with S.Z. SAKALL · ALAN HALE · ANGELA GREENE · DONALD WOODS
CARMEN CAVALLARO & ORCHESTRA · SCREEN PLAY BY FRANCIS SWANN, AGNES CHRISTINE JOHNSTON & LYNN STARLING

ORIGINAL STORY BY LEONARD LEE · ORCHESTRAL ARRANGEMENTS BY RAY HEINDORF · DIRECTED BY DAVID BUTLER · PRODUCED BY ALEX GOTTLIEB

THE SONGS ARE ON THE AIR EVERYWHERE :—
A RAINY NIGHT IN RIO · A SOLID CITIZEN OF THE SOLID SOUTH · A GAL IN CALICO · OH, BUT I DO · I HAPPENED TO WALK DOWN FIRST STREET · THROUGH A THOUSAND DREAMS

Film Officials

(Continued from page 1)

Samuel Goldwyn in London, who resigned to go into production, and Roland Culver, British actor.

The Paramount executives are arriving home after a two-month trip that took them to the British Isles, Stockholm and Paris, where Weltner was presented with a testimonial for "The Lost Weekend," selected at the Cannes Film Festival in October as the best American picture of the year. Disney is returning after a survey of Ireland on background material and locale for a projected production based on Irish folk lore.

Vermont Theatre in Clearance Action

A complaint, seeking elimination or reduction of clearance to a "reasonable period of time," has been filed with the Boston tribunal of the American Arbitration Association by State Amusements, Inc., which operates the State Theatre at Bellows Falls, Vt., against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Warner Brothers and Paramount.

Naming the Opera House of Bellows Falls as intervenor, the complainant maintains that that theatre enjoys 60 days clearance from all companies except Paramount, which allows it 90 days. The State, formerly the Rockingham, regards the clearance as unreasonable.

Christmas Premieres For 'The Man I Love'

"The Man I Love," Warner production scheduled for general release Jan. 11, has been set so far for 80 advance engagements over the holidays.

Christmas Day will mark the simultaneous world premiere of the film at the Strand, Albany; Troy Theatre, Troy; Stanley, Utica; Keeney, Elmira; Capitol, Springfield, Mass.; Roger Sherman, New Haven; Strand, Hartford; Warner and Merritt, Bridgeport; Stanley, Pittsburgh and Strand, Altoona. Other openings will take place in the ensuing week. In addition there will be about 30 special midnight performances Dec. 27 and New Year's Eve.

'Best Years' Praised In Times Editorial

Rich in its praise for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," a *The New York Times* editorial yesterday termed the motion picture, which deals with the problems of three homecoming veterans, an "excellent film" which "throws into penetrating relief the stresses and strains of a drama which is still, as it were, in its third act."

"And that is immediately important," the editorial declared. "It is enriching. As a matter of fact, it's art."

Good Leaves Para. To Join Classics

Fred Good, with Paramount's exchange in Milwaukee for the past 15 years as city sales manager, has resigned to join Film Classics as branch manager for Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, effective immediately, according to an announcement from Jules K. Chapman, assistant general sales manager.

Riots Trouble the Industry in India

BOMBAY, Dec. 6 (By Airmail)—The political unrest in India with its attendant riots has paralyzed the exhibition branch of the film industry here with cinemas showing foreign pictures losing at least 30 per cent of their business since August, and houses showing Indian films between 50 and 60 per cent of their business.

Production, too, has been similarly and severely affected. Almost all studios in Bombay and Calcutta, where the political riots developed most seriously, were completely deserted for several weeks.

As the troubles are not yet over and as the film industry has been hit hard nobody at present can forecast the future of the Indian industry, although small concerns may go out of existence and major companies may face severe financial crises.

Despite this, however, during the first nine months of the current year film companies with an aggregate capital of about $20,000,000 were launched. During 1944 and 1945 new companies formed had an aggregate capital of only $10,000,000.

Mission's Report

Meanwhile the report of the Indian industry's mission sent to Europe and America with the approval and support of the Indian Government has been released. The 90-page report suggests that in order to put the country's industry on a stable and progressive basis the government should take the initiative in organizing and centralizing the industry. The mission further urges the government to take the initiative in the manufacture of raw film and motion picture equipment and recommends the establishment of a Central Academy and Research Institute for which the government should supply sufficient funds.

A last recommendation made is that urging the government to use motion pictures as a vehicle for combating anti-Indian propaganda and for creating better understanding and sympathy for the rehabilitation of the country.

WB Sets 21-Week Sales Drive Abroad

Starting Feb. 2 and continuing until June 21, a 21-week sales drive, which will be known as "The Big 21," has been set by Warners International for Cuba, Mexico, Central and South America, Australia, New Zealand, the Philippines and the Orient. These teeritories are under the jurisdiction of Wolfe Cohen, vice-president.

The name of the drive is derived from not only its length, but also from the fact that there are 21 participating officers, 21 releases on the season's schedule, with 21 weekly prizes totaling $21,000 in awards set for the campaign. Next year will also be the 21st anniversary of talking pictures.

WB District Meeting

Harry M. Kalmine, president and general manager of Warner Theatres, is in New Haven to conduct a meeting today of all district and theatre managers in the New England zone. Rudolph Weiss, head of the circuit's real estate department, also is participating in the session.

Detroit Variety Club Fetes Jack Keegan

DETROIT, Dec. 11.—Jack Keegan, who recently resigned his post with United Detroit Theatres, was presented a silver service set at a party given him last night by the local Variety Club prior to his departure Saturday for Cincinnati, where his will join Northio Theatres.

Among visiting film company executives present were Max Fellerman, William Gehring, Irving Wormser and Sol Krugman. Also present were Milt Cohen, Columbia district manager; Earl Hudson, United Detroit president; Frank Hensler of M-G-M and Jack Lorenz of 20th Century-Fox. Arvid Kantor, chief barker of the club, was toastmaster at the party, which was held under the chairmanship of Carl Buermele. Approximately 150 were on hand.

NBC Television Chief Says Films Too High

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 11. — Commercial motion pictures are "too expensive" for television use, George Sandifer, NBC Washington Video chief said today in an address before the Washington Visual Workers.

Pointing to the many ramifications of the use of films in television, Sandifer said that the only films which can be used are "junk pile" pictures or free educational films.

He said the primary obstacles for use of pictures in television are lack of commercial rights, failure to maintain all-copyright releases and no complete music clearance.

Mercury Wins Title In Monogram Suit

Damages and a permanent injunction against Monogram Pictures have been awarded to the Mercury Trading Co. by N. Y. Supreme Court Judge Edward R. Koch in a title-infringement suit brought by Mercury over use of the film-title "Shadows Over Chinatown." The plaintiff, which owns the title "Shadows in Chinatown," will receive its award after a referee computes the gross and profits gained by the Monogram production in exhibition across the country, according to the decision.

Schiendler Manager For Screen Guild

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 11. — Frank Schiendler has been appointed branch manager of the Los Angeles exchange of Screen Guild Productions, by Francis A. Bateman, general sales manager.

Schiendler takes over the past left vacant by the resignation of William Felmion, who together with Sam K. Decker controlled the Southern California Screen Guild franchise. Ben Crandall has joined Decker in the franchise ownership while Flemion is entering the theatre novelty business.

Bader 'Dimes' Liaison

David A. Bader, publisher of the 16 *Millimeter Reporter,* has joined the "March of Dimes" drive as trade press liaison, according to Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

20th-Fox Group Off To Herald 'Razor's'

Twentieth Century-Fox home office advertising and publicity representatives will join field personnel in outlining plans to herald the many Christmas Week openings of "The Razor's Edge" in key cities.

Christy Wilbert, advertising manager, will go to Pittsburgh and Cincinnati to work with Wally Allen and Kim Keefe; Sid Blumenstock will work with Sy Freedman in St. Louis and Kansas City, Mo., and then continue on to Wichita.

Stirling Silliphant, assistant to Charles Schlaifer, advertising-publicity director, will meet Harry Weiss in Cleveland on the campaign, and then go to Detroit, where he will be joined by Bob Kaufman, working out of the Chicago office. Edward Soloman, also of the home office, has left for Chicago, Milwaukee and Omaha for exploitation meetings with field personnel in those cities.

Rodney Bush, exploitation manager, is back at the home office after campaign work in Dallas, Oklahoma City and Memphis with Jim Gillespie. Schlaifer will supervise the promotion in Philadelphia and Baltimore.

Czech Black Market Embraces U.S. Films

Film-goers in Czechoslovakia are paying two and three times established box-office prices to black market operators to get to see American films, according to word received from Prague by the Motion Picture Export Association.

Resumption in the release of American-made films is doing much to solidify the bonds of friendship between Czechoslokavia and the U. S., Irving Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, said here last week in an address over the Czech State radio.

Lloyd-Sturges Film For March Release

CHICAGO, Dec. 11.—Release of "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock," the Harold Lloyd-Preston Sturges production which heralds Lloyd's return to the screen, probably will be in March, the film comedian disclosed here yesterday. Previews have already been held in various California cities, Lloyd said, adding that more previews have been scheduled until the picture is ready for release.

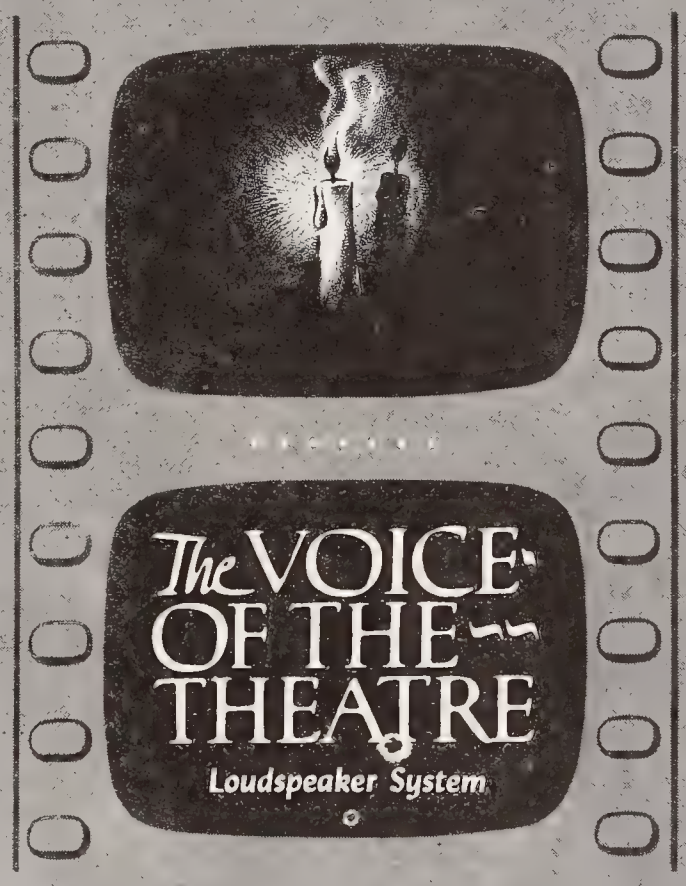
Joint Union Dance

Invitations have been extended to 150 servicemen from nearby military hospitals by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, and the Radio Guild, for the dance and entertainment to be held tomorrow at the City Center Casino here. Jointly sponsoring the affair, the two United Office and Professional Workers of America affiliates expect screen, radio and stage stars to attend.

New Contract for Joy

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11.—Col. Jason Joy, 20th Century-Fox public relations director, has signed a new contract with the studio. He has been with 20th-Fox 14 years.

A One Year Old With A Long History



It's MORE than a coincidence that we celebrate the first anniversary of the VOICE OF THE THEATRE at the same time that we celebrate the twentieth anniversary of sound films. They're part of the same story. You might give it an impressive title like: "History of Progress in Motion Picture Entertainment."

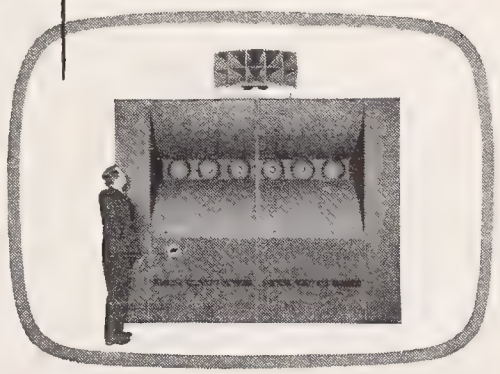
Remember, twenty years back, the handful of theatres that sported announcements of "talkies?" You recognized them as the up-and-coming houses; before long, you counted yourself among them.

Today, if you were to look at the list of over 2000 VOICE OF THE THEATRE houses, you'd again see the names of the nation's finest theatres.

Call it foresightedness or showmanship. These theatres celebrate and sell their VOICE OF THE THEATRE installations as a mark of prestige . . . and you should be among them now. There is a VOICE OF THE THEATRE system to meet the requirements of your house.

THE VOICE OF THE THEATRE IS AVAILABLE THROUGH

THEATRE SUPPLY DEALERS	NORTHERN ELECTRIC CO.
SOUND SYSTEM MANUFACTURERS	DOMINION SOUND EQUIPMENTS, LTD.
ALTEC REPRESENTATIVES	WESTREX CORPORATION
in the United States	*in foreign countries*



"KEEP ADVANCING WITH ALTEC LANSING"

ALTEC
LANSING CORPORATION

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

BOSTON

Business generally is lagging below average despite a weekend boost following the ending of the coal strike. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 11:

SAN QUENTIN (RKO Radio)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show: Frances Langford and Jon Hall. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $27,400)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,900. (Average: $6,900)
THE DARK MIRROR (International) and VACATION IN RENO (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c). Gross: $23,200. (Average: $25,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $23,500)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $12,300. (Average: $15,100)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $16,900)

SAN FRANCISCO

Holdovers, reissues and, in most instances, low grosses are the order of this usually-dull season. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 11-13:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)
BLUE SKIES (Para.) and THE MAN WHO DARED (Col.)—FOX(4,651) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $28,000. (Average: $32,000)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) — GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) With vaudeville. 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $32,000)
DARK MIRROR (International) and DEAD OF NIGHT (U)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,000)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) and FAITHFUL IN MY FASHION (M-G-M)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $23,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $3,000)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA) — UNITED ARTISTS (1,465) (85c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,800. (Average: $14,000)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and SHADOWS OVER CHINATOWN (Mono.) WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. Average: $27,000)

ST. LOUIS

"Blue Skies" has been outstanding in a week of generally fair business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 11:

BLUE SKIES (Para.) — AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). 2nd week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $18,000)

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

THE VERDICT (WB) and HER SISTER'S SECRET (PRC)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $17,000. (Average: $20,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)
THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.) and THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND (UA)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,000)
MARGIE (20th-Fox) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,500)
CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $6,000)
KING'S ROW (WB reissue) and WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (WB reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)

CLEVELAND

Heavy weekend business has balanced the scale in favor of theatres. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 10-11:

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,200. (Average, for 7 days: $7,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) — LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average, for 7 days: $23,800)
ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $11,000)
MARGIE (20th-Fox)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,000)
FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (60c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Mickey Rooney. Gross: $46,000. (Average: $30,000)
DECEPTION (WB)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $22,600)
NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,650)

CINCINNATI

Despite Christmas shopping, grosses are satisfactory. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 10-13:

BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days. Stage: Vaughn Monroe's orchestra and acts. Gross: $23,900. (Average: $22,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)
CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio) and SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,700. (Average: $1,600)
THE UNDYING MONSTER (20th-Fox reissue) and DR. RENAULT'S SECRET (20th-Fox reissue)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)
THE VERDICT (WB)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $8,000)
MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,500)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,500)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 5th week, following three weeks at the Palace and a first moveover week at the Shubert. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $5,000)

PITTSBURGH

Despite strong counter-attractions and summer-like weather, most first-run houses stayed close to average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 12:

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $9,700)
MARGIE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $11,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $25,000)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week on moveover from Warner. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $3,500)
SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.) and DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,200)
DECEPTION (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $25,000)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

KANSAS CITY

Some rain has not hurt attendance. The weather has been mild. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 10-12:

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)
MARGIE (20th-Fox) — FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $1,750)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M) and BETTY CO-ED (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $10,000)
TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $11,000)
THE VERDICT (WB) and GREAT DAY (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,000)
SINGIN' IN THE CORN (Col.) and IT'S GREAT TO BE YOUNG (Col.)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $9,000)
MARGIE (20th-Fox) — UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $6,000)

Reviews

"Unexpected Guest"

(United Artists)

IN abandoning much of the blood-and-thunder ornamentation which is usual in Westerns to adhere to a straight story line, this "Hopalong Cassidy" picture, produced by Lewis J. Rachmil and starring Bill Boyd, adds lustre to low-budget Westerns in general. The limitations of the Western theme, however, also serve to detract from its qualities as a mystery thriller, notably in the lack of space for character-manipulation and the unsatisfying climax which belabors the surprise-ending technique. All in all, however, the film will win many new fans for Hopalong and at the same time will please his old ones.

The story finds Hoppy's pal, California, played by Andy Clyde, named as one of six heirs to a ranch, the will providing for equal distribution of the portion if any of the six should die. This is a sufficient cause for murder, especially since the "worthless" land appears to be harboring oil. And so, there are three murders before Hoppy grapples with the culprit. Supporting roles are played by Rand Brooks, as Hoppy's other companion; Una O'Connor, amusing as the spirit-inspired housekeeper; Patricia Tate as one of the heirs; and John Parrish, a newcomer to the screen, whose bearing and voice bear a striking resemblance to the late Laird Cregar, as the family attorney. George Archainbaud directed; Ande Lamb wrote the story. And a note of credit goes to Mack Stengler for striking photography.

Running time, 61 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Out California Way"

(Republic)

SOMEWHAT unique in story material and done in color, "Out California Way" obviously represents a relatively high expenditure; that gratifying returns are in store for Republic and its accounts seems assured. The film, starring Monte Hale, Adrian Booth and Bobby Blake, departs from the usual in-action-musicals in that it is not at home on the range, but at the studio where the actual making of Westerns is considered. A little more entertainment and a wealth of promotional possibilities are provided by brief appearances by Roy Rogers, Dale Evans, Allan Lane and Don Barry.

Although marking no gains in color work, Republic's own Trucolor serves to brighten adequately a screenplay which makes a starring part in a film the cause of all the fuss. When Monte Hale goes over with a bang before the cameras, as the film goes, John Dehnar, the star, grows wary, and applies the old tricks of the trade to keep Hale from stealing the spotlight. Fists fly and songs are sung at various appropriate points along the story route. Nolan Leary, Fred Graham, Tom London, St. Luke's Choristers, Riders of the Purple Stage and others are in support. Louis Gray was associate producer and Lesley Slander directed.

Running time, 67 minutes. General classification. Release date, Dec. 5.

GENE ARNEEL

Party for Stern

Charles K. Stern, assistant treasurer of Loew's, yesterday was given a birthday party by more than 50 associates at the Astor here. William R. Ferguson, exploitation manager of the company, was toastmaster.

Loet Barnstyn Distributing Corp.
Exporters—Independent Distributors
Major Company Releases for Europe
141 West 54th St., New York 19, N. Y.
Telephone CI. 6-6060 Cable: LOETSIB

Selznick Forms Company

(Continued from page 1)

tract "in no way affects Vanguard's ownership of one-third of the stock of United Artists."

Selznick's action, anticipated by MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday, follows by 24 hours the action of the United Artists board of directors in appointing a committee to retain counsel in New York to take whatever legal action against Selznick is deemed advisable for alleged breach of contract as a result of talent and production package deals made by Selznick with 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio. UA owners Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin contend that production assets involved in the deals should have been employed to fulfill Selznick commitments to United Artists.

The new Selznick company will be known as the Selznick Releasing Organization. The announcement did not refer to it as a distributing organization and it is known that Selznick has conferred with three companies recently on the subject of use of physical distribution facilities.

The statement said SRO "will immediately open offices throughout the world and will release all Selznick International and Vanguard Pictures as well as the output of a new producing unit in the process of formation."



Neil Agnew

Trade observers are of the opinion that the new offices referred to will be sales offices rather than film exchanges, and that, at the outset, at least, a deal will be made for use of the physical distribution facilities of another company.

Officers of SRO in addition to Agnew and O'Shea are: E. L. Scanlon, executive vice-president and treasurer; Milton Kramer, vice-president and general counsel; Milton Kusell, domestic general sales manager.

Other executives are: William Erbb, general sales manager for Great Britain; Manuel Reiner, general sales manager for Latin America; Paul White, general sales manager for Continental Europe and North Africa; Samuel Horowitz, Midwestern sales manager, Chicago; Thomas Duane, New England sales manager, Boston; John Howard, Pacific Coast sales manager, Hollywood.

Also, Paul MacNamara, head of advertising, publicity and exploitation, with departments in New York, London, Paris, Sydney and Singapore; Hyatt Daab, foreign publicity head, Los Angeles; Alfred Katz, New York, special field director of foreign publicity; B. A. Babb, Southwest exploitation, Dallas, and Claud Morris, Pacific Coast exploitation, San Francsico.

Selznick said it was anticipated that between seven and 10 pictures will be produced for the new organization during its first year. The titles of eight initial releases, headed by Selznick's $5,500,000 "Duel in the Sun," were given. The statement said it has not yet been determined whether additional product from independent sources would be handled by the new company, although several producers have approached Selznick with that in mind.

The announcement said that "Duel" will open in several Los Angeles theatres on Dec. 31 to qualify it for Academy Award nominations and that later key city openings for the picture will be announced by Agnew within a few days.

The new sales organization began functioning yesterday, according to the announcement, which added that there will be a meeting of SRO's division sales managers in New York early next week.

Second release of the new company, Selznick said, will be Alfred Hitchcock's "The Paradine Case," scheduled to start this week with an all-star cast and on a $3,250,000 budget. A reissue of "Intermezzo" will follow and the fourth release will be the Technicolor production, "Little Women," with an all-star cast. "Portrait of Jennie," with Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten, to be produced by David Hempstead and directed by William Dieterle, is scheduled to start Feb. 1. It will be followed by "Sands of Time," with Cary Grant and Dorothy McGuire, with Dore Schary producing and Robert Stevenson as director.

Seventh, according to the announcement, will be "Joan of Arc," starring Jennifer Jones and scheduled to start in the late spring. "What Every Young Bride Should Know" is scheduled to start in the early summer, with Shirley Temple and other younger Selznick talent in the cast.

Selznick said that production activity will be continuous and that producers, directors, players, writers and technicians will be added to the Selznick roster.

UA Halts

(Continued from page 1)

Los Angeles theatres on Dec. 31 and in other key cities later. It was intimated that the advertising expenditures on the picture might figure in any action for recovery or judgment which UA may bring as a result of its controversy with Selznick.

UA officials declined to comment for publication on Selznick's announcement that he was launching his own sales company, to be known as the Selznick Releasing Organization. One hazarded a guess that physical distribution would be through channels other than a Selznick company.

Miss Pickford, who has been in New York for the UA board meeting on the Selznick controversy, and who was scheduled to leave for the Coast at once, has delayed her departure until the end of the week.

Richey in Meetings With Theatremen

Henderson M. Richey, director of exhibitor relations for M-G-M, now holding meetings with theatremen in the field, left Kansas City last night for Omaha, Minneapolis and Chicago. He will return here next week.

Johnston Survey

(Continued from page 1)

market problems of the industry. He also told of his discussions with British leaders regarding quota restrictions in their country.

The board gave approval for the appointment of an MPA representative on the 12-man Government Film Committee, which stems from the recent industry conference held at the White House.

MPA vice-president Byron Price told the board of the Hollywood labor situation, and painted a dull picture of the production front in light of the jurisdictional disputes. He also discussed the public relations and Production Code activities of the Association, as they are carried on at the Hollywood MPA office. There was no mention at the meeting of the recent code amendment permitting the portrayal of narcotics in films.

Johnston made passing mention of the possibility of a one-year extension of the British film quota law, which is set to expire in 1948. This, he said, is to see how British pictures do under the quota, which reserves 17½ per cent of playing time for British product.

Those attending the quarterly gathering were Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Ned E. Depinet, John J. O'Connor, E. W. Hammons, Robert W. Perkins, Nicholas Schenck, Spyros P. Skouras and Joseph Hazen. Others present, representing the MPA staff, were George Borthwick, Francis Harmon, Carl E. Milliken and Gerald Mayer.

NCCJ Luncheon

(Continued from page 1)

years and in particular his record of public service in the two world wars.

Skouras, president of 20th Century-Fox, will be honored for the achievements of the motion picture industry in behalf of the American Brotherhood drive of the National Conference under Harold E. Stassen in 1946. Skouras served as chairman of the motion picture division of the National Conference, and it was under his direction that the Selznick-produced short, "The American Creed," was shown in 10,000 theatres during "Brotherhood Week" last February.

Sherwood will be recognized for his work in behalf of the National Conference, particularly his services when he was deputy director of the Office of War Information.

Jewish Federation

(Continued from page 1)

points of "Federation Week" which started last Monday, and which marks the climactic period of the Federation's current campaign to raise $12,000,000 for the 1946-47 budgetary needs of its 116 medical and welfare agencies.

Speakers at the occasion will include Malcolm Kingsberg, who will preside; Herbert Bayard Swope, master of ceremonies; Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation; Bernard M. Baruch, who will present Rose with a commemoration gift, and Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Spyros P. Skouras and Albert Warner, Kingsberg's co-chairmen in the city-wide Federation drive.

Film Barriers

(Continued from page 1)

strictions are brewing, Canty added.

Nations who lost World War II compose Group IV, countries where it is difficult for American product to be marketed. Those countries are: Germany, Austria, Japan and Korea. Canty pointed out that it is significant that seven of the 21 nations where the industry suffers barriers are picture-producing countries. Those nations which have production facilities are: France, Great Britain, Italy, Spain, Germany, Austria and Japan.

Pointing to the growing trend toward nationalism and government control of film production and distribution, Canty said that many foreign nations are attempting to go "beyond their economic levels."

The State Department film consultant concluded by asserting that "continued work and protective measures" will be necessary to protect the industry from barriers which threaten to ruin the market for films abroad.

Trusts Threaten

(Continued from page 1)

chapter of the New Council on American Business.

The Assistant Attorney General, who is in charge of the anti-trust division, said that more financial appropriations should be given his bureau in order that "small business in America can be protected.

"The 250 largest corporations in this country now hold approximately two-thirds of the nation's usable manufacturing facilities," Berge commented.

Reviewing the record of his division, which has been in court against the film industry, Berge said his organization received over 650 written complaints annually. Around 50 cases are filed each year, he added.

Video Scoops

(Continued from page 1)

cameramen have covered 101 different events in and around New York for its "television newsreel."

NBC lensmen work out of the Film Center building here. Their film is rushed back to the laboratory, developed, printed and can reach receiver screens the same day, Alley pointed out.

Video "scoops" include films of the Paris Peace Conference, which were shown to television audiences within 48 hours of the actual opening of the conference, according to the editor.

Schulberg Resigns Enterprise Post

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 11.—B. P. Schulberg has resigned from Enterprise as director of advertising and publicity to re-enter the production field, possibly under the banner of Enterprise. The company today elected Joseph C. Gilpin, studio manager, as a vice-president.

THERE'S ONLY ONE
Lord Tarleton
MIAMI BEACH
OCEAN FRONT • 40th to 41st Sts.
Reservations Invited • Walter Jacobs

RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

NEW YORK TRADE SHOWING



NORMANDIE THEATRE

51 EAST 53rd ST., AT PARK AVE.
NEW YORK, N. Y.
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19th
AT 10:30 A. M. SHARP

LIBERTY FILMS INC.

PRESENTATION OF

Frank CAPRA'S "IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE"

starring

James STEWART and Donna REED

with LIONEL BARRYMORE · THOMAS MITCHELL · HENRY TRAVERS with BEULAH BONDI · WARD BOND · FRANK FAYLEN · GLORIA GRAHAME · PRODUCED · DIRECTED FRANK CAPRA

Screen Play by FRANCES GOODRICH, ALBERT HACKETT, FRANK CAPRA. Additional Scenes by JO SWERLING.

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 116 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

ROBERT S. TAPLINGER has been appointed vice-president in charge of advertising and publicity for Enterprise Pictures, it was announced by S. Charles Einfeld, president, through his New York office yesterday. He succeeds B. P. Schulberg, who resigned this week to reenter production, possibly under the Enterprise banner.



R. S. Taplinger

Taplinger will divide his time between New York and the Enterprise Studios in Hollywood. His new appointment marks the renewal of an association with Einfeld. When the latter was vice-president of advertising and publicity for Warners, Taplinger served as his studio publicity director for four years. Previously, Taplinger organized his own public relations office after seven years with Columbia Broadcasting, directing publicity and special events, and was executive assistant to Harry Cohn, president of Columbia Picture, at the time he entered the Navy.

Alexander Resigns Selznick Ad Post

Sidney G. Alexander yesterday announced his resignation as advertising manager of Selznick International and Vanguard Pictures in New York. He will remain with the Selznick organization here until a successor has been chosen and will announce a new affiliation thereafter. The resignation was submitted prior to Selznick's break with United Artists and the formation of the new Selznick Releasing Organization, he said.

Alexander previously was advertising manager for Columbia Pictures in New York; was a vice-president of the H. M. Kiesewetter Advertising Agency and the Weiss and Geller Agency, was director of advertising media and radio for Buchanan and Co. and account executive for the N. Y. *Evening Journal.*

Epstein Named Columbia Studio Contact Here

Louis Epstein, for several years in charge of Mike Todd Productions in Hollywood, has been appointed stu-

(*Continued on page 2*)

Rejection of Local Checkers in Big Drop During Year

Although a number of exhibitor organizations continue loud in their opposition to local checkers of percentage pictures, the experience of distributors during the past year shows a growing actual acceptance of such checkers throughout the country as a whole, according to home office executives in close touch with this branch of the business.

Citing an improvement in the personnel now being employed to do the checking, Gene Kingston, who has charge of this activity for Universal, reports that his company finds that the number of instances in which local checkers are denied admittance to theatres has dwindled lately to less than one per cent per month, whereas at the beginning of 1945 the percentage was more than three times that high.

That Universal's experience may be

(*Continued on page 4*)

$100,000 Goal Is Set for NCCJ

The work of the National Conference of Christians and Jews must be energetically continued and extended. This was the theme of the annual luncheon meeting of the Conference, which was attended by more than 1,100 persons at the Waldorf - Astoria Hotel here yesterday and at which Spyros Skouras, Irving Berlin and Robert E. Sherwood were honored for their contributions to the cause of tolerance and for work in public interest.



Louis Nizer

(*Continued on page 6*)

Film 'Collarites' Start in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Gene Atkinson, business agent of the local projectionists' union, and also head of the new local white collar workers' union among theatre employes, reports that a meeting of the new groups will be

(*Continued on page 4*)

Michigan Exhibitors Threaten Boycott

Detroit, Dec. 12.—Some 48 members of the Michigan Independent Theatre Owners, representing 129 city and state houses, have organized a committee to visit distributors here to protest against increased film rentals which in some instances are said to have risen 100 per cent in a year.

They plan a boycott if they do not obtain satisfaction.

Less Construction Restrictions Seen

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Continuation of the Veterans' Housing Program, with fewer commercial building controls, was indicated here today by President Truman, who appointed Raymond M. Foley as chief of the National Housing Agency.

Replacing Wilson Wyatt as housing expediter was Frank R. Creedon.

The conduct of building controls will be handled by both the housing agency and the newly-created Office of Temporary Controls, which replaces a number of temporary wartime executive bureaus.

As recently reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, there will be a gradual elimination of theatre building controls, to begin at once. First move will be to raise the quota of weekly building permits.

Zukor Group Is Back from Abroad

Impressed with the control reception accorded them during their tour of major English cities and visits to Paris and Stockholm, Adolph Zukor, chairman of the board of Paramount, and George Weltner, president of Paramount International, declared here yesterday, upon their arrival on the *Queen Elizabeth,* that their trip was primarily a "good will tour," and that they had little time to transact any business. Accompanied by Ray Milland, they constituted the final contingent of film industry "ambassadors" who participated in the command performance of "Stairway to Heaven" before the King and Queen.

Also among the passengers who landed here were Joseph Moskowitz, vice-president of 20th Century-Fox; Walt Disney and Perc Pearce, who

(*Continued on page 4*)

District Plan Of Distribution Seen for SRO

New Selznick Company In 10 Master Branches

A divisional plan of distribution embracing approximately 10 master exchange offices in as many key cities around the country will be set up to handle initial distribution for the new Selznick Releasing Organization, it was learned yesterday.

Such a distribution setup is held to be completely practical for handling the seven to 10 special productions which David O. Selznick announced on Wednesday would be released by the new SRO. The plan also permits expansion to key cities within all of

(*Continued on page 4*)

Swope Toastmaster At FJP-Rose Dinner

Some 200 leaders of the amusement world were welcomed at the testimonial dinner to Billy Rose, held at the Hotel Pierre, here, last night, by Malcolm Kingsberg, president of RKO Theatres and chairman of the amusement division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. The Federation's amusement and allied industries division sponsored the affair in recognition of Rose's "distinguished achievements a showman,



Malcolm Kingsberg

(*Continued on page 4*)

Fred Quimby Heads MGM Short Films

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Fred Quimby, who established and has conducted the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer cartoon department, has been placed in charge of all short subject production. In addition to 16 cartoons, the production schedule includes 10 Pete Smith films, 12 Fitzpatrick travelogues, six Nesbitt "Passing Parades," and four "Crime Does Not Pay" two-reelers.

Personal Mention

SI FABIAN, president of the American Theatres Association, and ROBERT COYNE, executive director, are back in New York from Oklahoma City.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM A. SCULLY, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, left New York yesterday on a trip to Milwaukee, Des Moines, Kansas City and St. Louis.

•

JIM SCHRADER, Buffalo correspondent for MOTION PICTURE DAILY, and MRS. SCHRADER, have become the parents of a fourth son, JAMES MASON SCHRADER.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN and MRS. GOLDWYN will sail tomorrow for London on the *Queen Elizabeth* and will return immediately after the holidays.

•

JOHN MURPHY, general manager of Loew's out-of-town theatre operations, will leave here on Sunday for St. Louis, Evansville and Columbus.

•

ARNOLD PRESSBURGER, producer, will leave here tomorrow on the *Queen Elizabeth* for a three-month trip to England, France and Italy.

•

ALBERT DURANTE, radio publicity director of the J. Walter Thompson agency, and MRS. DURANTE, recently became parents of a son.

•

ERNEST EMERLING, Loew's advertising-publicity director, will leave New York today for Dayton, Toledo, Cleveland and Columbus.

•

JULES LAPIDUS, Eastern division sales manager for Warners, now in Cleveland, will return to New York over the weekend.

•

WILLIAM KEMP, manager of Loew's State, Memphis, will leave there shortly for a vacation in Georgia.

•

EDDIE DOWDEN of Loew's advertising department, has returned to his desk after a short illness.

•

HAL WALLIS left yesterday for Hollywood following an extended visit in New York.

•

DR. HERBERT T. KALMUS, Technicolor president, will leave New York for the Coast today.

•

N. J. AYERS, Warners district manager, has been visiting Memphis from New York.

•

JOSEPH M. SCHENCK has returned to Hollywood after two months in Mexico.

•

MARVIN H. SCHENCK, Loew vice-president, will leave here today for the Coast.

•

MIKE MAZURKI, RKO Radio actor, is en route to Hollywood from New York.

Truman Is Silent On Tax Reduction

Washington, Dec. 12.—President Truman today declined to talk on taxes and the possibility of Republican efforts to reduce the tax burden of the people. The president did say that he will send three different messages to the new 80th Congress. They will contain tax recommendations, he added.

White House spokesmen disclosed that the President is opposed to any "tax reduction" at this time. He is said to be firmly against any cut in the excise or admission tax rates. Meanwhile, Republicans are reporting that reduction of admissions taxes "must come last." No immediate slash in excise rates is expected after the new congress meets.

In Today's News

(*Continued from page* 1)

dio contact executive in the New York office of Columbia Pictures. A continuing search for new talent for Columbia studios will be one of his major assignments.

For many years prior to his association with Todd, he managed the affairs of Al Jolson.

Harris Fudelson Is Named Classics District Head

CINCINNATI, Dec. 12.—Harris Fudelson, formerly United Artists branch manager here, but more recently manager of the local Bien circuit, has resigned to become district manager for Film Classics, covering Cincinnati, Chicago, Detroit and Cleveland.

Brandt Pays $120,000 For Spellman Book

Following Francis Cardinal Spellman's disclosure that screen rights to "The Foundling" had been sold for $120,000 to Chapel Films Corp., the company's president, Bernard B. Brandt announced yesterday that he will leave for Hollywood shortly after Jan. 1 to line up a director and a cast. Production is scheduled to start soon thereafter. "It is contemplated," Brandt said "that this film will be budgeted at over $1,500,000, for world wide distribution.

Royalties accruing from the sale of rights to "The Foundling" will go to the New York Foundling Hospital.

WB Bonus Paid

Warners home office employees yesterday received their Christmas bonus along with the weekly pay check. Amount of bonus depended upon length of service and weekly salary, with most employees getting more than a week's pay.

Warners also paid a mid-year bonus in July.

Berger Charges on 'Abie' Hit by Sears

Charges wired by Bennie Berger, president of North Central Allied, to Gradwell L. Sears, United Artists vice-president in charge of distribution, that the UA-Bing Crosby film, "Abie's Irish Rose" violated "racial" lines, were declared "unfounded" by Sears in a statement released at UA's home office yesterday.

Berger, in his wire to Sears, who is in Hollywood, declared that many complaints have been registered against release of the picture in his territory, and he asked Sears to have the so-called anti-racial lines and scenes deleted from the production, on the grounds that they will otherwise threaten Minneapolis with censorship.

In calling Berger's charges unfounded, Sears, in yesterday's statement, added that some lines have already been eliminated and some scenes changed. "Wilful talk of this (censorship) type is completely contrary to the American principle . . . and constitute a threat to free speech and a free screen."

RKO Sets Trade Shows for Five

RKO Radio Pictures will hold a trade showing of "The Locket" at the Normandie Theatre, New York, next Monday. Screenings will also be held in all other exchange centers on the same day, except Omaha, where screening will be held Dec. 19. "San Quentin" will be shown on Dec. 17, except in New York, Albany, Boston, Buffalo and New Haven. It will be shown in New Orleans on Dec. 18.

"Vacation in Reno" will be screened on Dec. 17, except in New York, Boston, New Haven, San Francisco and Washington, with a Dec. 18 showing scheduled for New Orleans. "Dick Tracy vs. Cueball" will be screened on Dec. 18, except in New York, Boston and New Haven, with a Dec. 19 showing in Atlanta and New Orleans. "The Falcon's Adventure" will be screened in all exchange centers, except New York, on Dec. 18, and in Atlanta and New Orleans, where it will be shown on Dec. 19.

Sears, Others Due From Coast Monday

Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution for United Artists; Walter Gould, foreign manager; Paul Lazarus, director of advertising and publicity, and other members of the sales and publicity group which went to the Coast last week to view new product, will return here on Monday.

"Tender...brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

She Learned About Love Before She Learned About Life! "THAT BRENNAN GIRL"
Starring
JAMES DUNN • MONA FREEMAN
WILLIAM MARSHALL • JUNE DUPREZ
A REPUBLIC PICTURE
NOW! BRANDT'S GOTHAM
BROADWAY & 47th STREET

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN VAN JOHNSON M-G-M's 'NO LEAVE, NO LOVE'
IN PERSON FREDDIE BARTHOLOMEW
RUTH TERRY
Extra! MARY RAYE & NALDI

IRVING BERLIN'S "BLUE SKIES"
In Technicolor
starring BING CROSBY
Fred ASTAIRE - Joan CAULFIELD
A Paramount Picture
in Person
STAN KENTON and His Orchestra
plus DEAN MURPHY—THE LANE BROS.
Extra! — THE KING COLE TRIO
PARAMOUNT • TIMES SQUARE

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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THE BIGGEST HITS ON BROADWAY!!



"THE RAZOR'S EDGE"

World's Champion Boxoffice Grosser! First week new all-time record for any picture, any theatre, anywhere in the world! Second week tops the first! Now in its fourth history-making week at the Roxy!



"MY DARLING CLEMENTINE"

Exploding to new all-time 20th Century-Fox records at the long-run Rivoli Theatre! Second week matching highs of first!

The biggest figure in the Industry!!



"MARGIE" in Technicolor—"3 LITTLE GIRLS IN BLUE" in Technicolor—"CENTENNIAL SUMMER" in Technicolor—"ANNA AND THE KING OF SIAM"—"SMOKY" in Technicolor.

200 Honor Rose

(*Continued from page* 1)

journalist and humanitarian."

The dinner was the highlight of the fourth day of "Federation Week," a phase of the Federation's 29th annual appeal for funds. All day yesterday, community, trade and fraternal groups throughout the metropolitan area met to pledge their support to the Federation's current drive to raise $12,000,000 for its network of 116 medical and welfare institutions.

Speakers at the Dinner

Speakers at the dinner, in addition to Kingsberg, included Bernard M. Baruch, Herbert Bayard Swope, Joseph Willen, executive vice-president of the Federation, and Barney Balaban, Paramount president.

Balaban referred to Rose as "the man who led the amusement industry to a new landmark in its history of philanthropy." He invited newcomers to "do what Billy Rose did to the United Jewish Appeal," and cited Kingsberg as "one of the men who has moved up fast to active leadership" in Jewish philanthropic endeavor as evidenced by "the competent manner in which he has handled this year's Federation drive." By virtue of Rose's efforts, Balaban said, "our industry contributed (to the drive) the amazing sum of almost $850,000—practically six times the amount we had ever raised in prior years."

At the event, Rose, who was once Baruch's secretary, was presented with a barometrically-operated desk clock in recognition of his philanthropic work. Swope served as master of ceremonies.

Others seated on the dais, in addition to the aforementioned, included: Jack Cohn, Columbia's executive vice-president; Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president; Albert Warner of Warner Bros., all of whom served with Balaban as associate chairman of the amusement division, and Ned Depinet, RKO Radio executive vice-president.

Take Depositions in Schoenstadt Case

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Depositions are being taken from key film executives in this area, in the Piccadilly Theatre's $675,000 triple-damage anti-trust suit against eight distributors and the B. and K. and Warner circuits, according to Aaron Stein, partner with Rosenberg, Stein and Rosenberg, law firm for the Schoenstadt circuit house.

According to Stein, initial depositions being made are by Walter Immerman, B. and K. executive; James Coston, head of Warner Theatres in the Midwest and in Oklahoma, and Tom Gilliam, 20th Century-Fox branch manager in Chicago.

The actual trial is slated to come up before Judge Philip L. Sullivan in U. S. District Court on Jan. 27.

2nd for Allied Artists

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—"Tragic Symphony," it is announced by president Steve Broidy, has been selected as the second Monogram picture to be distributed by Allied Artists Corp., new organization formed to handle high-budget films. "Tragic Symphony" is the first to be produced by the newly-formed Symphony Films, headed by Benjamin Glazer and Nat W. Finston.

SRO Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

the 10 districts in the event that additional product is added to SRO's schedule either from outside producers or from the Selznick producing companies, Selznick International, Vanguard and a third company in process of formation, it was pointed out.

Conversely, the master distribution setup also permits of easy and economical liquidation in the event that future circumstances dictate the advisability of using the physical distribution facilities of an existing outside organization.

The 10 district offices are expected to be located in New York, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles and, probably, Philadelphia, Atlanta, St. Louis, Denver and Minneapolis.

Division Heads

As previously announced, Neil F. Agnew is president of SRO, and Milton Kusell is domestic sales manager. Samuel Horowitz heads the Midwestern division, with headquarters at Chicago; Thomas Duane, New England division, with headquarters at Boston, and John Howard the Pacific Coast Division with headquarters in Los Angeles. New division heads will be named shortly for the other seven domestic field headquarters.

Agnew has left here for the Coast, but is expected back in New York early next week to conduct a meeting of divisional sales executives at which impending appointments may be made.

It was pointed out that initially SRO will have only "Duel in the Sun," which will be roadshown and will requite no elaborate distribution organization, and a reissue of "Intermezzo." Selznick's next release, "The Paradine Case," scheduled to start this month, probably will not go before the cameras until January, indicating release around next September or October. Other product from SRO will follow proportionately later, and the new organization is unlikely to have continuous releases for a year from now, in consequence. Thus, the divisional distribution plan is regarded as wholly practicable for some time.

The master offices may have subbranches to facilitate print handling in large geographical areas. Otherwise, booking, theatre and print servicing operations and other exchange functions will be handled entirely by the divisional offices. No shorts or newsreels will be handled.

It was pointed out that approximately a year would be required to establish a full exchange system in the 31 key cities, obtain office, shipping, vault and other space and equipment and personnel, further adding to the hazards of following such a plan. On the other hand, it was suggested that SRO could operate its divisional exchange system for approximately the same amount which Selznick would pay to United Artists for distribution of a number of pictures comparable to SRO's schedule as now envisioned.

Selznick reportedly received favorable distribution terms from UA. He is believed to have paid 25 per cent on grosses up to $800,000, declining to a minimum 10 per cent as grosses reached specified levels above that figure.

Ross Federal Offices Sold; Out as Distribution Hope

Ross Federal Service has disposed of practically all the offices it maintained in exchange cities throughout the country while operating a checking service for film distributors, squelching reports that the Selznick Releasing Organization might acquire the facilities for its distribution organization. Selznick had been reported interested in the Ross offices some time ago.

The offices were turned over to local interests in each of the cities following unsuccessful efforts to market them as a unit to one of the several producers who have been considering establishment of their own releasing set-ups, according to Clifford Ross. Ross Federal has been concentrating on accounts outside the industry since Confidential Reports took over the function of checking percentage-picture attendance at the beginning of this year. In addition, Ross is handling non-theatrical distribution of 16mm. films for Jerry Fairbanks and plans to expand in that field if the venture proves sufficiently successful, Ross said.

Film 'Collarites'

(*Continued from page* 1)

held this week in the Oriental Theatre Building.

Atkinson said that some 800 members have already signed up for the new union. He also said that temporary officers will be appointed, although he will continue to guide the fledgling group during its organizational period.

Atkinson said that no definite wage scale has been set up but that it was hoped some system could be worked out, based on a theatre's seating capacity. A committee consisting of two cashiers, two doormen, two ushers, and two candy girls are slated to meet with Atkinson to determine minimum wage scales.

A closed shop has already been agreed upon between the new union, which is backed by IATSE, and theatre owners.

Negotiations have been in progress for several weeks between theatre owners and union officials to determine basic wage scales. According to reliable sources, it is expected that a basic wage scale of approximately $1.00 per hour will ultimately be agreed upon.

Chicago Janitors Approve Pay Raise

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—The membership of the Office, Theatre and Amusement Building Janitors, Local 25, AFL, which services theatres and office buildings in the Chicago area, has approved pay raises of 17 to 19 cents per hour, retroactive to May 1, 1946, and extending through June, 1947, thereby ending three months of negotiations between the officers of the local and the theatre and office building owners.

Thomas J. Burke, first vice-president of the Building Service Employees' International Union, AFL, has been re-elected president of Local 25. Other officers re-elected for five years are: David Brown, vice-president; Harold Hawkins, recording secretary; Olivia Bautsch, financial secretary and treasurer; Otto Winters, Frank Wheland, and Henry Glick, members of the executive board.

Zukor Group Returns

(*Continued from page* 1)

conducted a quick survey of Ireland for research material for the next Disney full-length production; as well as Wesley Ruggles, director, and Arthur Dent, former representative of Samuel Goldwyn in London, who said he would announce his plan for independent production upon his return there in February.

Moskowitz disclosed that in the course of his month-long trip to England he directed expansion of the London and Paris story departments of 20th-Fox.

Zukor said business is "enormous, all over."

Weltner stated that the tour was designed to bind the Paramount foreign unit "back into a well-knit organization." He added that he was planning to go to Australia "in a few months."

With no definite schedule mapped out for production of "The Little People," a story weaving in Irish folk lore and employing the technique of mixing in live talent and animation, Disney expects the film to take two years, possibly three.

Disney said he had established no policy "as yet" on the economic problem which besets the short subject field. He plans to issue two features a year, but his company has not decided whether to reduce the number of shorts or effect other economies.

Dent, who has investments in several British productions and re-issues, said he has some scripts and other material which might be of interest to American film men. After remaining here for a month, he will go to Hollywood and is contemplating returning to England in February.

Local Checkers

(*Continued from page* 1)

typical of other distributors using local checkers is indicated by Peter Leveathes, assistant to Tom Connors, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales. His company also, he says, now finds checker rejections below one per cent. "The personnel," Leveathes adds, "has improved immeasurably now that the war is over."

Increased honesty on the part of the average checker, Kingston declares, has been assured by employing, wherever possible, men with families, whose stability they would not wish to jeopardize. For such men, he points out, the theatre work is a means of supplementing, several days each week, the income from regular jobs. Moreover, the integrity of all applicants is carefully investigated, Kingston adds.

While some exhibitors object to local checkers on the grounds that business information leaks out to the communities through them and tends to increase local taxes, Kingston declares that general employment of out-of-town checkers would be too costly and that having attendance checked is an actual advantage to any theatre owner employing at least a handful of people—because it prevents falsification of ticket receipts.

Although members of several exhibitor organizations recently have taken pledges against admitting local checkers, the Reade circuit in New York apparently has modified its announced stand against the practice. A spokesman for that company stated at the weekend that local checkers are being accepted in instances where the distributors insist upon assigning them.

RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

TRADE SHOWINGS



BRANCH	PLACE OF SHOWING	DAY & DATE	TIME
ALBANY	Delaware Theatre 290 Delaware Avenue	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
ATLANTA	Rhodes Theatre 62 S. Rhodes Center	TUES. 1/7/47	11:00 A.M.
BOSTON	Esquire Theatre 264 Huntington Ave.	THURS. 12/19/46	10:30 A.M.
BUFFALO	Shea's Niagara Theatre 426 Niagara St.	THURS. 12/19/46	2:45 P.M.
CHARLOTTE	Plaza Theatre 1610 Central Ave.	TUES. 1/7/47	10:30 A.M.
CHICAGO	Esquire Theatre 58 E. Oak St	THURS. 12/19/46	11:00 A.M.
CINCINNATI	Esquire Theatre 320 Ludlow St.	THURS. 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.
CLEVELAND	Shaker Theatre Kinsman & Lee Roads (Shaker Heights)	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
DALLAS	Melrose Theatre 3419 Oak Lawn Avenue	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
DENVER	Esquire Theatre 6th and Downing St.	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
DES MOINES	Uptown Theatre 4115 University Ave.	WED. 1/8/47	2:00 P.M.
DETROIT	Varsity Theatre 17121 Livernois St.	THURS. 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.
INDIANAPOLIS	Cinema Theatre 213 E. 16th Street	TUES. 1/7/47	1:30 P.M.
KANSAS CITY	Kimo Theatre 3319 Main Street	THURS. 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.
LOS ANGELES	Ambassador Theatre Ambassador Hotel	THURS. 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.
MEMPHIS	Linden Circle 311 South Somerville	TUES. 1/7/47	2:30 P.M.
MILWAUKEE	Tower Theatre 757 North 27th St.	THURS. 12/19/46	2:00 P.M.
MINNEAPOLIS	Granada Theatre 3022 Hennepin Ave.	THURS. 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.
NEW HAVEN	Whitney Theatre 1220 Whitney Ave.	TUES. 1/7/47	10:45 A.M.
NEW ORLEANS	Circle Theatre St. Bernard & N. Galvez Aves.	TUES. 1/7/47	11:00 A.M.
NEW YORK	Normandie Theatre 53rd St. & Park Ave.	THURS. 12/19/46	10:30 A.M.
OKLAHOMA CITY	Uptown Theatre 1212 North Hudson St.	TUES. 1/7/47	11:00 A.M.
OMAHA	Admiral Theatre 40th & Farham Street	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
PHILADELPHIA	Uptown Theatre Broad and Susquehanna Ave.	THURS. 12/19/46	11:00 A.M.
PITTSBURGH	Shadyside Theatre 5518 Walnut St.	TUES. 1/7/47	2:00 P.M.
PORTLAND	Oriental Theatre 822 S. E. Grand Ave.	TUES. 1/7/47	2:30 P.M.
ST. LOUIS	West End Theatre 4819 Delmar Blvd	TUES. 1/7/47	1:00 P.M.
SALT LAKE CITY	Studio Theatre 161 So. Main Street	TUES. 1/7/47	9:45 A.M.
SAN FRANCISCO	Tivoli Theatre 70 Eddy St.	THURS. 12/19/46	1:30 P.M.
SEATTLE	Egyptian Theatre 4543 University Ave.	TUES. 1/7/47	2:30 P.M.
SIOUX FALLS	Hollywood Theatre 212 No. Phillips Avenue	TUES. 1/7/47	9:00 A.M.
WASHINGTON	Fox Projection Room 932 New Jersey Ave	THURS 12/19/46	2:30 P.M.

LIBERTY FILMS INC. Presents FRANK CAPRA'S

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SMPE Seeks More Financial Aid

To provide finances for many new and essential projects covering technical problems of production, distribution and exhibition, the Society of Motion Picture Engineers is launching a campaign for additional revenue through slight increases in membership dues and subscription to the monthly *Journal of the Society.*

Special effort also will be made to obtain a more equitable portion of financial and personnel support from the motion picture industry itself—producers, distributors and exhibitors—which at present is contributing only about 25 per cent of the dues collected by the SMPE, although it derives the greatest benefits from the research, technical developments, standardization activities and other work done by the engineers.

In an analysis of operating costs disclosed by Don E. Hyndman, who winds up his term as SMPE president on Dec. 31 and will be succeeded by Loren L. Ryder, it is revealed that in the 10 years to 1946 the overhead of the Society has been held down to an average of less than $25,000 a year, making the SMPE the most-economically-operated organization in relation to the size and importance of the industry it serves. These expenses include the holding of two annual conventions, as well as numerous sectional meetings, the publication of the monthly *Journal* as a permanent reference record for technical data, answering thousands of requests annually for technical information, and many other activities.

Expenses for 1946, due to general increases in costs and the Society's recently expanded operations, will run about $46,000.

RCA Official Urges Color Video Delay

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Premature attempts to introduce color television on a commercial basis might deprive the public of all television service now and for some time to come, Dr. C. B. Jolliffe, executive vice-president of RCA told the FCC today as hearings on color viedo entered the third day.

"Further developments and improvements in television must and will be made," Dr. Jolliffe said. "One of these developments will be a color system which can become an integral part of the present black-and-white system."

The RCA executive told of extensive work being conducted by his company to get the electronic color system ready for practical use.

Appearing before the commission in opposition to the adoption of color commercial standards for the CBS color-wheel method, Dr. Jolliffe said that much work remains to be done before a determination can be made as to the proper standards for a system of color.

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$100,000 NCCJ Goal

(*Continued from page* 1)

Louis Nizer, industry attorney, was chairman of the luncheon-meeting, which served to launch a drive for a minimum goal of $100,000 for Conference activities in the immediate future. Serving on the fund-raising committee are Ned E. Depinet, William R. Rodgers and Max A. Cohen. J. Robert Rubin, who has presided at Conference luncheons in earlier years, appeared on the dais despite recent illness and expressed gratification over the record turnout yesterday.

Plaques were presented to the three honor guests by former Ambassador to Great Britain James G. Winant, Will H. Hays and James A. Farley. Speakers, in addition to those named, included Dr. Everett R. Clinchy, president of the Conference, and John Golden, theatrical producer, who read a message from General "Ike" Eisenhower which paid tribute to Berlin for his songs and shows which cheered the nation's armies in two world wars.

Nizer called for increased aid to humanity by "moral scientists" working through organizations such as the Conference to unite men in brotherhood.

Dr. Clinchy cited the work of the three honor guests in educating people to live together in amity and in the "one world" of the late Wendell Willkie, to whom he paid tribute.

"Progress is being made by the National Conference toward the goal of American brotherhood," Dr. Clinchy said. "A new day is dawning. We invite you to have a share in it," he told the huge gathering.

Former Ambassador Winant presented the honor plaque to Skouras, commending the 20th Century-Fox president for his work in the cause of human need, his philanthropic work, his contributions to a world of entertainment and his work as chairman of the American Brotherhood campaign this year.

Responding, Skouras said that he could not accept the honor as a personal tribute but only on behalf of the thousands in the industry who had worked in the Brotherhood campaign and contributed to the humanitarian causes with which Skouras has been identified. He expressed the wish that David O. Selznick, co-chairman of the Brotherhood campaign, could have been present to share the honor.

Hays presented the plaque to Sherwood for his authorship of such plays as "Abe Lincoln in Illinois" and "There Shall Be no Night," and for his part in shaping public opinion during the war years as an aide to the late President Roosevelt and through the Office of War Information.

Sherwood warned that regardless of the fate of Hitler, the doctrine of hate known as Hitlerism lives on and must be exterminated. The Conference and organizations like it, together with education, are the best weapons for the fight against prejudice, he said.

Farley made the presentation of the Conference plaque to Berlin, citing the latter's inspiring songs and ballads in peace and in wartime and his contributions to the morale of service men in two wars. Berlin praised the work of the Conference and, explaining that he could neither make a speech nor sing a song properly, chose the latter, and sang who he described as his best song for the time and the occasion, "White Christmas."

Among those at the dais in addition to those already named were: Barney Balaban, Jack Cohn, Ray Bolger, Harry Brandt, Si Fabian, Matthew Fox, William German, Leonard Goldenson, Malcolm Kingsberg, John R. Kilpatrick, Robert Mochrie, Abe Montague, John O'Connor, Charles Reagan, Nate Spingold, Frederic Ullman, Jr., Jock Whitney and Mrs. Wendell Willkie.

E-L Holds First Meeting in Dallas

DALLAS, Dec. 12.—Initial sessions of Eagle-Lion Films' first southern sales meeting opened here at the Hotel Adolphus yesterday, with Alfred A. Schwalberg, vice-president and general manager, presiding and announcing a 1947 lineup of productions, including four first releases.

Arthur Krim, Eagle-Lion president, spoke on the formation of the company and its objectives. Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising-publicity, outlined promotional plans. Harry Thomas, president of PRC, attended the meetings as a guest. Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production, arrived from Hollywood late in the afternoon when his plane was delayed by bad weather.

Following today's business sessions Foy was honored by Krim and Schwalberg at a cocktail party for Texas exhibitors and press. The Dallas meeting combined meetings originally scheduled for both Dallas and Hollywood.

E-L, PRC Top Executives To Attend Chicago Meet

CHICAGO, Dec. 12.—Top executives of Eagle-Lion and Producers Releasing Corp. will attend a two-day sales meeting which starts here Saturday in the Blackstone Hotel. Expected to arrive tomorrow from Dallas are Alfred W. Schwalberg, E-L vice-president and general sales manager, who will conduct the meeting; Arthur B. Krim, president; Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of production, and Max E. Youngstein, director of publicity-advertising. Also coming from Dallas is Harry Thomas, PRC president and general sales manager. Arriving from New York will be Arthur Jeffrey, E-L exploitation manager.

A M P A Holiday Luncheon Today

The Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' international Christmas luncheon, which will be held at the Town Hall Club, here, today, with Ernest W. Fredman, British trade paper publisher, as guest of honor, will have the following seated at the dais: Spyros Skouras, Phil Reisman, Raymond Massey, Barney Balaban, William Brenner, Murray Silverstone, Maureen O'Hara, Joseph Friedman, Theodore Smith, R. W. Altschuler, J. H. Seidelman, Simone Simon, Norton W. Ritchey, Rutgers Neilson, Jack and Charles Alicoate, Phil Williams.

Films Switched to New Gov't Agency

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—President Truman today abolished the Office of Reconversion and assigned motion picture activities of the Government to the re-created Executive Office of Government Reports.

Films will form one of the three top divisions of the new agency, created by an executive order signed by the President this morning. Arch Mercey, film chief of the old OMR, will continue his duties with the Reports Office. Film activities of the Government are scheduled to continue at least until June 30, when the Reports Agency will have completed its Congressional appropriation.

Whether or not the agency continues will be up to the Republican Congress. GOP leaders have already gone on record as "being against a film message program." Senator Robert Taft of Ohio has criticized any attempt on the part of Administration leaders to organize media industries for the purpose of "propagandizing the people."

On the House side, Representative Joseph W. Martin of Massachusetts has blasted the idea of organizing the film industry to inform the people. "That is what the Republican Party has been fighting since the early days of the New Deal. We intend to rid our Government of all so-called information programs, which are in reality nothing but propaganda efforts to mislead the people," Martin commented.

John Steelman, former OMR director and strong advocate of the film message program, was appointed "Assistant President." He will continue to advise the White House on economic matters, President Truman said.

Slight Defection in CSU Striker Ranks

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—The Conference of Studio Unions appeared to be losing support in some quarters and gaining it in another, as the strike continued on an essentially unchanged basis toward weekend, with the production level showing a steady climb.

In the first important defection from CSU lines, a committee representing 35 members of the set decorators local applied to the IATSE for a charter. Roy Brewer of 'IA' said he would issue permits enabling them to work as members of Local No. 44, pending a decision, a month hence, regarding the charter petition. CSU leaders said only 10 decorators are involved and charged the producers with having attempted, through Brewer, to whittle away the strike's strength. The Set Decorators' membership totals 77.

On an opposite tack, the Screen Writers Guild, officially neutral heretofore, adopted a resolution calling on Eric Johnston to clarify the producers' attitude toward a statement, reportedly made to him by Richard Walsh, IATSE president, that "'IA' should be given complete jurisdiction in the studios." The resolution said SWG "will vigorously resist and oppose any move on the part of IATSE or any other group which would jeopardize the autonomy of SWG."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 16	LONE STAR MOONLIGHT Ken Curtis Joan Barton O—(854)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE Lucille Ball John Hodiak D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	SILVER RANGE Johnny Mack Brown Raymond Hatton O—(563) (Rev. 11/27/46)		STARS OVER TEXAS Eddie Dean Roscoe Ates O	HOME IN OKLAHOMA Roy Rogers Dale Evans O—72 mins. (5542) (Rev. 11/18/46)		(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE Henry Fonda Linda Darnell D—97 mins. (645) (Rev. 10/9/46)	(Hopalong Cassidy Prod.) DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND Bill Boyd O—62 mins. (Rev. 9/20/46)	(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL Ginger Rogers Burgess Meredith David Niven D—94 mins. (Rev. 11/15/46)	
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	UNDER-CURRENT Robert Taylor Katharine Hepburn D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)	MARGIE (Color) Jeanne Crain Glenn Langan C—94 mins (646) (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN Rex Harrison Lilli Palmer C—109 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—61 mins. (824) (Rev. 11/28/46)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		SANTA FE UPRISING Allan Lane Bobby Blake O—56 mins.	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)	WANTED FOR MURDER Eric Portman D—103 mins. (644) (Rev. 11/11/46)			
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue O—73 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)	(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce C—65 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)	(Dec. Releases) SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth D—87 mins. (Rev. 12/5/46)	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)		(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)		TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent D—98 mins.	
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)		SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan M—75 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)			(Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648) (Rev. 12/2/46)	(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru D—96 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)	I'LL BE YOURS Deanna Durbin Tom Drake William Bendix Adolphe Menjou	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—64 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)		SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely 'Lasses' White O—681	BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev. 9/26/46)		(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)				THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) M—105 min. (610) (Rev. 12/10/46)
Jan. 4	(Dec. Release) RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO Louis Hayward Barbara Britton		GINGER Frank Albertson Barbara Reed			(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunne Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)					
Jan. 11			CISCO AND THE ANGEL Gilbert Roland O						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd		THE MAN I LOVE Ida Lupino Robert Alda D—96 mins. (611)
Jan. 18						ANGEL AND THE BADMAN John Wayne Irene Rich					
Jan. 25									PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI George Sanders Angela Lansbury		HUMORESQUE Joan Crawford John Garfield

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 117 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PICTURE ASSOC. OF AMERICA,
28 WEST 44TH ST., 21ST FL.
NEW YORK,
N. Y. (3 COPIES)

5% Less from Candy Sales For Theatres

Concessionaires Plan To Cut Revenue Soon

Exhibitors throughout the country, with the possible exception of the Northeast, soon will face a five per cent reduction in their returns from operators of candy stands and vending machines. Herbert R. Ebenstein, vice-president of the Group Service Agency, representing the Sanitary Automatic Candy Corp. and its affiliates, disclosed here.

The present 30 per cent return to exhibitors from the

(*Continued on page 4*)

Kalmine Calls 32 To Meeting Here

Harry M. Kalmine, general manager of Warner Bros. Theaters, will conduct a meeting of 32 zone managers, film buyers and home office executives tomorrow in New York.

Zone managers attending will include James Coston, Chicago; Nat Wolf, Cleveland; I. J. Hoffman, New Haven; Frank Damis, Newark; C. J. Latta, Albany; Ted Schlanger, Philadelphia; M. A. Silver; Pittsburgh; John J. Payette, Washington.

Film Buyers at the session will be

(*Continued on page 4*)

Jenkins Reelected; Has 6 New Houses

ATLANTA, Dec. 15.—Six new theatres have been opened during 1946 and extensive repairs and improvements were made on several other houses, stockholders of Georgia Theatres, Paramount partners were informed at their annual meeting held here, and at which William K. Jenkins was re-elected president and general manager and renamed to the board of directors, along with Mrs. Arthur Lucas, Leonard H. Goldenson and M. F. Gowthorpe.

Other officers elected were: Frederick G. Storey, vice-president and assistant general manager; M. A. Barre, secretary, and Gowthorpe,

(*Continued on page 4*)

Theatre Building Bars Seen Falling In Spring of 1947

Spring of 1947 will see the beginning of the removal of U. S. Government barriers to theatre building, it was predicted here last week by John Eberson, of John and Drew Eberson, international theatre architects, with headquarters in New York. Eberson said a crumbling Veterans Housing Program, signified by the recent resignation of Wilson W. Wyatt as national housing expediter, has brightened the prospects for new theatre construction. But the amazing feature of this circumstance, he said, is that "in no way would the construction of theatres since the end of the war have interfered with veterans' housing construction."

Last Friday, MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported President Truman had indicated the Veterans Housing Program would continue—with fewer commer-

(*Continued on page 4*)

Siegel a Producer at 20th Century-Fox

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Sol Siegel, who recently resigned from Paramount, where he made "Blue Skies" and other pictures, has been signed by 20th-Fox as a producer, effective Jan. 1.

PRC Changes Back to Producers Releasing

The management of PRC Pictures, which has its own exchanges in most exchange centers, has changed its name to Producers Releasing Corp., the name under which it operated for several years following its formation, and which name it abandoned in June, 1944, when PRC Pictures, Inc., was incorporated in Ohio.

N. Y. Censor Report Seen Omitted Again

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Posibility that the annual report by the motion picture (censor) division of the State Education Department will not be compiled and published for the second consecutive year is seen in the continuance of the temporary director setup that has prevailed since April, 1945.

Dr. Irwin Conroe, assistant commissioner for higher education, who was named temporary head of the censorship division when Irwin Esmond retired on reaching the age of 70, did not issue a report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 1945. It was

(*Continued on page 4*)

Films to Play a Part In Edison Centennial

Motion pictures will figure importantly in the promotion, and during the observance of the Thomas Alva Edison Centennial to observe the 100th anniversary of the birth of the inventor of the incandescent lamp, the phonograph, and the kinetoscope, the latter a forerunner of motion picture cinematography.

The Thomas A. Edison Committee, here, discloses that the U. S. State Department is collecting all available film concerning Edison for the purpose of preparing a documentary motion picture to be distributed throughout the world as part of a program to "sell" America. Distribution will be handled through the various American Embassies and Legations, with the production to be accompanied by dialogue in 20 different languages.

Industry representatives, many of whom are on the Centennial Committee, are to attend a general dinner at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, on the evening of Feb. 11.

The committee will make available promotional material which theatres can use for display, tieing-in locally with various societies participating in the event through the use of posters and other "paper" and through motion picture contests which are being devised.

So far as is known, the various technical societies of the motion picture industry has no formal plans for participating in the observations, nor will any of the various electrical and engineering organizations directly concerned with the film industry. However, many "outside" electrical and engineering corporations which manufacture some equipment used in studios and theatres, in addition to items for many other fields, are working on the committee's program.

The SMPE plans to participate importantly in the Edison observation. Don Hyndman of the SMPE is a member of the centennial committee.

Say Members Of Allied 'Sold' On Production

Stanley Neil To Produce 12 in Guaranteed Deal

The proposition that National Allied foster independent production through guaranteed playing time by members, as first brought out at the organization's Boston meeting last September, has been "sold" to members, as well as some non-member independents in sufficient number to put the idea in work, according to informed exhibition sources here.

Under the proposal substantially agreed upon, Allied and other theatremen would commit themselves to play

(*Continued on page 4*)

Arrowhead and WB Terminate Deal

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Warner Brothers and Arrowhead Productions, in a joint statement on Friday, announced the "amicable dissolution" of their contract.

Organized in Sept., 1944, by Mervyn LeRoy, Arrowhead moved into Warner's studio offices at that time, but earlier commitments with other companies for "The Robe," and other pictures, now compels the unit to postpone production activity at Warners.

Continued delay of LeRoy's outside

(*Continued on page 4*)

Jensen Starts on 'March of Dimes'

Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the March of Dimes, launched the industry's drive on Saturday, when he outlined preliminary plans to the second annual convention of the State Advisors on

(*Continued on page 4*)

In This Issue

Reviewed on Pages 6 and 7 are "California," "Lone Star Moonlight," "Affairs of Geraldine," "Temptation," "Pastoral Symphony" and "Beauty and the Bandit."

Personal Mention

BEN GOETZ, M-G-M executive, and VINCENT KORDA, British director, left New York for England on the *Queen Elizabeth* on Saturday.

•

ALYCE BARBARA MANDEL, daughter of HARRY MANDEL, RKO Theatres national advertising-publicity director, was married to STANLEY SIDNEY UNGER yesterday at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here.

•

LOU WEINBERG, Columbia circuit sales executive, became a grandfather last week when a daughter, EILEEN MARIE, was born to MR. and MRS. BERNARD LOEVENER at Misericordia Hospital, here.

•

MANNY REINER, sales manager in Latin America for the Selznick Releasing Organization, arrived here Friday after a six-month tour of his territory.

• •

MOREY GOLDSTEIN, Monogram's national sales manager, will be in Boston today and tomorrow from New York. He will return here Wednesday.

•

A. L. PRATCHETT, Latin-American manager for Paramount International, is here after a four-month trip through Central and South America.

•

VERNE CALDWELL, Walt Disney Productions studio public relations chief, is en route back to the Coast after a visit here.

•

NORMAN ELSON, vice-president of Trans-Lux Theatres, left here yesterday for Boston. He will return tomorrow.

•

RICHARD WALSH, IATSE international president, is due to return here from Indianapolis today.

•

J. CHEEVER COWDIN, Universal board chairman, has arrived on the Coast from New York.

•

MAURICE KING, Monogram-Allied Artists producer, is visiting in New York from Hollywood.

•

N. PETER RATHVON, president of RKO and RKO Radio, is due here today from Hollywood.

•

JACK WARNER has delayed his return here from Europe for another two weeks.

•

SAMUEL J. BRISKIN of Liberty Films has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

DONALD NELSON, SIMPP president, has returned to Hollywood from New York.

•

GEORGE D. BURROWS of Monogram has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

ROBERT SAVINI, president of Astor Pictures, was a recent Atlanta visitor.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

BEHIND the story of David Selznick's break with United Artists last week is another story of the vigorous and extended efforts of many personalities to avert **the rupture.**

Involved in the latter were owners of the company, its top executives, members of its board of directors, attorneys and advisors. The discussions went one way, then the other; one led to a "peace" celebration at Romanoff's.

Time and again, Mary Pickford who, with Selznick and Charles Chaplin, owns one of the three blocks of United Artists stock outstanding, became the key figure in the discussions as her influence veered toward one or the other of the co-owners. As is now known, she came ultimately to see eye-to-eye with Chaplin and the die was cast.

Before that happened, however, there were very serious and determined efforts made to agree upon a deal for the sale of UA. Inevitably, they came up against Chaplin's unwillingness to sell at any price. The price Selznick had in mind was $10,000,000 for the Chaplin and Pickford holdings.

•

In other directions, peacemaking efforts went on apace and there were times when it appeared that if an agreement were not reached, a stalemate might be. It was at such times that Miss Pickford, if not wavering in Selznick's direction, appeared at least to be veering away from the adamant Chaplin position toward a neutral corner. Her neutrality would have given rise to a stalemate insofar as the company was concerned. Corporate action would not have resulted against Selznick and whatever litigation might have ensued would have been restricted to Chaplin vs. Selznick. That happened once before and did not result in a break between Selznick and UA.

However, a thorough airing was given the positions of the opposing sides, which essentially were those of Chaplin and Selznick. Participants claim that the issues were absolutely irreconcilable, that a truce was impossible and that, when Miss Pickford sided with Chaplin at the last, the inescapable result was UA vs. Selznick.

• •

The work of bringing the Motion Picture Foundation, the all-industry welfare organization, into being is proceeding as rapidly as possible.

An erroneous impression which appears to be widespread in the industry is that the recent meeting in New Orleans to advance the general idea of the Foundation and to give it definite outline, was an organizing meeting, and that the Foundation would spring into being immediately.

The New Orleans meeting was a discussion and planning session, rather than an organizing meeting. Its most important function, perhaps, was the opportunity it afforded to appraise what interest there was within the industry for the Foundation idea and to assay the amount and quality of the support for it which might be expected.

The industry-wide representation which demonstrated its earnestness by traveling long distances and sacrificing much valuable time to attend the New Orleans meeting convinced all those present that the idea was worthwhile. Obviously, the next step was to bring the plan into sharper focus by giving it outline and detail that would recommend it and facilitate understanding of its purpose and possibilities to all in the industry who were not at the meeting.

•

Various committees were formed for that purpose, committees on organization, scope, finance, public relations and an over-all coordinating committee. The first four were charged with presenting their respective views of the form a Foundation might take; the last with coordinating the reports of the four other committees and correlating them in order to present the proposed outlines of the Foundation to the industry at large and offering a plan by which it could be brought into being.

That work is in progress now and should be submitted to the industry soon. Thereafter, the work of organizing the Foundation will proceed. As of now, the Foundation does not exist. The planning committees which functioned at New Orleans went out of existence when their reports were presented.

The Foundation, if there is to be one, must spring from the grass roots of the industry. The coordinating committee or designated representatives soon will visit the key cities of the country and advise and assist local industry leaders in each territory in forming permanent local organizations, wherever support for the Foundation is sufficient.

Newsreel Parade

DISASTER is again in the newsreel foreground, with all current reels reporting on the tenement collapse in New York. Also featured are the crash landing of a bomber, opening of the Chinese assembly, Cardinal Spellman's Christmas party, and sundry other items. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 31 — Tenement collapses in New York buries scores. Pilot of B-25 makes amazing emergency landing in Maryland. Gen. Chiang Kai Chek opens Chinese first national assembly. Herbert Hoover asks aid for needy Greece. Christmas spirit: Cardinal Spellman's party for foundlings. Hollywood fasbions. Sports: fishing, racing.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 229—Scores entombed in New York tenement crash. Hoover urges Greek aid. Plane in perilous landing. Cardinal Spellman's Christmas party. Japs revive racing. Science aids fishermen.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 32 — Night crash traps families in tenement. Hoover supports Greek relief. Tokyo goes to the races. Ray Milland—a star—comes home. Pearl Harbor—five years later.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 34 — China holds national assembly. New York tenement disaster. LaGuardia in final UNRRA report. B-25 makes crash landing. Horse racing resumed in Japan.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 563 — Crash levels New York tenement. Army bomber crash-lands. Hoover asks Greek relief. Science aids fishermen. Season's first football bowl game. Christmas greetings!

Jerry Pickman Named E-L Publicity Head

Jerry Pickman has been named publicity manager of Eagle-Lion Films, by Max E. Youngstein, E-L's director of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Pickman has resigned his post in the Selznick-Vanguard home office advertising-publicity department to assume his new affiliation.

Formerly executive assistant to Hal Horne at 20th Century-Fox, Pickman was a newspaper man and has had many years of theatrical publicity background. A veteran of World War II, Pickman prior to entering motion pictures, handled promotional activities for Eddie Cantor, Tommy Dorsey and Larry Clinton, among others.

Hughes Asks Early N. Y. 'Outlaw' Trial

Attorneys for the Hughes Tool Co. on Friday filed papers for immediate trial of the firm's action for declaratory judgment and restraining order enjoining New York's license commissioner Benjamin Fielding and police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander from censoring or interfering with New York showings of Hughes' "The Outlaw."

The action asks the court to rule that the license commissioner and police department have no legal right or power to censor a motion picture which has been licensed for showing throughout New York State by the motion picture division of the State Education Department.

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JUDY'S A RIOT... FROM GHOST TO GHOST!



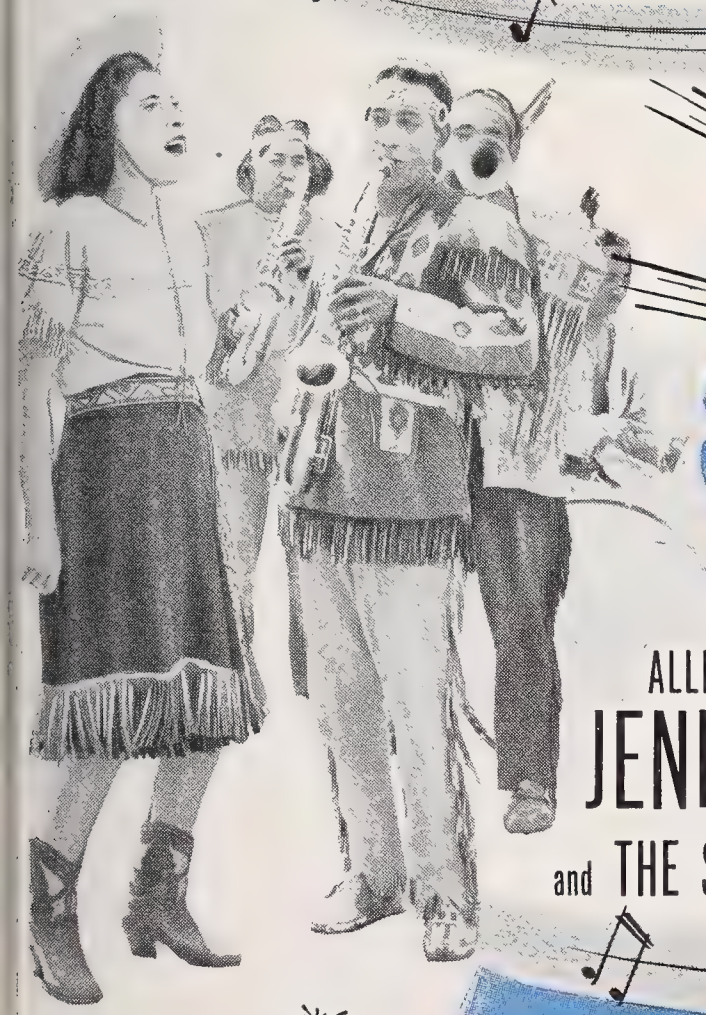


There's only one Queen of the Hill-Billies to give audiences the laughing Willies!

COLUMBIA PICTURES presents

JUDY CANOVA

Singin' in the Corn





ALLEN JENKINS · GUINN "Big Boy" WILLIAMS

and THE SINGING INDIAN BRAVES

Screenplay by Isabel Dawn and Monte Brice • Songs by Allan Roberts and Doris Fisher

Directed by DEL LORD • Produced by TED RICHMOND

Young Headed for SOPEG Presidency

Sidney Young, national representative of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, heads the list of candidates for executive positions in elections to be held here today among members of the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local No. 109. Only the vice-presidency is being contested.

The election of Young to the local's top post was assured two weeks ago when Norman Hasselo, of United Artists, declined nomination. Hasselo, vice-president of the guild, is running for re-election against Pat Di Blasi, of 20th Century Fox. The retiring president of the local is Herman Liveright of Paramount.

Otto Langer, formerly of the Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer exchange, is unchallenged in his bid for re-election as secretary-treasurer, and Jean Forestier, of United Artists, is uncontested candidate for recording secretary, a post now held by Lillian Edell of 20th-Fox.

Nominees for the four positions open on the union's trial board are: John Cuniff, M-G-M exchange; Milton Bleman, Paramount Theatres; Douglas Brockhurst, RKO Radio; Vincent Maher, Columbia, and Norman Hyman, RKO. Other members of the seven-member board are the vice-president of the local and two members of the executive board, designated by the board.

Also to be elected today are chapter officers.

Six CSU Locals Seen Losing to IATSE

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Numerically important contingents from six Conference of Studio Unions locals have started negotiations for induction into IATSE locals or for the issuance of charters, according to Roy Brewer, 'IA' chief here. The studio strike, sponsored by the CSU has been dragging on for several weeks, with 'IA' workers crossing picket lines and helping maintain production.

The defections reported by Brewer are said to be in the ranks of set decorators, scenic artists, story analysts, set designers, carpenters and painters. A jurisdictional dispute between CSU and 'IA' carpenters touched off the strike.

Although welcoming the trend reported by Brewer, an 'IA' spokesman denied that Richard F. Walsh, international president of the union, had told the producers that 'IA' should be given complete jurisdiction in the studios. The Screen Writers Guild has passed a resolution calling on Byron Price, Hollywood vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, to clarify the producers' attitude.

Film Premiere Over Video for Press

Theatremen and the press will see Jules Levey's new film, "New Orleans," over television in a premiere now being arranged by Levey and the Don Lee Broadcasting System, according to the Television Broadcasters Association here. The film is scheduled to have its theatre premiere Feb. 18 in New Orleans.

5% Less from Candy

(*Continued from page* 1)

machines is scheduled to drop to 25 per cent, while the 25 per cent now being paid from counter receipts will go down to 20 per cent, Ebenstein said, explaining that the cuts have been made necessary by a rise in wholesaale candy costs.

Pointing out that the exhibitors' returns are based on net profit, Ebenstein, who has just completed an extended visit to his company's offices across the nation, finds there is a tendency to keep theatre candy stands open beyond the 32 hours per week when peak sales are possible. He believes a combination of candy and machine selling, depending on the latter during the slack hours, will result in a valuable economy, tending to offset somewhat the effect of the forthcoming percentage cut.

Ebenstein states that there is every indication that sugar allocations to the candy industry will be increased from the present 60 per cent to 80 per cent on April 1, 1947, and that this will be reflected in accelerated production schedules.

Currently, he added, the Group Service Agency is conducting a survey of consumer reaction to the current increase of counter candy-bar prices from five cents to six and seven cents. Machine prices, however, are being held at a nickel, but the size of bars has been cut.

N. Y. Censor Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

understood that at first he did not think a report was mandatory; rather that it was prepared only if and when the Commissioner of Education required one.

When Dr. Conroe's physicians ordered him to relinquish the motion picture division post, Dr. Ward G. Bowen, head of the Bureau of Visual Aids, was named temporary director, in May, after the fiscal year of 1945-46 had ended. Dr. Bowen, who holds two positions, did not undertake preparation of a report because it was not for a period in which he had served, according to the general understanding here.

Likelihood that the report, which would contain a statistical breakdown on the number of pictures submitted for licensing, the number rejected or depleted, and the grounds for rejection or deletion, will be issued is not believed to be great.

Emphasis is laid in Department circles on the fact non-issuance of an annual report has no connotation of "concealment" purpose.

Jensen on 'Dimes'

(*Continued from page* 1)

Women's Activities, held at the Hotel Biltmore, here. Fredric March, one of Jensen's volunteer aids from the motion picture and theatrical industries, also addressed the 48 delegates, representing every state in the union.

Jensen, whose motion picture division has established headquarters at the Hotel Astor, here, told the convention that he is enlisting the cooperation of all motion picture and theatrical producers, and that special events, featuring stars of the stage and screen, will be scheduled throughout the country from now until the March of Dimes theatre collections, Jan. 24 through Jan. 30.

Allied Production

(*Continued from page* 1)

a minimum of four of a 12-feature production program as a new measure to insure them of some product other than that of regular producers-distributors.

Stanley Neil, whose production experience dates back 25 years, and who is now engaged in the educational, industrial and other non-theatrical film fields, said here yesterday that he already has a contract with Allied to produce the 12, either here or in Hollywood.

However, an investigation shows that the Yonkers, N. Y., studio which had figured in early talks concerning the production at present amounts to only a sign on a vacant lot which proclaims that a "motion picture studio will be erected here."

Neil's associate in the production venture is Horace Schmidlapp, who has financed a number of Broadway plays. It is said that financing already is set, with a $3,000,000 budget for the 12 films, each costing $250,000.

Although assurances were given that the program will start rolling early next year, information on the matter of studio space, story properties, talent and other production items could not be given.

Since September, principals of Allied have canvassed the membership on its receptivity to the idea. Results of this have yet to be officially disclosed. Irving Dollinger, particularly active in the move, could not be reached for comment.

It was made clear that Allied would not participate in production itself; instead, was solely interested in the establishment of a new source of product. As the program has now developed, Neil and Schmidlapp are said to have a pre-production guarantee of at least negative costs.

Arrowhead and WB

(*Continued from page* 1)

commitments, particularly "The Robe," has led him to suggest termination of the agreement because Arrowhead could not become operative for some time.

"Under the circumstances which delayed Arrowhead from commencing operations at Warner Brothers," LeRoy stated, "I felt the studio did not have to wait until I had fulfilled my obligations for 'The Robe' and other pictures."

LeRoy further stated that Arrowhead Productions would be maintained as a corporate entity for future production activities. "Warners expressed complete understanding of LeRoy's viewpoint and agreed to the friendly termination of the contract," it was said.

Jenkins Reelected

(*Continued from page* 1)

treasurer. Appointments announced by Jenkins were: John H. Stembler, as legal adviser; E. E. Whitaker, operations manager for out-of-town theatres; T. H. Read, operations manager of Fox Parking Service and the Fox, Paramount, Roxy and Capitol theatres; H. P. Rhodes, booking and buying manager; E. B. Whitham, purchasing agent; Harry J. Glenn, supervisor of maintenance; Harvey Smith, director of publicity and advertising; Willis J. Davis, assistant to the president.

Theatre Building

(*Continued from page* 1)

cial building controls—and that he had named Frank R. Creedon to replace Wyatt.

"Thousands of theatres in operation in the U. S. have outlived their usefulness," Eberson said. He described these houses as "derelicts" which are expensive in operation and constantly at loggerheads with building authorities. Citing the industry's "unsurpassed" contribution to the war effort on the home front, Eberson said he has failed to understand the Administration's attitude in stifling theatre construction since the theatre's contribution to public morale is equal in importance to the benefits accruing from other more favored (in terms of building) American institutions.

Eberson predicted relaxation of theatre building barriers will set in motion the construction of theatres to meet a 10 per cent normal increase demand for new houses, a 10 per cent demand to satisfy replacement needs, and will see large-scale construction of 300-seat 16mm. houses of the prefabricated type to meet the requirements of rural communities.

Eberson said the reason for the breakdown in the veterans housing program is that returning soldiers have indicated that they do not want to be saddled with houses of their own.

Relaxation Predicted

Eberson disclosed that his firm is at present tied in with the construction of seven new theatres in Mexico City, one in Caracas, Venezuela, one in Panama, and one in Haiti. He is now negotiating with the Chinese Government for the construction of 500 16mm. pre-fabricated theatres in that country. RKO, he said, is planning to erect 500 16mm. theatres throughout South America.

During the war Eberson served with the War Production Board in Washington as a dollar-a-year man in charge of civil service requirements. He handled applications for necessary architectural building, with particular reference to the amusement industry, for eight months.

Kalmine Calls 32

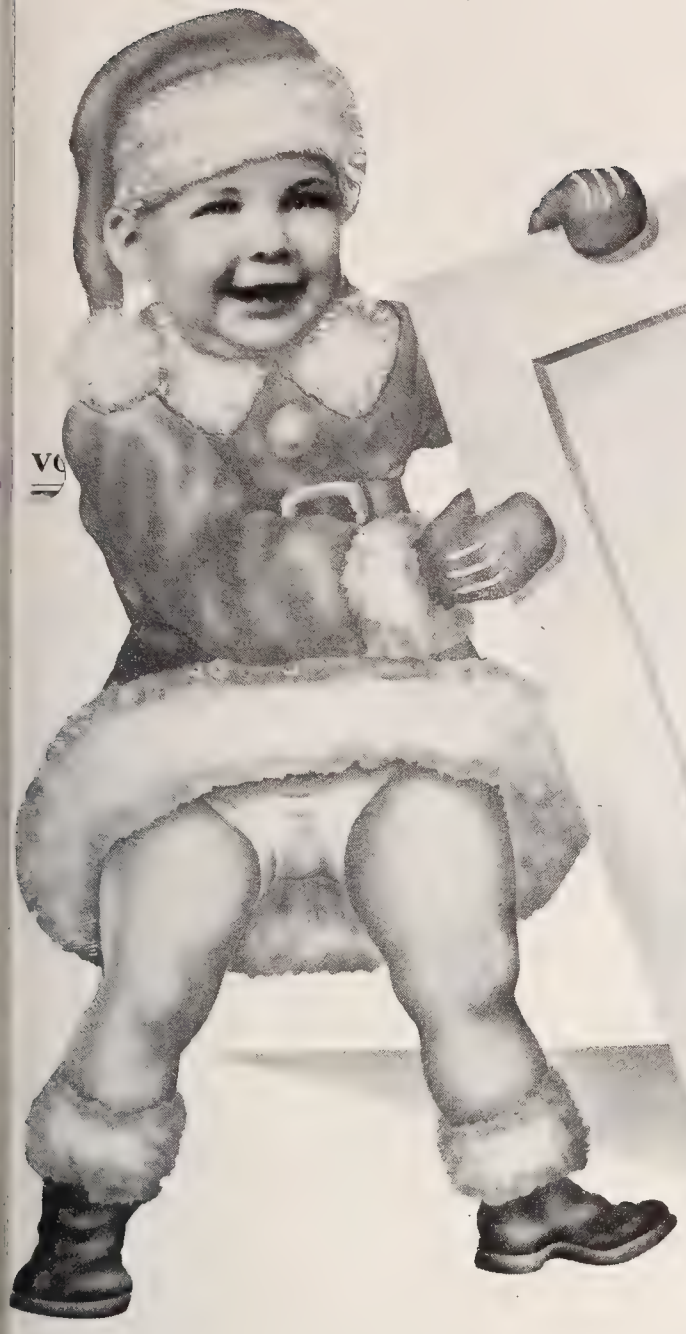
(*Continued from page* 1)

Harry Feinstein, Pittsburgh; Max Friedman, Albany; Alex Halperin, Chicago; Max Hoffman and Bert Jacocks, New England; John Turner, Philadelphia; George Crouch, Washington; Tony Stern, Cleveland; Sam Blaskey, Newark.

Among home office executives who will participate are Clayton E. Bond, Frank E. Cahill, Jr., Herb Copelan, Nat D. Fellman, Harry Goldberg, Louis J. Kaufman, Herman R. Maier, Walter F. Marshall, W. Stewart McDonald, Frank N. Phelps, Harry Rosenquest, Leonard Schlesinger, Dan Triester, Abel Vigard, Rudolph Weiss.

Promote Tom Lucy

Tom Lucy, who has been acting branch manager of the M-G-M Atlanta exchange for the past six months has been promoted to manager by William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager. Lucy succeeds to the post formerly held by William B. Zoellner, now in charge of the reprint and importations division with headquarters at the home office.



Holiday Greetings

IT is with great joy, that we enter into the spirit of this Holiday Season . . . and greet our many friends in the Motion Picture Industry.

WE consider ourselves fortunate that our function in this great industry allows us the privilege of pleasant business associations with producers, distributors and exhibitors alike . . . with whom we have established enduring friendships and mutual respect.

AS 1946 draws to a close, and we approach the dawn of a new year . . . we take this opportunity to thank all of you for your cooperation during the past year . . . and to extend our sincere wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Bountiful New Year.

The Prize Baby

NATIONAL *Screen* SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Short Subjects

"Germany Today"
(RKO-Pathe)

No. 2 in the current "This Is America" series shows that Germany definitely is not America today, but the spread of many U. S. influences over there probably warrants inclusion of the subject. The film is more interesting for its little glimpses of life in the conquered nation than it is helpful as a study of conditions and trends, which are more difficult to probe in a short documentary.

Most effective are shots of the people enjoying outdoor entertainments, parades and sports in the midst of bomb-scarred buildings. It is good, also, to see the several political parties campaigning in an atmosphere of freedom. The teeming occupation forces scurry about their tasks, which range from unloading American food to correcting the answers in English lessons as taught through an Army newspaper.

Gradually, skilfully producer Frederick Ullman, Jr., swings from the hopeful to the ominous as his cameras focus on black markets in full blast and whisperings among the Nazi underground. Narrator Dwight Weist states the problems clearly. Their answers are not to be had as yet.

"Slappily Married"
(Columbia)

A dim-witted husband who caters to his superstition about Friday the 13th, Joe De Rita stays home from work in order not to tempt the devil. But he can't escape his fate: Joe almost destroys the kitchen, innocently gets caught with another woman, thereby causing his wife to leave. Then he's caught trying to sneak into a women's hotel. Just about everything that could go wrong does so. Running time, 16½ minutes. Release date, Nov. 7.

"Stork Crazy"
(Paramount)

In this, another of the Jerry Fairbanks "Speaking of Animals" series, some of the recent arrivals in animalland are visited, including the cat, dog, skunk, cow, hippopotamus, camel and pig families, with amusing sidelights. Though the baby monkeys are extremely funny-looking, the solicitous mother reassures the audience that they all look like humans when they're first born. Running time, 10 minutes.



Reviews

"California"
(Paramount)

Hollywood, Dec. 15

WITH Ray Milland, Barbara Stanwyck and Barry Fitzgerald for top billing, and with a story that merits their presence told with power and conviction, this splendidly staged and directed Technicolor Western is a box-office natural. It is a story of the wagon-train people who made their way to California in 1848 in time to participate in the excitement accompanying the discovery of gold, and remained to figure in the conflict marking the making of the decision to accept Statehood in 1850. There is historical background for the stirring events pictured, but the personal stories of the principal characters are to the fore throughout and there is never a dull or routine moment.

The picture combines, in an extremely effective way, the more rugged type of pioneer story, generically but not otherwise comparable to "The Spoilers," with the glamor of vivid Technicoloration and the use of song numbers in the style of the period. To blend these in a fast-moving and powerful whole was an undertaking of proportions handsomely executed by producer Seton I. Miller, director John Farrow and screenplaywrights Frank Butler and Theodore Strauss, who took their material from a story by Boris Ingster.

Filmed on the grand scale in every particular, the picture presents Milland as an Army deserter working as a guide for a wagon train, Miss Stanwyck as a girl with a past (never completely clarified) and Fitzgerald as a kindly wagon-owner who gives her passage to California when the ladies of the outfit try to leave her stranded. The guide and the girl are in bitter conflict from the beginning, and when he is injured en route she goes on with the train and has obtained possession of a gambling resort by the time he arrives in California. They gamble, he winning the resort, and she promises to marry the local kingpin of power, a former slaver and present treasonist, played by George Coulouris, although she knows the extent of his villiany. Milland recovers from an attempt on his life and returns to oppose Coulouris' plot to take control of California and make himself emperor. Violence, political plotting, resort to armed force, a fight with knives and other extremes of action figure in the finale preceding the classic clinch. In the cast, in addition to those named, are Albert Dekker, Anthony Quinn, Frank Faylen, Gavin Muir, James Burke, Eduardo Ciannelli, Roman Bohen, and others.

Running time, 98 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

"Lone Star Moonlight"
(Columbia)

UNLESS this picture was made strictly for the Western market, "Lone Star Moonlight" falls short of standard entertainment level. Produced by Colbert Clark and directed by Ray Nazarro, the film weaves in several mediocre musical sequences with a tale about a returning "GI," played by Ken Curtis, who formerly owned a small radio station and is now attempting to get a television license. The Hoosier Hot Shots, who go West to join Curtis in his project run into trouble with Robert Stevens, operator of a rival station who has also been making advances to Joan Barton. Mix in an ostensibly valueless investment by Guy Kibbee, who played the role of Curtis' dad, in war surplus stocks and the "great idea" to run an auction in order to sell the goods—with the auction furnishing an additional opportunity for entertainment—and you will get the idea.

Additional entertainment is provided by The Smart Set, the Merle Travis Trio and Judy Clark and her Rhythm Cowgirls. Supporting roles are played by Claudia Drake, as a Hollywood actress who succeeds momentarily in breaking off the scheduled wedding of Curtis and Miss Barton, and Arthur Loft as Miss Barton's father who has been feuding with Kibbee for 20 years. The screenplay was written by Louise Rousseau on a story written by her and Ande Lamb.

Running time, 67 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 12.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Affairs of Geraldine"
(Republic)

IN somewhat reversed fashion, "Affairs of Geraldine" plays around with an idea that would seem to lend itself more appropriately to an unrestrained satirical treatment, the subject is a lonely-hearts club. Certain instances of amusement and a couple of songs add a little ginger to the mediocre script and the net result is a matter of fair merchandise for theatremen generally.

Raymond Walburn's contributions to the laugh ledger are indeed helpful. Jane Withers sings and performs in adequate fashion and Jimmy Lydon probably would have been more of an asset if the script had allowed for his being on view a little more. The story is about Jane's efforts to land a husband and a matrimonial agency develops when she and Walburn join forces. The business is successful, except for Jane who finds herself about to enter the connubial stage with one who happens to be a polygamist. In the nick of time he is exposed and Lydon and Miss Withers marry. The late Donald Meek, Charles Quigley, Grant Withers, William Haade and Michael Brandon are among other performers. Armand Schaefer was associate producer and George Blair directed.

Running time, 68 minues. General audience classification. Release, Nov. 18.

GENE ARNEEL

Seek Ceiling on Brazil Admissions

By I. A. EKERMAN

RIO DE JANEIRO, Dec. 12 (By Airmail)—Subject of high industry interest in Brazil, especially in Rio de Janeiro and São Paulo, is the attempt to put a ceiling on admission prices. In Rio, a ceiling is already in effect. Prices there used to be 42 cents, 32, 17, 12, 6. New ceilings set are: 32 cents, 23, 17, 12.

Cause of Discussion

The admission increase has been the cause of much discussion in certain sections of the press which was in favor of ceiling prices on the ground that films are a necessary commodity and that previous prices were too high. Another section of the press countered that pictures could not be considered an essential commodity, especially in view of the fact that admission prices cover a wide range and that nobody is compelled to go to a 44-cent theatre, and that the same films can be seen in neighborhood houses at 17 cents. It was argued further that more than 20 per cent is deductible for taxes and that, considering increases in the price of practically everything—notably essential commodities which skyrocketed to more than 500 per cent over former prices—admission prices with their 40-50 per cent increase were still one of the things showing a relatively minor increase.

Three Charged with Copyright Violations

Arthur Schwartz, Mortimer Van Brink and Joseph Mirasola, none of whom is identified with the industry, have been charged with copyright infringements of feature films in three separate criminal informations filed in the U. S. District Court here by U. S. Attorney John F. X. McGohey. Schwartz and Van Brink were among 13 persons arrested by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last April, after an investigation had shown that 16mm. prints contributed by the industry for the use of the Armed Services overseas, were being shown illegally in schools and churches in various parts of the country.

Berlin and Mitchell To Chicago on 'Skies'

Irving Berlin and Curtis Mitchell, Paramount's advertising-publicity director, flew to Chicago on Sunday, from New York, in connection with the exploitation campaign in advance of the opening of "Blue Skies" at the Chicago Theatre there. The "Blue Skies" composer will be the luncheon guest of the State Street Association.

Long 'Miserables'

A full-length film version of Victor Hugo's "Les Miserables," with a running time of three hours and 20 minutes, said to be the longest foreign film ever on an American screen, will have a double New York premiere on Christmas Day, Dec. 25, it was announced by Distinguished Films, the U. S. distributor. It will open simultaneously at Brandt's Apollo, here, and at the Brandt counterpart in Brooklyn, the Atlantic Playhouse.

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 15

WILLIAM SAROYAN'S prize-winning play, "The Time of Your Life," rights to which have been acquired by William Cagney, who will produce, will star his brother. . . . The irrepressible Errol Flynn will be permitted "One Last Fling" in the stellar spot in Warners' forthcoming film of that name. . . . Interwood Productions has arranged to borrow Patric Knowles from Paramount for the romantic lead opposite Joan Fontaine in "Ivy."

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As a change from her current characterization in David Lewis' production of the Erich Maria Remarque story, "The Other Love," Barbara Stanwyck, in her second picture for Enterprise, will portray a pioneer woman with the unglamorous name of "Cattle Kate." . . . Kirk Douglas has been signed to a one-picture-a-year contract by Michael Curtiz Productions, new independent company releasing through Warners.

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Paulette Goddard, fittingly enough, will star in "Angel Face" for Paramount. The story, an original by Charles Schnee, tells of a career woman with the face of a saint and the soul of a sinner. . . . Ronald Reagan, now working in Warners' "Night Unto Night," plans to write and direct a series of short subjects to be produced for that studio by Gordon Hollingshead. . . . Joan Blondell will appear in the romantic lead opposite George Brent in Sam Bischoff's next production for Columbia," "The Corpse Came C.O.D."

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"Mr. Wilmer," a novel by Robert Lawson, will be the first $1,000,000 production to be made on the Hal Roach lot since the war. Bebe Daniels will produce the comedy, which is to be filmed in Cinecolor. . . . Visiting firemen: Hassan D. Khayyam is in Hollywood studying modern techniques, after which he will return to India to engage in 16mm production. . . . Broadway star Margaret Wycherly is in town for a top role in the current 20th Century-Fox film, "Forever Amber."

•

Producer Harry Stern has purchased "Rhythm of the Redwoods," an original by William Gladser. . . . Nancy Coleman and Michael O'Shea have been signed for co-starring roles in "Violence," Monogram's second B. and B. production, to be directed by Jack Bernhard. . . . Tim Holt has been given a new contract by RKO Radio. . . . Producer Seymour Nebenzal has engaged Bill Goodwin, the radio announcer, for a featured role in "Heaven Only Knows."

•

Bill Henry, Virginia Christine and Tala Birell have been selected for leading roles in Southern California Film's initial production, "Women in the Night." Louis K. Ansell, prominent St. Louis exhibitor, is the producer, and William Rowland the director. . . . MacDonald Carey has been assigned a star part in Paramount's Technicolor musical, "Catalina."

Reviews

"Temptation"

(Universal)

DEFTLY interlacing a good cast with a tailored drama, this Edward Small—International production, directed by Irving Pichel, is neatly contrived in portraying the metamorphosis of a cunning, unscrupulous woman into a remorseful, self-sacrificing wife. Not even the leisurely pace employed in unfolding the story detracts from the final impact, but the development is substantially hampered by the use of flashback, which betrays the denouement. All told, "Temptation," which comes from the novel, "Bella Donna," by Robert Hichens and the stage play by James Bernard Fagen, should record well at the box-office.

A designing divorcee with little more than periodic marriages to sustain her interest in life, Merle Oberon succeeds in ensnaring in matrimony a wealthy archaeologist, George Brent, who is devoted to his task of unearthing the tomb of Rameses V. Flighty, irresponsible and selfish, she is quickly bored by his professorial friends, finds Egypt dull generally, discovers release and excitement in a clandestine romance with Charles Korvin, an attractive, debt-ridden, European-educated Arab, who is her counterpart. While her love for him is deep and passionate, his is still guided by a pecuniary interest. To prevent him from consummating a projected marriage she joins him in a plot to poison her husband. Her plan goes awry when she learns, in the course of her husband's illness, that she is in love with him after all; so to remove a major obstacle which would hover over her future happiness and security, she kills Korvin. Finally, when an Egyptian police chief, Arnold Moss, aware of her complicity, tells her to report to his office, she kills herself, or is killed in an accident (the picture does not make this explicit), thereby saving the family honor.

It is clearly a one-character story which offers wide latitude for Miss Oberon's histrionic talent, and she executes her responsibility with skill. Other performances are competent, in spite of the paucity of footage devoted to them and a suggestion of pedantry in Korvin's portrayal. Additional support is given by Paul Lukas, as the doctor-friend of the archaeologist, and Lenore Ulric, as Miss Oberon's sharp-tongued maid. The screenplay was by Robert Thoeren.

Running time, 98 minutes. Adult classification. Release date not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Pastoral Symphony"

(Films Gide—French)

Paris

DESIGNATED as the best French film at the Cannes International Film Festival, this adaptation of a short piece by the famous French author, Andre Gide, deals with a Protestant clergyman of a small village in the Alps (probably in Switzerland), where he lives with his wife, and his four children. Once he finds a lonely blind girl and takes her to his house, where he educates her. When grown up, the girl, "Gertrude," shows to be very pretty and unknowing all of sin and ugliness of the world. The minister, more and more interested in Gertrude, does not realize that he is in love with her, while, on her side, she thinks she loves him. After an operation, she recovers her sight and finds she actually loves Jacques, the minister's eldest son. The minister refuses to permit her and Jacques to marry and in despair for having destroyed the happiness of the whole family, she commits suicide by throwing herself in a river.

This stirring but depressing story is aided essentially by the splendid acting of Michele Morgan as Gertrude (for which she was noted at Cannes as the best international film actress) and by the beautiful photography of Armand Thirard with location scenes in the Swiss mountains. Jean Delannoy's artistic and reserved direction gives the film a slow tempo. Pierre Blanchar as the minister, and Line Noro, as his wife, overact, but Jean Desailly (Jacques) shows intelligence and simplicity. There are in the film some moments of high emotion.

Running time, 115 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

MAURICE BESSY

"Beauty and the Bandit"

(Monogram)

ACTION, hard riding and fights abound in this fast-paced picture which places Gilbert Roland, smooth, cocksure, affable, back in the saddle as the "Cisco Kid." An ordinary vehicle involving a land-grab plot, the film is considerably aided by flashes of quiet humor with Roland giving the impression that he enjoys himself in the process.

Assisting the Mexican Robin Hood, perennial guardian of the poor against the unscrupulous and the rich, is Ramsay Ames, an enticing gal who enters the plot with a large shipment of silver to be used as a token gesture in buying land cheaply after the local livestock is poisoned. Cisco and his gang hold up the stagecoach and take the silver. So, tying up with the gang in order to recoup her loss, Miss Ames proves herself to be a female counterpart of the hero, except that she is not endowed with his compunctions. Needless to say, she falls in love with him; also needless to say, Cisco, after reforming her, rides on alone, into the sunset.

Others in the cast are William Gould, as a corrupt doctor who engineers the plot; Frank Yaconelli, as Cisco's aide; Vida Aldana, as one of Cisco's former loves, and George Lewis, as a bewildered police captain. Performances are pleasant, and the picture, all in all, is entertaining. Scott R. Dunlap produced and William Nigh directed, with an assist from Eddie Davis. The screenplay was by Charles S. Belden.

Running time, 57 minutes. General audience classification. I. K.

Newspaper Critics Rapped by Fredman

Ernest W. Fredman, publisher of the London *Film Renter,* who left here for England on the *Queen Elizabeth* Saturday, following a six-week survey of the U. S. film industry, tossed a few barbs in the direction of Hollywood film columnists, newspaper and radio critics when he made his final public appearance in this country, on Friday at the Associated Motion Picture Advertisers' international Christmas luncheon, held at the Town Hall Club, here.

Film critics, other than trade paper critics, call pictures wrong more often than not, and it's pretty much of a strain on one's patience to listen to radio advertising, Fredman, guest of honor, opined before an overflow audience of over 200 AMPA members.

Concerning British product, Fredman said he has discovered that there is no resistance to British films in America, so long as the pictures are good. He said he sees plenty of playing time in America for good British films. The box-office is the only true "judge" of the pictures of any nation.

Rutgers Neilson, AMPA president, presided at the luncheon which featured the distribution of door prizes donated by 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Columbia, Monogram, March of Time, *Fortune Magazine,* PRC, Republic, Vincent Trotta, Radio City Music Hall, the Roxy Theatre, and others. Other speakers included Spyros P. Skouras, 20th Century-Fox president, and Jack Alicoate, master-of-ceremonies.

Also seated at the dias were: Jack Connolly, Murray Silverstone, Tom Connors, Joseph Friedman, Joseph Seidelman, William Brenner, Norton Ritchey, R. W. Altschuler, Theodore Smith, Raymond Massey, Maureen O'Hara, Phil Reisman, Phil Williams.

Screen Guild Parleys

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15. — William Pizor, foreign department manager for Screen Guild Productions in New York, and John Mangham, owner of the company's Georgia franchise, with headquarters in Atlanta, have arrived in Hollywood for a series of home office conferences. They held the first of a series of meetings with John J. Jones, president, and Robert L. Lippert, vice-president in charge of distribution, over the weekend, and will continue them during the most of this week.

Joy Houck, who controls the New Orleans franchise, arrived last night and was expected to join in the conferences immediately.

Spewacks Signed by RKO

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Sam and Bella Spewack have been signed by RKO Radio to white and produce "The Night is Young."



18 Companies Get N. Y. Corporation Charters

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 15.—Eighteen new film and entertainment industry concerns have been chartered here, as follows:

Motion Picture Music Corp. has been incorporated to carry on a music publishers business in New York. Incorporators are: Lee V. Eastman, Tony Wilson and Margaret Owens. Spring and Eastman were incorporating attorneys.

Intra-World Films, Inc. has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. A. Walter Socolow, New York, was incorporating attorney.

Intra-Cultural Films, Inc. has also been incorporated, with Socolow as attorney.

Donahue Productions, Inc. has been incorporated to deal in motion picture films. Incorporators are: Harry D. Donahue, Allan Keith and Jean Luke, New York. Benjamin Cohen was incorporating attorney.

Principal Pictures, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. Fitelson, Mayers and London, New York, were incorporating attorneys.

Other Incorporations

Saga Films, Inc. has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. Incorporators are: Eugene M. Kline and Sam Abrahamson, New York, and Herbert Silberman, Brooklyn, Continental Lawyers Albany Service, Albany, was incorporating attorney.

M. A. K. Theatre Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a theatre business in New York. Incorporators are: William Sadoff, Joshua J. Nasaw and Lila V. Toyfair, New York. Nathan Tanenbaum was incorporating attorney. 207-13 East 30th St. Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a motion picture business. Incorporators are: Harry Lee Danziger, Edward J. Danziger and Leonore F. Traub, New York.

Further organizational advancement of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association, whose membership is expected to comprise a large number of independent and affiliated theatremen in and around New York City, has been made with the procurement of a New York State charter to operate as a membership organization.

Arlene Theatres, Inc. has been incorporated to conduct a productions business. Incorporators are: Samuel B. Ross and Alfred D. Fredericks, New York, and Frieda M. Fruchtman, Bronx.

Films and Radio

Amerell Corp. has been incorporated to conduct a business in motion pictures and radio. Incorporators are: Max Shlivek, Saul S. Brin and Cecelia Kaplan, all of New York.

Upstate Theatres, Inc., incorporated several years ago under the membership clause of the corporations law, has been dissolved. A new company, of the same name, has been incorporated to carry on business as a stock corporation. Leonard L. Rosenthal, attorney for the group, filed both sets of papers. The incrporators are: Rosenthal, Morris Alpert and Rose Rosenthal.

Two Continent Pictures, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct a motion picture business in Yonkers. Incorporators are: Harry Y. Goldberg, Leonard Cacciator and Marian D. Tate, all of Yonkers. Albert D. Bottenstein, New York, was incorporating attorney.

Republic Pictures of India, Ltd., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures for India, Ceylon and Burma. Incorporators are: R. Routledge, B. Tieger, R. Paya. Theodore R. Black was incorporating attorney.

Entertainment Enterprises, Inc., has been incorporated to conduct a theatrical business in New York. Incorporators are: Brent D. Guntz, Denes Agay, George G. Herz, New York.

Boston Theatrical Enterprises, Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures and theatrical shows. Incorporators are: Martin Rurvitz, Arline Lipsky and Max Schoengold, all of New York. Schoengold was incorporating attorney.

Precision Film Laboratories has been incorporated to conduct business in New York. Incorporators are: Walter R. Barry, Francis D. Wells and James E. Hughes. Coudert Brothers were incorporating attorneys.

Fine Art Pictures Inc., has been incorporated to deal in motion pictures. Incorporators are: Lawrence C. Gibbs, Leonard Kaufman and Julia Perles, New York. Schwartz and Frohlich were incorporating attorneys.

$65,000,000 Worth Of RCA Video Sets

WASHINGTON, Dec. 15.—Television home receivers having a retail value of $65,000,000 are scheduled to be manufactured by RCA Victor during 1947, George L. Beers, assistant director of engineering of the company, reported to the Federal Communications Commission, at the weekend.

Testifying on behalf of RCA and National Broadcasting, Beers appeared before the FCC at a hearing during which RCA has recommended that the Commission deny a petition of Columbia Broadcasting for establishment of standards and authorization to start commercial operation of color television. The recommendation was made on the premise that, whereas black-and-white television has been tested and established as a service to the public, color television is still in the laboratory stage.

"As of December 1," Beers said, "The RCA Victor Division has produced 2,950 home television receivers. It is expected that the total 1946 production will be 8,000. Our 1947 production schedule calls for 25,000 receivers in the first quarter, 25,000 in the second, 50,000 in the third, and 60,000 in the fourth, a total 1947 production of 160,000 instruments."

"These figures are dependent upon the availability of materials and economic conditions which may influence the potential demand for receivers," he added.

Para. Club Drops 'Pep'

The name of the Paramount Pep Club has been formally changed to the Paramount Pictures Club in the State of New York, where the club is incorporated.

Davis Firm Accepting Assignment for UA

The New York law firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and Kiendl is accepting the offer to serve as special counsel for United Artists in its controversy with David O. Selznick over the latter's alleged failure to fulfill his commitments to the distribution company, it was indicated at the weekend by Herman Weisman, a member of the UA board of directors, who, along with director E. C. Mills, was assigned the task of approaching the attorneys. Weisman said final arrangements have not yet been completed.

John W. Davis, senior partner of the law firm, is counsel for Loew's in the Government anti-trust suit.

Reports that Selznick has been considering possible legal action against UA were denied here at the weekend by Milton Kramer, counsel for the

Ritchey to Havana

Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International Corp., will leave over the week-end for Havana, Cuba, where he will spend a few days to install Moe Messeri as Monogram's representative for Cuba.

Messeri replaces Edward Ugast, who recently resigned.

British Pictures Gain in Holland

By PHILIP DE SCHAPP

AMSTERDAM, Dec. 13 (By Airmail).—One year ago Eagle-Lion Film-Maatschappij N. V., representatives of the J. Arthur Rank circuit, started its activities in Holland and within a very short time this company has grown to be one of the most popular distributors in Holland. The British picture is much more popular here now than it was before the war. Quality has improved and English actors are well known. Pictures such as "2,000 Women," "Madonna of the Seven Moons," "Blithe Spirit" and "The Seventh Veil" belong to the most successful group of box-office films ever played here and a long run is expected for "Brief Encounter." The Tuschinski circuit has started to show "Caesar and Cleopatra."

Eagle-Lion helped fill the product needs of Dutch theatres in a period when film stock was very limited. American pictures will reappear on the Dutch market in Jan., 1947, but no real competition is expected for Eagle-Lion.

Hollywood Production Up Despite Labor Troubles

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 15.—Despite the approaching holidays, and the continuing studio strike, production has shot upwards. Nine films were started, and only two completed, which brought the shooting index up to 54, from its previous level of 47; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "The Swordsman."

Started: "Bulldog Drummond at Bay," (Venture), with Ron Randall, Anita Louise; "Riders of the Lone Star," with Charles Starrett, Virginia Hunter, Smiley Burnette.

Shooting: "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman); "For the Love of Rusty," "Three Were Thoroughbreds," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Independent

Started: "The Paradine Case," (Selznick), with Gregory Peck, Ann Todd, Louis Jourdan, Ethel Barrymore, Charles Laughton, Charles Coburn; "Women in the Night," (Southern California Films) with Bill Henry, Virginia Christine, Tala Birell.

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "Song of Love," (formerly "A Love Story"), "The Birds and the Bees," "Undercover Maisie," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."

Monogram

Started: "Violence," (B. and B.), with Nancy Coleman. Michael O'Shea.

Shooting: "High Conquest," "Black Gold."

Paramount

Started: "Deadlock." (Wallis), with Burt Lancaster. Kirk Douglas, Wendell Corey, Kristine Miller, George Rigaud.

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl," "Saigon."

PRC

Started: "The Payoff," with James Brown, Noreen Nash.

RKO Radio

Finished: "The Long Night" (Hakim-Litvak).

Started: "The Fugitive," (Argosy), with Henry Fonda, Dolores del Rio, Mel Ferrer, Pedro Armandariz, Robert Armstrong, Leo Carrillo.

Shooting: "Flight," "Seven Keys to Baldpate," "Out of the Past," "Magic Town" (Riskin).

Republic

Shooting: "Bells of San Angelo," "Gallant Man," "Wyoming," "Nelson Eddy Production."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," "Moss Rose," "Captain from Castile," "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights," "It's Only Human" (formerly "The Big Heart").

United Artists

Shooting: "Heaven Only Knows" (Nebenzal); "Copacabana" (Beacon); "Christmas Eve" (Bogeaus); "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg); "The Other Love" (Enterprise).

Universal-International

Started: "Ivey," (Interwood) with Joan Fontaine, Richard Ney, Patric Knowles, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Herbert Marshall, Lucile Watson, Rosalind Ivan, Sara Allgood.

Shooting: "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "The Unfaithful," "Dark Passage," "Deep Valley," "My Wild Irish Rose," "The Woman in White," "Night Unto Night."

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

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Accurate Concise and Impartial

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Court Rejects Schine Move For Appeals

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16.—Two appeals by the Schine Theatre Chain against the Government's anti-trust victory were rejected today by the Supreme Court, which refused to take jurisdiction to hear the case.

The first appeal was filed shortly after the Buffalo Federal Court found the Schine chain in violation of the anti-trust laws. This one was dismissed by the high court on the ground that it has been filed before the judgment was final.

The second appeal was dismissed, it was explained, because of failure to comply with rule No. 12 of the Supreme Court regulations governing appeals. This raises the point of whether a substantial question was involved

(*Continued on page 7*)

'British Not Holding Out'

American producers need have no "sleepless nights" over reports that the British government is planning to nationalize England's film industry, Arthur Dent, British "free-lancer" in production and distribution, who arrived here last week on the *Queen Elizabeth,* declared here yesterday, because the Labor party has enough on its hands in its program of nationalizing basic industries to keep it from wrestling with the highly complex one of motion pictures.

"As a matter of fact," he continued,

(*Continued on page 7*)

1,000 Theatres in Pledge for 'Dimes'

Managers of more than 1,000 theatres have pledged their full support for the 1947 March of Dimes campaign within the first week since the organization of the Motion Picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. All of the theatres will show the Greer Garson trailer, "A Step Forward," and arrange collections at every performance, Jan. 24-30.

Emil C. Jensen is director of the division.

Bench Facilitates Intervention Appeal In Anti-Trust Case

Clearing the way for possible immediate appeals of their denials of intervention petitions by the American Theatres Association and the Confederacy of Southern Associations, the three judges in the industry anti-trust suit here yesterday announced that the denial notations of Oct. 21 would not later be translated into a formal decision. Thurman Arnold, ATA counsel, had stated recently that his client's appeal to the U. S. Supreme Court would await the New York Federal District Court's formal denial, which, he expected, would be forthcoming at the time of the final decree in the case.

(*Continued on page 7*)

Hollywood Strike Hits Enterprise

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—The Coast strike has now enveloped the previously-exempted Enterprise Studios with the establishment by IATSE technicians (683) of a picket line. They said the studio had discharged "still" laboratory workers at the insistence of IATSE international officers. The Conference of Studio Unions, which Local 683 has been supporting, respected the picket line and production was halted.

Enterprise officials said the studio

(*Continued on page 7*)

Sustain Six Suits On Percentages

BALTIMORE, Dec. 16.—The Federal district Court here refuses to dismiss six percentage suits previously filed by distributors. Three motions made by the defendant in each suit have been denied in their entirety in orders signed by U. S. Judge Coleman.

The defendant exhibitor asked dismissal on the ground that less than $3,000 is involved in each suit and that Federal jurisdiction is, therefore, lacking. Judge Coleman pointed out at the argument that punitive damages were asked in each complaint and that this fact alone as a matter of law made the total amount sufficient for Federal jurisdiction. The judge added that even aside from punitive damages, actual percentage and flat

(*Continued on page 7*)

See Deal for SRO's Distribution Near

The new Selznick Releasing Organization will use the physical distribution facilities of an established company, such a deal being near to consummation now, Red Kann reports in his *Insider's Outlook* column on page 2 of this issue. He further reports that a skeletonized distribution structure is in view for SRO, concurring with *Motion Picture Daily's* story of last Friday which reported such a structure would be based on a master district branch plan of about 10 key offices.

For further details read *Insider's Outlook,* this issue.

Washington Paper Hits Dope Films

WASHINGTON, Dec. 16. — "The Treasury of the United States and its Bureau of Narcotics is cast as the reluctant father, now seeking to disown its sordid offspring," says the Washington *Post* of the Production Code amendment to permit treatment of dope subjects in films.

The article, published by the *Post* in yesterday's issue, relates that permission to make a picture based on the work of the Narcotics Bureau was granted by former Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau to Jay Richard Kennedy, a writer, whose story on the subject would be produced by one Hollywood company, subsequently identified as Columbia.

Meanwhile, according to the article, David O. Selznick, Warners and others sought material for dope films following amendment of the production Code, which led the present Sec-

(*Continued on page 7*)

23 Canadian Runs In Odeon Merger

TORONTO, Dec. 16.—Effective immediately, an agreement has been signed by Odeon Theatres of Canada with Sam Fingold and Ralph Dale of Toronto for the combining of a group of theatres in Ontario which are to be directed by a new company, National Theatre Services, of which the president is Fingold and Dale is vice-president. The theatres, 23 in number, located in all parts of Ontario, are to be operated as a separate circuit in affiliation with Canadian

(*Continued on page 7*)

U. S. 'Barriers' Seen Likely If Quotas Go Up

Arthur Loew Warns of a Political Reprisal Move

Increased quotas and other restrictions against the importation of American films by foreign countries may result in the U. S. Government's erection of "political barriers" to curtail the flow of foreign films into this country, Arthur Loew, president of Loew's International, said here yesterday, following his return from a two-month survey in Europe.



Arthur Loew

Sounding this warning with respect to a threatened increase in the British

(*Continued on page 7*)

E-L Signs 17 Stars: Foy

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Brian Foy, vice-president in charge of production for Eagle-Lion Films, divulged a complete roster of 17 stars and many authors who have been signed to appear and write for forthcoming films for the company during the two-day sales meeting held here at the Blackstone Hotel. Stars signed to appear in forthcoming Eagle-Lion films are: Franchot Tone, Michele Morgan, Margaret Lockwood, Arturo De Cordova, Joan Leslie, Tom Conway, Dickie Tyler, June Lockhart, Una Merkel, Kenny Delmar (Senator Claghorn), Deborah Kerr, Ann Richards, Sheilah Ryan, Louis Hayward, Robert Page, Zachery Scott and Richard Basehart.

More than a score of writers have

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"13 Rue Madeleine" and the "The Locket" are reviewed on Page 11; "Stairway to Heaven" on Page 12. Key city grosses are on Page 12.

Personal Mention

HARRY H. THOMAS, PRC president, is due to arrive here today from the Coast.

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H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations head, is due back here tomorrow from a trip that took him to Oklahoma City, Kansas City, Minneapolis and Chicago.

•

MARVIN H. SCHENCK, Loew's vice-president and representative in the east for the M-G-M studios, arrived on the Coast yesterday for studio conferences.

•

SAM LEFKOWITZ, Eastern district manager for Warners, left here last night for Buffalo, where he will remain until the end of the week.

•

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram executive vice-president and treasurer, has left Hollywood for New York, accompanied by Mrs. Burrows.

•

PEARCE PARKHURST, manager of E. M. Loew's Capitol in Pawtucket, has returned to Rhode Island after a business trip to Boston.

•

RED KANN, vice-president of Quigley Publications, will leave the Coast today by train for New York, arriving here Friday.

•

RUDY BERGER, Southern M-G-M sales manager, is back at his New Orleans headquarters after a trip to Oklahoma City.

•

JACK SAYERS, head of Audience Research, has left New York for the Coast. He expects to remain there until Feb. 1.

•

HUGH OWEN, Paramount's Eastern-Southern division sales manager, is back at his desk here from Atlanta.

•

BOB HOPE has been named grand marshal of the Tournament of Roses parade, to be held in Pasadena Jan. 1.

•

BURTUS BISHOP, M-G-M district manager, is back at his Dallas office after visiting Oklahoma City.

•

ANDREW STONE, who returned from England recently, left New York for Hollywood yesterday.

•

HARRY MCWILLIAMS, Columbia exploitation chief, will arrive in Dallas today from New York.

•

MITCHELL RAWSON of M-G-M's publicity department is back in New York from Washington.

•

GLENN DAVIS, ex-infantry captain, has been named assistant manager at Warners' Ritz in Albany.

•

BERT SANFORD of Altec returned here yesterday after a month in Hollywood.

•

LEOPOLD FRIEDMAN, secretary of Loew's, has returned here from Toronto.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

Hollywood, Dec. 16

TWENTY-FOUR hours after the UA board meeting in New York, voted to proceed legally against David O. Selznick on the charge his distribution contract was broken, an emissary of peace worked its way out of the Pickford dovecote in Beverly Hills and hovered over the RKO Pathe studio in Culver City. It was too late.

Never sanguine about any outcome but the one which eventuated, and not caring much, by all the signs, Selznick and his announcement were ready. The Selznick Releasing Organization will enter the field, negotiating its first plunge toward national and international prominence with "Duel in the Sun."

Having been unsuccessful in buying out Charlie Chaplin and Mary Pickford, an extreme outside chance at best, Selznick has been waiting for the opportunity to get going under his own power. He has been developing and strengthening the structure of his own selling organization under the guiding hand of the able and experienced Neil Agnew.

Today, what is Selznick's structure is another distributor's skeleton, but it is decidedly in question if Agnew at any time will require the numerical manpower commonly associated with what the industry regards as the old-line distributing organization.

■

There will be additions to current personnel, of course. But not additions in wholesale. Agnew will operate with key men, resident in key cities and augmented by supervision from New York. Their job will be to close the contracts. They will concentrate on the major runs where the big money is to be found. They will have much less concern with masses of accounts and far more with classes of accounts which is one way of pointing out the possibility that Selznick Releasing Organization may be serving its small customers via the mail order routine.

Now that Selznick's suspended poise at the brink has grown up into a full-sized leap, Agnew is here again and busy. He has no serious concern over manpower as mail and wires demonstrate. His problem swings around the routines of shipping, inspecting, booking. He has been aware all through the period of indecision that creating a sales machine was one undertaking, but that creating a sales machine, plus a machine for physical distribution, was quite something else. There, he was confronted with an initial investment in seven figures and the time-consuming routines of acquiring exchange personnel, space and equipment with which to operate. And, for the time being, with only one film.

Therefore, it has been obvious to him the details of distribution, over and beyond the selling, had to be vested in an organization already operating in the domestic field. The three deals simmering several weeks ago, as reported here first, thereafter reduced to one. When buttoned, it will prove a surprise.

■

On the production side, those close to Selznick are calm, collected and confident. They are the authorities for the comment there has been "a flood" of propositions dumped on the DOS doormat in the handful of days elasped since the new distributing company tossed its hat into public print. They are the authorities, too, for an informal statement of policy which is: "We intend looking consciously down our noses good and hard before we decide who we'll take in."

Selznick's 60 per cent ownership of what was designed to be a one-third interest in UA remains unimpaired, in his view. He has residual values in the product handled by UA. Notably, this prevails with "Spellbound." His attractions are potential money-makers in a number of foreign countries yet to see them released. Perhaps, these yet may be returned to him as per discussions already held. If UA is unable to reacquire the shares now held, moreover, it seems obvious Selznick will retain the prerogatives and rights of a minority stockholder.

■

But, if it is to be litigation on the part of UA versus Selznick, there is all reason to anticipate the reverse, too. He will play it back the same way, by all present indications. Those six in-the-rough lawsuits, first divulged in this column recently, remain extant and provide a waiting reservoir into which Selznick may dip for his legal water works. It will not be pretty on either side if the eventuality now regarded as inevitable comes to pass.

The effect of the decision of the UA board certainly will hasten formal approval by Enterprise's directorate of the releasing contract with UA. Whether such action has been deliberately delayed until the Selznick situation crystallized enters into conjecture's realm, but a pretty smart guess would be this is exactly the ticket.

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20th CENTURY-FOX
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Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
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Weiss Joins Classic

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 16. — Jack Weiss, former manager of the Studio Theatre, is now the local representative of Classic Pictures.

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THE AMERICAN WEEKLY.



LIBERTY FILMS INC.

RELEASED BY RKO RADIO PICTURES, INC.

LITHO U.S.A.

'British with U. S.'

(*Continued from page* 1)

"I think the film industry is too complex for nationalization and, moreover, depends too strongly upon individual enterprise."

Expressing surprise over the fact that a purportedly "highly secret" government report on acquisition of theatres "leaked out to the press," Dent said he understood that the British government is projecting a threefold plan: to maintain its own theatres which will be acquired from the [illegible] existing circuits, to create its own [illegible]ribution machine for handling films and to establish studios and finance independent producers.

Associated for 22 years with the late Sir John Maxwell of Associated British Productions, with Paramount in Scotland, and more recently, until he resigned to resume his "free-lance" status, with Samuel Goldwyn in London, Dent describes himself as "a trader" who is mixing in some business in this, his first visit to this country in eight years. Dent, who has figured in production and distribution as well as through investments in British product, said that he will be heading for the Coast in January where, among other things, he will survey the market here, discuss the possibility of a production deal with "a prominent star," arrange for representation of a studio for England and possibly acquire several pictures.

Disclosing that British box-offices registered a slump of 15 per cent two weeks ago, Dent said he had no opportunity to discover whether it was the usual pre-holiday recession or "whether it might reflect something of deeper significance."

Strongly critical of remarks made recently to the effect that the success of British films is "cutting into" American grosses, Dent termed the charge as "poppycock." Under the quota law, he said, British exhibitors must reserve about 20 per cent of their playing time for British product. This, he emphasized, redounds to the benefit of the motion picture market at large, since it is serving to increase the size of the audience. As a mat- the size of the audience.

Professing neutrality on the question of increasing restrictions to favor British pictures, the principle subject of Eric Johnston's talks during his trip to England, Dent maintained that the Labor government is "merely trying to protect their own industry, in order to prevent too much of the British pound from flowing out of the country." In a world arena where nationalism is still a strong motivation among governments and peoples and with nations limiting the number of foreign-made pictures, Dent added, the American Motion Picture Export Association is now being simulated by British producers who are seeking to meet their foreign distribution problems.

Hollywood Strike

(*Continued from page* 1)

had decided to discontinue operating its own laboratory, to sell its equipment and have its work done outside. The company had "Other Love" shooting when the strike situation developed. Otherwise the scene has continued uneventful, with the producers continuing to withhold their reply to last week's CSU telegram urging resumption of discussions.

Sustain Six Suits

(*Continued from page* 1)

rental damage claimed was sufficient to furnish the required amount, judging from the large number of percentage pictures on which allaged fraudulent returns were claimed to have been rendered.

The defendant in each suit is W. J. Connellee, operating the New Theatres in Elkton and Aberdeen, Md. A suit was brought respectively by Universal, Columbia, Loew's, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, and Warners.

At the same time, the court sustained objections made by the distributors to the interrogatories. The court agreed that answers to the interrogatories could not be required until the defendant had answered the complaint.

The court also refused the application of the exhibitor to require the distributors to furnish certain particulars.

R. Dorsey Watkins of the Baltimore law firm of Piper, Watkins, Avirett and Egerton appeared for all distributor plaintiffs other than Loew's, and J. Cookman Boyd of Tydings, Sauerwein, Archer, Benson and Boyd, also of Baltimore, appeared for Loew's. Sargoy & Stein of New York are associate counsel for the distributors.

The ruling on supplying particulars was said to be similar to the decision last month in Madison, Wisc., where Judge Stone, in U. S. District Court there, denied motions made by defendant George Miner and his co-defendants in each of seven similar cases brought by distributors, to require particulars before answering the complaints.

In that court, George Miner, Miner Amusement Co. and Isle Theatre Co., alleged to have operated some 10 theatres in Rice Lake and other towns in Northern Wisconsin, are the defendants, while respective plaintiffs are 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Universal, Paramount, United Artists, Loew's and RKO. David Shearer of the Minneapolis law firm of Shearer, Byard, Trogner and Peters, and R. A. Crawford of the Superior, Wisc. law firm of Crawford and Crawford appeared for the distributor plaintiffs.

Dope Films

(*Continued from page* 1)

retary of the Treasury, John W. Snyder, to write that the policy of the Treasury Department is against exclusive commitments based on case histories.

Films of drug addiction will be particularly dangerous to emotionally unstable persons in the postwar period, the *Post* said, quoting Dr. Samuel A. Silk, psychiatrist; Dr. Norman Gerstenfeld, rabbi, of the Washington Hebrew Congregation; Bishop Angus Dun of the Protestant Episcopal Diocese of Washington; Monsignor John J. McClafferty of the National Legion of Decency, other churchmen and social workers.

"Those who have had to rescue an addict 'realize that the sane approach to this evil is not only to keep it away from the lives of people except under strict medical control, but to keep it out of the thoughts of people so that the weak will not be attracted to it,'" the *Post* quoted Rabbi Gerstenfeld as observing.

US 'Barriers'

(*Continued from page* 1)

quota. Loew added that he was hopeful the danger of such a reprisal move by this country might be obviated through the lowering of barriers abroad, plus the maintenance at present levels of those which are not unduly restrictive.

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 12, the U. S. State Department has found difficult economic barriers in 21 nations and promises "continued work and protective measures" to correct the condition.

That the controversy is by no means one-sided, however, was indicated yesterday by Loew, who said: "Something has to be done to prevent the flooding of markets abroad with American product." He approved the establishment of a reviewing board such as the Motion Picture Association now is forming but reminded that acceptance of the recommendations of such a group is intended to be voluntary on the part of the companies. Noting that the distributors already have set up some voluntary quotas among themselves, he held that absorption of the wartime backlogs will make these no longer necessary after a year or two.

At the same time, Loew believes that the industry, within the predictable future, will reach Eric Johnston's goal of increasing export revenues to the point where they will balance those collected in the domestic market. This can be accomplished, he explained, not by "dumping" product in the countries which already show many U. S. films, but by exploiting such virtually untouched areas as China, where, he pointed out, there are 126 theatres for 400,000,000 people. Already 40 per cent of Loew's grosses come from abroad, the company's international chief added.

23 Canadian Runs

(*Continued from page* 1)

Odeon. Fingold and Dale were formerly partners in Theatre Amusement Co., Toronto, which had approximately 12 theatres, some of them being independently owned. Fingold and Dale had an equal interest with Odeon in the balance of the TAC houses.

The agreement also provides for the absorption of Associated Theatres, Toronto, a buying-booking office, by National Theatre Services, the latter taking over booking contracts for 19 Ontario theatres in this part of the transaction. National Theatre Services will provide the service for any independent exhibitors in the Province, it is announced.

The reason for the merger, as stated by president J. E. Lawson of Canadian Odeon, is that the Rank Organization had long desired a separate circuit in Ontario so that attention can be devoted to the opening of new Odeon theatres in 1947 and to the training of managers and staffs for the new theatres. This expansion had placed additional duties and responsibilities on the operational heads of Canadian Odeon, it was declared.

Of the theatres involved in the deal, four are in Toronto, four in Hamilton and three in Ottawa, with the other 12 scattered in smaller centers across Ontario.

E-L Signs 17: Foy

(*Continued from page* 1)

also been signed to write for Eagle-Lion, including the following six: Joseph Fields, Louis Bromfield, Vera Caspary, Agatha Christie, Margaret Buell Wilder and Agnes Christine Johnson.

Foy told the group here that three pictures will be in color. One is "Kenny," from the book of that name, by Louis Bromfeld; the other is "Prince Valiant," based on the King Feature Syndicate's comic strip; the third will be called "Montana."

In addition to two British films, "Bedelia" and "The Adventuress," and the aforementioned three in color, the rest of Eagle-Lion's product for 1947, will be: "Captain Casanova," "Repeat Performance," "Lost Honeymoon," "It's a Joke, Son," "Out of the Blue," "Love from a Stranger" and "Clementine."

In addition to Foy's product announcement, others who addressed the two-day meet were: Alfred W. Schwalberg, vice-president and general sales manager, who discussed sales policies; Arthur Krim, president, who discussed the organizational set-up with the J. Arthur Rank Organization; Max E. Youngstein, director of advertising, publicity and exploitation, who discussed plans for "Bedelia" and "It's a Joke, Son," the company's first two releases, which were screened for the assembled delegates.

E. T. (Teddy) Carr, co-managing director of General Film Distributors, J. Arthur Rank's distribution outfit in England, also addressed the meeting. Carr stopped in Chicago on his way from Hollywood to New York. Harry Thomas, PRC president, also was here for the meetings.

Foy entrained for Hollywood tonight to start production plans for "Repeat Performance."

Intervention Appeal

(*Continued from page* 1)

On Oct. 21, Judges Augustus N. Hand, Henry W. Goddard and John Bright wrote "Intervention Denied" on the backs of the motion papers filed by ATA and CSA counsel. Yesterday on the same papers they added: "This, in our opinion, is adequate to preserve the rights to appeal from our decision and is much simpler than taking the cumbersome step of vacating our former decision and then entering an order denying intervention."

Schine Moves

(*Continued from page* 1)

which should be heard by the Supreme Court.

There was no comment here by Justice Department spokesmen, who have not yet studied the two rulings. However, it was pointed out that Schine can petition for a rehearing and hope that the Supreme Court will listen the second time.

Meantime, the Government is getting ready to file its appeal in the Griffith case with the Supreme Court. The appeal, prepared by Robert Wright, motion picture specialist of the Justice anti-trust division, is now in the hands of the solicitor-general. It must be filed by next Monday, which is the deadline.

THAT TWO-TIMING



Wherever she plays, they're taking just two times the normal amount of money!

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Reading, Minneapolis and Salt Lake City . . .

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everywhere

UA

Loew's Plans 3-Man Importation Board

Indicating that the American public's response to M-G-M's "Distinguished Films" program of foreign importations has fallen short of original hopes, the company soon will establish a three-man board to devise means of handling the six such pictures now in backlog here, Arthur Loew, president of Loew's International, said here yesterday. There will be one representative each from the foreign, domestic and theatre departments.

Disclaiming any discouragement, however, Loew declared: "We have learned our lesson. We have not curtailed our program but have raised our standards." Recently returned from a two-month survey trip to England, France, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Switzerland, he said M-G-M has decided to participate in the financing of a picture to be made soon at Zurich, and might similarly encourage other foreign production with a view to obtaining pictures suitable for the U. S. market.

The problem, as Loew see it, is partly one of a conflict in taste between American and foreign audiences, with the gap having been widened by the war. Europeans, for example, he finds, produce more serious pictures for their home consumption than Hollywood normally turns out. A compromise is indicated, according to Loew.

Once the films have been more carefully obtained, the next step will be to exercise greater selectivity in deciding which should be dubbed and which sub-titled for showing in this country, Loew said, pointing out, for instance, that the dialogue in some French love scenes is confusing to U. S. audiences, even when presented in English. One experiment his company plans to try on imports is narration, a method used successfully on some films exported from this country.

While abroad, Loew purchased a theatre in Antwerp on behalf of his company, plus interests in two Swiss houses. In London he found the new M-G-M studios ready to start production next month, turning out six to 12 pictures per year.

Although indicating that negotiations for his company to handle foreign distribution for Enterprise are progressing successfully toward the contract stage, Loew said two or three other companies also are angling for that deal.

Loew may make a trip to Hollywood next month and definitely will return to Europe in March, with plans to continue to the Near East.

B'nai B'rith Honors Smith, Kenny Today

Several hundreds from the motion picture and the general entertainment industries will gather in the grand ballroom of the Hotel Astor, here, this evening to join in tribute ceremonies for Kate Smith and Sister Elizabeth Kenny, sponsored by Cinema Lodge of B'nai B'rith.

Miss Smith will be honored for her efforts in the promotion of inter-faith cooperation and understanding, and Sister Kenny will be honored for her relief and rehabilitation of children of the nation. Jack H. Levin is Cinema's president.

Herman Levy Warns Of Violations

Hartford, Dec. 16.—The Motion Picture Theatre Owners of Connecticut, in a bulletin, has again cautioned members concerning the violation of standee restrictions.

The bulletin tells members that Edward J. Hickey, Connecticut commissioner of state police, has informed Herman M. Levy, executive secretary, that he has asked his inspectors to make arrests "in cases where flagrant violations are observed, and in cases where actual complaints have been made of repeated offenses."

Charles Skouras Deal Is Still Pending

St. Louis, Dec. 16.—Leases on the Ambassador and Missouri theatres and Fanchon and Marco Enterprises' management contract with the St. Louis Amusement Co. have been temporarily extended until Jan. 31, 1947, on the same terms and conditions as before. The leases expired on Aug. 31 but have been extended from time to time since then, while the management contract ran out on Nov. 30.

Offer of Charles P. Skouras, president of National Theatres, to personally purchase the voting certificates and income bonds of the Ambassador and Missouri Building Corp., which control stock of St. Louis Amusement Co., is still open.

Noye to Manage in Mexico for 20th

Allen M. Noye has been appointed manager for 20th Century-Fox in Mexico by Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-International and Inter-America Corporations. Noye, former manager for the company in Colombia, replaces Joseph G. Mullen, who has been granted a leave of absence due to illness. Noye is currently in New York conferring with home office executives prior to his departure for Mexico City, where he will make his headquarters.

Siegfried Zobel, formerly assistant to Noye in Colombia, has been promoted to the managerial post in that territory.

Jaeger Named Nero's General Manager

Albert Jaeger has been appointed general manager of Nero Films by Seymour Nebenzal, independent producer for United Artists, who heads the company, UA's home office disclosed here yesterday.

Jaeger has been a financial consultant for many industrial firms and several independent motion picture producers. He served as comptroller for Nebenzal on both "Whistle Stop" and "The Chase," the producer's two most recent pictures.

Rivoli Aids Fund

The Rivoli Theatre, here, has tied up with the *New York Journal American* in the latter's War Wounded Christmas Fund. Monty Salmon, managing director of the Rivoli, has erected a stand in front of the theatre, where passersby may drop contributions.

R. W. Neill, 59, Dies in London

London, Dec. 16.—Roy William Neill, 59, Hollywood producer and director, who was visiting here at the home of his nephew and professional associate, Sidney Bracy, died Saturday. Starting about 25 years ago in the film industry, Neill produced a series of Sherlock Holmes films and also others. His wife and two daughters, of Hollywood, survive.

Funeral services will be held here Friday.

Theatre Building Prospects Bright

Washington, Dec. 16.—Real estate and official sources here report that the Government is expected to relax commercial building bans shortly, which will result in greater activity in theatre building.

At the present time the ceiling on all types of commercial construction is $35,000,000 per week for the nation. The President, it is reported, will shortly raise this figure to $50,000,000 in new construction each week.

One report has two easings scheduled: one to come within the next week or so, and the other to follow not long after that.

Managers' Union Poll Set for Tomorrow

Seven managerial employes of six New York theatres, operated by Combined Bronx Amusements, Inc., will be polled here tomorrow morning, under a ruling by the New York State Labor Relations Board, to determine whether they will elect as their collective bargaining agent the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild. The decision, ordering the election, was handed down as a consequence of a strike conducted since Nov. 1 by six managers and one assistant.

The theatres involved in the strike are: Craft, Beach, Park, Melba and Allerton, all in the Bronx, and the Alpine, Manhattan.

Oriental Theatre Hearings Start

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Hearings on the contempt charges involved in the Oriental Theatre court fight have taken a new turn with Randolph Bohrer, representing Bohrer and Barkhausen calling on Lewis F. Jacobson, attorney for the creditors, to testify. Jacobson was examined on the circumstances of the formation of the bondholders' committee, and was questioned on the origin of the suit.

Hearings will be resumed before master-in-chancery Joseph F. Elward on Wednesday, and are expected to continue through Friday.

Prince Will Conduct Depinet Meeting

Atlanta, Dec. 16.—Dave Prince, RKO Radio's Southeastern district manager, who was last year's "Ned Depinet Drive" captain, will be host to Len S. Gruenberg, 1946 drive captain, when he arrives to conduct a meeting at the local RKO Radio exchange on Wednesday. The latter will be accompanied by Frank Drumm, assistant to Nat Levy, Eastern division sales manager. Hubert M. Lyons is RKO Radio's branch manager here.

Rank Group Gets 30 New Zealand Houses

The J. Arthur Rank world-wide organization has acquired 100 per cent ownership of J. C. Williamson Picture Corp. circuit of 30 theatres in New Zealand with purchase of the three-eights' interest held by E. J. Tait, formerly managing director of the corporation. Confirming the deal during his visit here, Tait said yesterday that he received $1,250,000 in the transaction.

The remaining five-eights' interest is held by Rank's affiliated Kerridge New Zealand Theatres, Ltd.

Tait now operates a number of legitimate houses in New Zealand and Australia, he said, and is negotiating for the rights to such Broadway plays as "Oklahoma," "Harvey" and "Annie Get Your Gun."

Loew's Again Hosts For Cleveland Staffs

Cleveland, Dec. 16.—Resuming a pre-war custom, Loew's Theatres here are holding Christmas parties for its local executives and employes. Division manager Charles Raymond, managers, assistant managers and members of the publicity staff will be entertained at dinner at the Statler Hotel tomorrow night. Ernest Emerling, head of all Loew theatre advertising and publicity, will attend from New York. Theatre employes will be entertained at dinner at Rohr's Thursday, at which time service pins will be presented to those who have been with the organization 10 or more years. Oldest in point of service is Cecil Ryder, chief of maintenance, who is celebrating his 30th anniversary with the company.

UA Group Back from Studio Conferences

Gradwell Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution for United Artists; J. J. Unger, sales manager; Walter Gould, foreign manager, and Paul Lazarus, director of advertising-publicity, returned here yesterday by plane from the Coast.

Other members of the group which flew to the studio to see 11 new UA feature releases also are back in New York, including Edward M. Schnitzer, Eastern sales manager; Maury Orr, Western sales manager; Mori Krushin, exploitation manager; Tom Waller, publicity head, and Howard LeSieur, advertising manager.

Cabrini Production Begins Here Today

Clyde Elliott will begin production of "Citizen Saint," feature based on the life of Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini, at the RKO Pathe Studio, here, today.

Harold Young, who directed "The Scarlet Pimpernel," will direct the Elliott production. June Harrison has arrived in New York from the Coast to render the picture's vocal selections. The rest of the cast will be announced this week.

Illinois Allied Party

Chicago, Dec. 16.—Allied Theatres of Illinois will hold its annual Christmas party at its offices on Tuesday, Dec. 24. Jack Kirsch, National Allied president, and local Allied executives will be hosts.

Independent Hits On Percentages

Charging distributors with continuing a "combination and conspiracy under the guise of Confidential Reports and Copyright Protection Bureau," Castle Amusement Corp., Providence, in filing amended answers to the eight separate percentage complaints filed against it, yesterday maintained that rentals sought by the plaintiffs are based on contracts which have been declared illegal under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. The plaintiffs, Paramount, Warner Brothers, 20th Century-Fox, Columbia, United Artists, Universal, RKO Radio and Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, claim that Castle had not properly accounted to them for rentals due on pictures licensed on percentage.

Five points raised by Castle, through its New York counsel, Isseks, Meyers and Verdon, allege, in addition to alleged "collusion" through Confidential Reports and Copyright Protection Bureau which, it contends, forced it to yield to "excessive, arbitrary and unreasonable" rentals through threats by "checkers," it was said that the contracts upon which the suits are based are unenforceable. Castle further charges that the pictures licensed to it were licensed under contracts which unwarrantedly went beyond the scope of the privileges granted copyright owners under the U. S. Copyright law.

Isseks was formerly special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General in charge of the New York office of the anti-trust division, and Meyers, as special assistant to the Attorney General, played a principal role in 1945 in negotiating modifications of the old consent decree with the companies.

Seek Daylight Time Vote in St. Louis

St. Louis, Dec. 16.—With this city currently embroiled in a controversy over the question of retaining or repealing daylight saving time, the Motion Picture Theatre Owners of St. Louis, Eastern Missouri and Southern Illinois has announced it will circulate petitions among patrons calling for a referendum. Fred Wehrenberg, local MPTOA head, as well as national president, said the exhibitors will solicit signers for their petitions in the lobbies of their theatres and in their own neighborhoods.

Newspapers, the city Chamber of Commerce and other civic groups have expressed their opposition to repeal, while theatres and small unorganized groups are against retaining daylight saving time.

Dalrymple Eastern Agent for Cowan

Jean Dalrymple, New York producer and publicist, has been named East Coast executive assistant to Lester Cowan for Artists Alliance. The deal does not call for her exclusive services. Miss Dalrymple will supervise the search for production and talent material as well as work on other projects for Artists Alliance, the film-making organization recently launched by Mary Pickford and Cowan as partners.

She will begin work immediately on the first four pictures announced by Artists Alliance, including "One Touch of Venus," "Babylon Revisited," "Sorrel and Son," and "The President's Husband."

Reviews

"13 Rue Madeleine"

(20th Century-Fox)

LOUIS de ROCHEMONT's second production built around U. S. espionage activities in World War II—the first was "The House on 92nd Street"—is supercharged with just about as much suspense, dramatic impact and seething action as could possibly be impounded without allowing any of those elements, or combination thereof, to detract in any form or manner from the single underlying factor upon which the entertainment value of such a film depends: that it must convince. James Cagney is the star, in a role that fits him to a "T." Two-fisted, tough, ruthlessly determined in his every move, he is one of the top U. S. secret service men during the pre-second-front days of the war, who is assigned to supervise the actual training of specially-selected men and women who later filter into German-occupied Europe to play at the dangerous game of spying.

Unqualifiedly "box-office," "13 Rue Madeleine" should cull record, or near-record, grosses in almost every situation, its war theme notwithstanding. But this is not a war film, *per se*. It is rather a thoroughly realistic, quasi-documentation of the intricate, undercover operations of a master spy service, without which the outcome of World War II could very well have resulted in an interminable stalemate. Perhaps it is in this analysis that exploitation of the film will find its richest reward.

The film starts out in typical "March of Time" documentary fashion. Thereby the scene is set. Secret service headquarters in Washington is the focal point. The camera and narrator examine the inner mechanism and personnel of the organization, and then, deftly each character is introduced and identified. Thereupon the "story" takes over—as does Cagney.

Cagney's spy trainees include Annabella, a French refugee; Frank Latimore, an erstwhile French teacher, and Richard Conte, a widely-travelled American university graduate. Before their training is completed, Conte is discovered to be a Nazi spy. Cagney's outfit "plays along" with Conte, feeds him false "second-front" information, and flies him to Holland in company with Latimore and Annabella, the latter two being assigned to capture the designer of the Nazi rocket-launching sites on the French coast. En route, Conte, suspicious, murders Latimore and rejoins the Gestapo. Cagney picks up where Latimore left off, and in France, aided by the French underground, effects capture of the designer, only to be captured himself and subjected to brutal torture at the hands of Conte and his Nazi henchmen. At that point, 13 Rue Madeleine, Gestapo headquarters at Havre, where Cagney is held, is deliberately bombed by the Americans. All, including Cagney, are killed, as was Annabella sometime previously when she was discovered radioing messages to London.

All performers, including Walter Abel, as the chief official of the U. S. spy machine, and Melville Cooper and Sam Jaffe give excellent accounts of themselves. Henry Hathaway directed with restraint and verve. Photographic effects credited to Fred Sersen as well as Norbert Brodine's photography direction and Alfred Newman's music do full justice to the stirring screenplay, fashioned by John Monks, Jr. and Sy Bartlett.

Running time, 95 minutes. General audience classification. For January release.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"The Locket"

(RKO Radio)

Hollywood, Dec. 16

THE manifest exploitability of a cast comprising Laraine Day, Brian Aherne, Gene Raymond, Robert Mitchum and Reginald Denny, to name the uppermost, is the standout feature of this latest in the succession of psychological melodramas which has made the film public amply psychiatry-conscious over the past couple of years. This handling of the subject compares well with those that have gone before, and should prosper.

Progressing backward like a sandcrab, or a psychiatrist, Sheridan Gibney's screenplay employs a four-ply flashback technique (making it tough on people who come in at midpoint) to demonstrate the how-come of a young woman, never pressed financially, who takes other people's jewelry and permits innocent parties to incur the consequences. The tale opens on her wedding day when a former husband, who is a psychiatrist, tries to warn the bridegroom-to-be, having been warned similarly of the young woman's doings by a former suitor who's finally tired of shielding her in a case of murder for which an innocent man has been executed.

As one phase of the story telescopes into another, the audience is made aware that a painful incident in her childhood has been accountable for her taking ways and accompanying deceptions, and when this incdient is practically duplicated the lady loses her sanity. It is even more involved than the foregoing sounds, but very carefully done, and figures to be relished by amateur psychologists and interested bystanders. Bert Granet produced the picture for executive producer Jack J. Gross, and John Brahm directed.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER.

Universal Sales Parley

Albany, Dec. 16.—Details of the new Universal single film sales policy were explained by Fred Meyers, Eastern division sales manager, at a district meeting here, with David Miller, district manager; Eugene Vogel, of Albany; J. J. Spandau, Buffalo; Arthur Greenfield, New Haven, and their salesmen among those present.

Monogram Deal Renewed

Hollywood, Dec. 16.—Renewal deal for Monogram distribution in Colombia, South America, has been signed by Cinecolombia in the city of Medellin, according to a cable received at the studio from Bernard J. Gates, Latin American division manager now on a tour of Central and South America.

Labor Law Changes Seen by Rep. Davis

Memphis, Dec. 16.—Predicting that "corrective revisions in the fundamental labor law" and "constructive" labor legislation will be adopted by the new Congress, Rep. Clifford Davis, in a discussion at a Memphis Variety Club luncheon, today declared that the alterations "must not be punitive."

"Corrections are neded and if they don't go too far and a sane, proper approach is taken, the relationship between labor and management will be more equitable," he continued.

Referring to removal of controls, he said: "We don't have too many controls now. I rather look forward to the day when all controls will be lifted, and businessmen can stop blaming politics and the Government and start thinking of competition and good business practices again."

Variety president Herb Kohn revealed that the Roy Acuff show here had contributed a substantial sum for the Mothers' Milk Bank operated at John Aston hospital by the club, and that Acuff himself had given a share of his own fee to the welfare project.

Springer Junket for Century Managers

J. R. Springer, Century Circuit General Manager, has named nine Century men as winners in the recent "Lake Placid Timberdoodle Drive." They will go on a four-day junket to the Lake Placid home of F. J. Schwartz, Century vice-president, on Jan. 22, 1946, as a result of their work during the drive.

Winners are Jack Weinstein, Flatbush district manager; Bernard Seiden, manager of the Town Theatre; Bob Levy, manager of the Linden; Murray Greene, manager of the Albemarle; Al Wasserman, the Farragut; Dan Martin, the Station; M. Spector, assistant manager of the Community; E. MacAdams, assistant manager of the Town, and Ben Gladstone of the Home Office.

Additional Briefs Are Ordered in Ascap Case

Minneapolis, Dec. 16.—Following oral arguments in district court in Minneapolis in infringement suits brought by ASCAP against Ben Berger, Minneapolis, and Mrs. Jessie Jensen, White Bear, Minn., the court ordered additional briefs filed within three weeks. Final opinion is not expected until late January or early February.

Louis Frohlich, New York, represented ASCAP in the hearings, with Louis B. Schwartz, Minneapolis, counsel for the defendants.

NSS Ships Line Of Holiday Items

A new line of holiday posters and displays has been prepared by National Screen Service, and is now being shipped to theatres in time for Christmas and New Year's.

In addition to the customary three 40-by-60 posters covering Christmas, New Year's and midnight shows, National has two new items: a 30-by-40 Christmas poster and a five-foot Christmas standee, with attached easel. All posters and displays are in full color.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

ST. LOUIS

Matinee business has been off because of heavy Christmas shopping, but night business has been holding up. "Blue Skies" promises an impressive gross for its third week at the Ambassador. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and BEDLAM (RKO Radio)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $17,500. (Average: $20,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $5,500. (Average: $9,000)

STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—LOEW'S STATE (3,154) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $22,500. (Average: $20,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and THE PHANTOM THIEF (Col.)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $12,500)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB) and THE WALLS CAME TUMBLING DOWN (Col.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c) 3rd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $6,000)

KING'S ROW (WB reissue) and WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (WB reissue)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c) 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $7,500)

BALTIMORE

Only the strong openings and substantial weekend crowds kept box-office figures from a too-severe pre-Christmas dip. Weather has been splendid, and there has not been any outside competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19:

THE WICKED LADY (U)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $15,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $9,500. (Averaeg: $12,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,500) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $10,750)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $16,500. (Average: $17,500)

SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days. With stage show. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE GREAT MR. HANDEL (English Films)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

ATLANTA

Holiday shopping is hurting business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17:

THE KILLERS (U)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c). Gross: $11,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (55c-60c). Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,200)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) (55c-60c) 3rd week. Gross: $7,200. Gross: $7,200. (Average: $5.600)

DECEPTION (WB)—CAPITAL (2,446) (55c-60c). Gross: $4,400. (Average: $4,200)

THE WICKED LADY (U)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $15,000)

Review

"Stairway to Heaven"

(Universal International-Rank)

Hollywood, Dec. 16

DOUBTLESS the most effective and satisfactory way for an American showman to exploit this J. Arthur Rank presentation is by emphasizing the fact that it is the picture featured at that Command Performance in London which got so much publicity in this country as the first event of its kind. There must be a widespread ready-made interest in seeing it. And this approach has the additional advantage of cushioning the effect of very extraordinary dialogue, not only international but even inter-world in character, which many who sit through it may be forgiven for considering more appropriate to the purpose of a Command Performance than to those of commercial entertainment as the term is understood on this side.

Available also for billing are the names of David Niven, Raymond Massey and Kim Hunter, marquee values in the U. S., plus those of several British players of stature and plus the fact that the gentlemen who made this picture—Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger—are the same who made "The Invaders" and "Colonel Blimp." It is also within the bounds of truth to tell the customers that a stimulating array of technological innovations are to be witnessed in successful application; in short, that it is a quite remarkable film. It is the course of caution, however, to confine the advertising copy to the use of nouns, which happen to be plentiful, and permit the audience to choose its own adjectives, which are likely to range from one extreme to the other.

The British viewpoint on "Stairway to Heaven" was presented in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Nov. 11, through a review by Peter Burnup, London editor of Quigley Publications.

The Messrs. Powell and Pressburger, who not only produced but also wrote and directed the picture, ventured boldly and achieved much that is notable and pleasurably memorable. To condition the audience to the extent of their venturing, they have supplied a scholarly foreword which states explicitly, and in contradiction of their title, that the unearthly realm in which about half the action occurs exists only in the mind of the principal character and that any resemblance it may bear to any other world, "known or unknown," is purely coincidental. This foreword, phrased in the pleasant humour which prevails throughout most of the picture, appears to have been depended on to ease the concern of anyone present who may happen to have orthodox notions about Heaven and what goes on there.

AFTER this preface, the picture goes into a most impressive use of technological wizardry to acquaint the onlooker with the size and probable character of the universe, bringing the lens down finally to focus on this world and that spot on it where, in mid-war, Niven, a Lancaster pilot, is about to plunge to his death in the sea and makes romantic radio contact with an American girl in uniform whom, on being washed up alive on the shore, he meets and falls in love with forthwith. At this point the camera swings to that world referred to in the title as Heaven, where Niven's failure to arrive on schedule is treated as a grievous bookkeeping error, and a messenger is sent down to bring the inexplicably un-dead flier back up with him at once. The flier gives the messenger an argument, and the latter goes back for additional instructions, returning again to earth with the news that the high court has granted the flier an appeal.

Up to this point, which is somewhat beyond halfway into the picture, matters are handled with a most agreeable type of humour. The girl and a physician attending the flier disbelieve his accounts of the messenger's visits, and persist in rushing him to an operation intended to relieve a brain condition they believe responsible. Sequences showing the earthly episodes are alternated with others showing what goes on "up there," also amusingly handled, and the production rolls along lightly until the high court opens its trial of the flier, who is undergoing the earthly operation at the time.

AT this point the tone of levity is abandoned, for the most part, and Raymond Massey, representing the first American killed by a British bullet in the War of Independence, crosses verbal swords, as prosecutor, with the flier's doctor, just now arrived in this other world via a motorcycle wreck, who undertakes the aviator's defense. What goes on during the trial has to be seen and heard to be believed, but it sounds a good deal the way the press and radio reporters give one to understand a typical session of the United Nations might sound, and interminably. In sum, the trying of the case of the un-dead flier deteriorates into a wordy debate on the relative merits and demerits of the American and British ways of life, past and present, the whole arriving nowhere, and at such length that the disputants finally glide down a golden stairway to the operating table and settle for the conclusion (the patient getting up off the table and joining his sweetheart to confront the visitors) that love is more important than anything else anyway.

It is quite a picture, up to the point where oratory takes over, after which it becomes incredibly boring, and it contains many excellent performances. What it will do in the American market is one of the more interesting questions of the moment, but showmen who stick to the Command Performance slant in their exploitation will be on the safe side.

Running time, 100 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R WEAVER

Gov't Film Is Ready

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 16.—"Expanding World Relationships," produced by United Productions of America, has been delivered to the Department of State. Edward Gershman, vice-president and business manager of UPA, has flown east to make delivery and, while in Washington, will confer on other State Department pictures now in production.

Short Subjects

"Son of Zorro"

(Republic Serial)

Jeff Stewart, a Cavalry officer, returns to his home in the West at the close of the Civil War to find a ring of crooks operating in the important offices of the county government. To fight these men, Jeff puts on a black mask, jumps on his horse and as "Zorro," rides to the rescue, dashing the gangsters in the course of 13 chapters. The serial features George Turner, Peggy Stewart, Roy Barcroft and Edward Cassidy. It was directed by Spencer Bennet and Fred C. Bannon. Running time, about 18 minutes per chapter.

"Loco Lobo"

(Columbia)

It is a merry chase, in this Color Rhapsody, when a malicious wolf goes after poor little rabbit. Only Mr. Rabbit is not so poor. First the big, bad wolf tries carrot casting, only to become tangled in his own attempted knavery. Then, after a chase, he runs into a stone wall, literally. Fooled by a scared rabbit version of the Indian war dance, he is finally surprised in a duel of pistols by a rabbit who wouldn't take a chance. Running time, six minutes.

"Shoe Shine Jasper"

(Paramount)

Little Jasper, in this "Puppetoon," is working shining shoes when a mysterious fairy godmother visits him and leaves him a pair of golden slippers. He tries them on and is immediately transformed into a marvelous dancer. With the gift, he visits a dance palace where he wins first prize in a contest with a Scarecrow. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Glimpses of California"

(Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer)

James FitzPatrick, who has traveled around the globe several times, in this Technicolor "Traveltalk," trains the camera on his own backyard to bring to the screen some of California's outstanding scenic wonders. A visit to Hollywood, the farmer's market and some beautiful fruit groves are included. Running time, nine minutes.

"Beanstalk Jack"

(20th Century-Fox)

This Terrytoon fuses the story of Jack and the beanstalk with the hen that lays golden eggs, giving them a new twist by having the hen appear as a jackpot which lays golden coins and having her swing an enormous mallet to guard Jack from the giant. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"A Scout with the Gout"

(Paramount)

Little Lulu,s father learns that animals are tame creatures compared with his little daughter, when he takes her out on a camping trip and is confronted with plenty of action. The father comes home from the trip a defeated man while Lulu is full of life. Running time, seven minutes.

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

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VOL. 60. NO. 119 NEW YORK, U. S. A., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . in Today's News

GERALD M. MAYER, who joined the foreign staff of the Motion Picture Association last May, after resigning from the U. S. State Department, has been appointed managing director of the MPA's international division, effective Jan. 1, Eric A. Johnston, MPA president, announced here yesterday. He will succeed Carl E. Milliken, who will continue as secretary of the association. The latter also will give more time to the development of visual education.



Gerald M. Mayer

Mayer will leave here Dec. 27 for Hollywood, where he will discuss international problems with studio heads and the Association of Motion Picture Producers. In April he will again join Johnston in the survey of European countries which was cut short last month by Johnston's illness.

Kvool Named Warner Theatres District Chief

Alfred Kvool has been named Warner Theatres district manager for Wisconsin, under James Coston, zone manager for the Illinois, Indiana, Wisconsin and Oklahoma territories. Kvool replaced Charles Ryan, who resigned because of ill health.

Harry Mintz has been appointed Kvool's assistant. He will take over his duties after the holidays.

Reams Becomes Manager Of Atlanta Republic Branch

ATLANTA, Dec. 17.—S. R. Reams has been appointed manager of Republic's exchange here. Some 15 years ago he was with the Bromberg exchange in Dallas.

Floods Hamper Film Deliveries in N.W.

Portland, Ore., Dec. 17.—Earth-and-rock slides and high water flooding Central Coast highways have cut off half a dozen cities, seriously hampering film deliveries. Other highways can take only one-way traffic.

Distributors Elect Connors

Thomas J. Connors, vice-president in charge of sales for 20th Century-Fox, yesterday was elected chairman of the National Distributors Committee, which works closely with the Motion Picture Association in general distribution matters, at a meeting at the Hotel Astor. He succeeds Charles Reagan, Paramount sales chief, who handled the job during the past year.



Thomas J. Connors

Sales managers of distributors comprise the committee which was organized during

(Continued on page 7)

American-Mexican 'Variety Club Week'

An American-Mexican "Variety Club Week" has been set starting Jan. 13, in Mexico City, with a daily program of activities planned for the inauguration of the Variety Club of Mexico, announced by R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker.

On the morning of Thursday, Jan. 16, in the Hotel Reforma, there will be an opening business session attended by Mexican and American

(Continued on page 7)

Briskin Urges Bigger Gross

Quality production in Hollywood is undergoing changes and exhibition will have to reconcile itself to making some changes, too, Samuel J. Briskin, executive producer and vice-president of Liberty Films, said at a luncheon at Toots Shor's given for him yesterday by RKO Radio, distributor for Liberty.



Samuel J. Briskin

The advance in production costs in recent years must be recouped in greater box office returns, Briskin said. Disclosing that "It's a Wonderful Life," the

(Continued on page 7)

U. S. Companies in Deal With Poland

Following negotiations in Warsaw with officials of Film Polski, Irving Maas, vice-president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, announces by cable yesterday that a deal has been concluded with the Polish Film Monopoly for the release of product of MPEA member companies in Poland, effective Jan. 1. The agreement provides for the distribution of MPEA

(Continued on page 7)

Railway Express Calls Off Distribution Plan

Following an extensive survey both here and in Hollywood, Railway Express Agency, Inc., has abandoned plans to establish an independent subsidiary company to furnish exchanges and physical distribution facilities for independent producers, according to Kenneth Merritt, director of public relations, to whom the development of the project was entrusted.

Interest in the creation of a special film-handling system by the Agency, which has had the plan under consideration at various times over a period of years, reached a new high in industry circles when David O. Selznick recently terminated his distribution contract with United Artists and formed the Selznick Releasing Organization. This company is understood to have made inquiries as to the possibility of distributing through Railway Express.

Explaining the Agency's adverse decision, Merritt points out that the continuing traffic jam facing the railroads, with its attendant strain on personnel and facilities, is largely responsible for the abandonment of its plan, which, however, may possibly be revived at some time in the future. He emphasizes, nevertheless, that Railway Express, which at present

(Continued on page 7)

Five Divisions For Selznick Distribution

Managers Meeting to be Held in New York Soon

The newly-formed Selznick Releasing Organization will establish five "division points", with headquarters in New York, Boston, Chicago, Los Angles and Dallas, plus approximately 15 additional sales offices, Milton Kusell, domestic general sales manager, said here yesterday. This represents a crystallization of initial exchange plans, as reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY last Friday.

A number of district managers already have been signed,

(Continued on page 7)

McKay to Capital On Schine Appeal

Willard F. McKay, counsel for Schine Chain Theatres, Inc., left here for Washington last night to explore the U. S. Supreme Court's rejection of two Schine appeals from the Buffalo Federal District Court's decision against the circuit in an anti-trust suit brought by the government. Schine will file an application for a

(Continued on page 7)

Powers Sworn in as NY State Justice

William T. Powers, general attorney for 20th Century-Fox, yesterday was sworn in as judge of the second district of the New York State Supreme Court, covering Kings, Queens, Nassau, Richmond and Suffolk counties. Powers was elected on the Republican ticket in November.

Among those attending the ceremonies at the Supreme Court in Brooklyn were Spyros P. Skouras, 20th-Fox president; Edward C. Raftery, United Artists president; Mrs. Powers and Miss Catherine Powers. The oath was administered by Supreme Court Justice Charles C. Lockwood.

Justice Powers will assume his duties Jan. 1.

Personal Mention

ERIC A. JOHNSTON, president of the Motion Picture Association, left here yesterday for his home in Spokane, Wash., for the holidays.

•

ARTHUR REIMAN, head of Film Classics' print department, and SYLVIA BRAND, with the same home office, here, have announced their engagement, with April 19 set as the wedding date.

•

FLORENCE ROTH, wife of JAMES ROTH of RKO Operating, is the mother of their second child, Joanne, born Friday, Dec. 13, at Flushing, L. I.

•

TONY STERN, Warner theatre department head booker, and his wife are back in Cleveland from Parkersburg, W. Va., where they visited relatives.

•

GEORGE DUNN, manager of the RKO 81st St. Theatre in New York, is recovering in Wickersham Hospital from an operation.

•

EDWARD SCHELLHORN, Paramount studio foreign department executive, is scheduled to leave Hollywood tomorrow for New York.

•

RICHARD DE ROCHEMONT, March of Time producer, will be a guest on the Jinx Falkenburg-Tex McCrary program tomorrow.

•

HARRY PAUL, Atlanta branch manager for Wil-Kin Theatre Supply, has returned to that city from a Florida business trip.

•

CHARLES REPASSE, manager of the Crown Theatre, Hartford, recently observed his 37th anniversary in the film industry.

•

E. F. WALTERS, Altec comptroller, has returned to New York after three months on the West Coast.

•

DAVID KATZ of the Kay Exchanges has returned to Atlanta after visiting his father in a Philadelphia hospital.

•

JOE FRIEDMAN and GERRY MICHAELIS, both of Warners' publicity, have announced their engagement.

•

ED FITZPATRICK, manager of Loew's Poli Theatre, Waterbury, Conn., is a patient at a hospital in that town.

•

IKE and HARRY KATZ, owners of the Kay Exchanges in Atlanta, were recent visitors in Washington.

•

JUDGE MATTHEW LEVY, counsel for the IATSE, has arrived in Hollywood from New York.

•

BARNEY GERARD, Monogram producer, recently observed his 25th wedding anniversary.

•

JOHN JAVIS has joined the sales department of Kay Film Exchanges in Atlanta.

50% N. Y. Tax Cut Continues in 1947

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 17.—The personal income tax reduction in New York State of 50 per cent, first made this year, will be maintained next year, Governor Thomas E. Dewey reveals.

Elimination by the Legislature of the one and one-half per cent emergency tax on the corporate franchise rate and reduction of the unincorporated business tax from four to one per cent will also be continued, Dewey said. He pointed out that tax reductions were one of the factors in attracting new business into the state, the Governor adding that increasing taxes would not swell revenues.

The State faces a difficult time balancing a record-breaking 1947-48 budget, caused by higher welfare and relief costs and other increased expenses. The 1946-47 figure was $555,000,000. But revenues are still exceeding estimates, Governor Dewey said. The 1946-47 operating surplus, estimated at $80,000,000 to $100,000,000, could be appropriated by the 1947 Legislature before the end of the fiscal year, Dewey continued, but only for non-recurring items. All surplus at the end of the fiscal year—March 31—will be locked up in reserve funds, according to a constitutional provision. The total surplus is now more than $500,000,000.

Hasselo Wins Only SOPEG Contest

Norman Hasselo, of United Artists, was re-elected vice-president over Pat Di Blasi, 20th Century-Fox exchange, in the only contested executive post in elections held Monday by the Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild, Local 109, of the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, it was announced yesterday. Officers automatically elected by virtue of the absence of opposition are: Sidney Young, president; Otto Langer, re-elected secretary-treasurer, and Jean Forestier, recording secretary.

Elected members of the union's trial board are John Cuniff, M-G-M; Douglas Brockhurt, RKO Radio, and Abe Miller, RKO Radio.

More 'U' Floorspace At New Headquarters

Universal Pictures has leased an additional floor in the new 21-story office building now in the course of construction at 445 Park Avenue, adding 9,300 square feet of space and making a total of 102,300 square feet now contracted for. The new floor, which has also been leased for 21 years, is the 14th. Last August Universal leased the third to eighth floors inclusive.

RKO Holiday Party

Fourth annual RKO Christmas party will be held in the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Friday. The office will close at 12:00 noon and luncheon and refreshments will be served from 12:30.

Zukor-Weltner Fete

Paramount will hold a press luncheon in honor of Adolph Zukor and George Weltner, both of whom recently returned to the U. S. from an extensive European trip, at the Sherry Netherlands Hotel, here today.

Mixed Pleas in Army Film Theft Case

Arthur Schwartz and Mortimer Van Brink, neither of whom are identified with the industry, yesterday pleaded "not guilty" before U. S. Judge Robert Inch in Brooklyn to charges that they had infringed upon copyrights of feature films allegedly stolen from the U. S. Army Signal Corps photographic center at Long Island City. Joseph Mirasola, similarly charged, will enter his plea today. Schwartz's trial has been set for Jan. 9, Van Brink's for Jan. 16.

Nicholas Peter Peruso yesterday pleaded guilty before Judge Inch to charges of intent to steal 16mm. prints from the photographic center.

Peruso, Schwartz, Van Brink and Mirasola were among 13 arrested in New York by the Federal Bureau of Investigation last April after a probe had allegedly shown that substandard prints of films contributed by the industry for use of the Armed Services overseas were being shown illegally in schools and churches throughout the country.

Cineffects Develops New Color Process

Cineffects, Inc., has developed a new system for securing special color effects in 16mm. film, following several years' experimental research, it has been announced by Nat Sobel, company executive.

The new system, Sobel reports, makes possible the saving of considerable time and money to 16mm. color film products through the elimination of "A" and "B" printing. Cineeffects' formula, he said, imparts to 16mm. color films the same results obtained by producers of 35mm. color.

November Tax Total Rises in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 17 — Fear among theatremen here that theatres would soon follow cabarets in experiencing a 30 to 40 per cent drop in business were dispelled today with the announcement by E. F. Kelm, collector of internal revenue, that federal tax receipts for November increased $2,001,000 in Minnesota, rising from $36,563,000 in November, 1945, to $38,537,000 last month.

Auerbach in Europe

Joseph Auerbach, president of International Film Classics, an affiliate of Film Classics, is now in Europe consummating new distribution deals for the company and arranging for acquisition of outstanding features for domestic consumption.

Newsreel Parade

UNITED Nations Assembly adjournment in New York, the "pro" football play-off game, the S.S. Europa mishap, and floods in the U. S. Northwest are featured in current newsreels along with miscellaneous other subjects. Complete synopses follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 32—UN assembly ends historic session in New York, votes permanent New York site. Foreign Minister Bevin leaves for home. Liner Europa breaks loose and sinks in France. Football: Chicago Bears vs. New York Giants; Philadelphia high school game.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 230—UN votes world arms limitation plan. Border flare-ups in Greece. Bad luck for the Europa. "Ducks" save flood victims. Fire rescue chutes. Football: Bears vs. Giants title tilt.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 33—UN ends momentous session. Football: Bears win "pro" title; teen-agers play for keeps in Philadelphia high school game.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 35—Floods sweep U. S. Northwest. United Nations report. Football: Bears vs. Giants.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 564—UN and "Big Four" adjourn; pick New York site. S.S. *Europa* flounders. U. S. Northwest flooded. "Pro" football play-off. High school grid clash.

First Trans-Lux Latin Opening Next Month

Trans-Lux's first feature theatre in its proposed Latin-American circuit, the Trans-Lux Prado in the New Prado Hotel, Mexico City, will open around the end of January, Norman Elson, vice-president of the company, reported here yesterday upon his return from his fourth recent trip to the Mexico capital. He was accompanied by P. N. Furber, chairman of the board. Elson, and possibly Furber, will go back for the opening.

Plans for other houses in the circuit will be formulated soon after Jan. 1, but actual steps toward acquiring them will await a study of attendance at the 950-seat Prado, Elson said.

Says Britain Ahead On Documentaries

CHICAGO, Dec. 17. — Documentary film consciousness is far more developed in Britain than it is here, according to John L. Hamilton, film officer of the Chicago office of British Information Services. Hamilton, who toured production centers in England and Scotland, states that the war-proven usefulness of these films has won a place for them among British audiences.

Basketeers Confident

Showing greater confidence than at any time to date in the Rockefeller Center (Advertising Division) basketball tournament, Quigley Publications' quintet will take on the Compton Advertising five at the Rockefeller Center Institute gym, here, tonight.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Martin Quigley, Editor-in-Chief and Publisher; Sherwin Kane, Editor; Martin Quigley, Jr., Associate Editor. Published daily, except Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, by Quigley Publishing Company, Inc., 1270 Sixth Avenue, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y. Telephone CIrcle 7-3100. Cable address: "Quigpubco, New York." Martin Quigley, President; Red Kann, Vice-President; Martin Quigley, Jr., Vice-President; Theo. J. Sullivan, Treasurer; Leo J. Brady, Secretary; James P. Cunningham, News Editor; Herbert V. Fecke, Advertising Manager; David Harris, Circulation Director; Hollywood Bureau, Postal Union Life Bldg., William R. Weaver, Editor; Chicago Bureau, 624 South Michigan Avenue; Washington, Jim H. Brady, 215 Atlantic Bldg.; London Bureau, 4 Golden Sq., London W1, Hope Burnup, Manager; Peter Burnup, Editor; cable address, "Quigpubco, London." Other Quigley Publications: Motion Picture Herald, Better Theatres, published every fourth week as a section of Motion Picture Herald; International Motion Picture Almanac, Fame. Entered as second class matter, Sept. 23, 1938, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879. Subscription rates per year, $6 in the Americas and $12 foreign; single copies, 10c.

Here's how they'll say it this holiday!

HAPPY NEW YEARLING!



World Premiere of M-G-M's Prize Picture "THE YEARLING" (in Technicolor) December 25, 1946 at the Carthay Circle Theatre, Los Angeles. The New York Premiere will be at Radio City Music Hall following M-G-M's Technicolossal "TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"



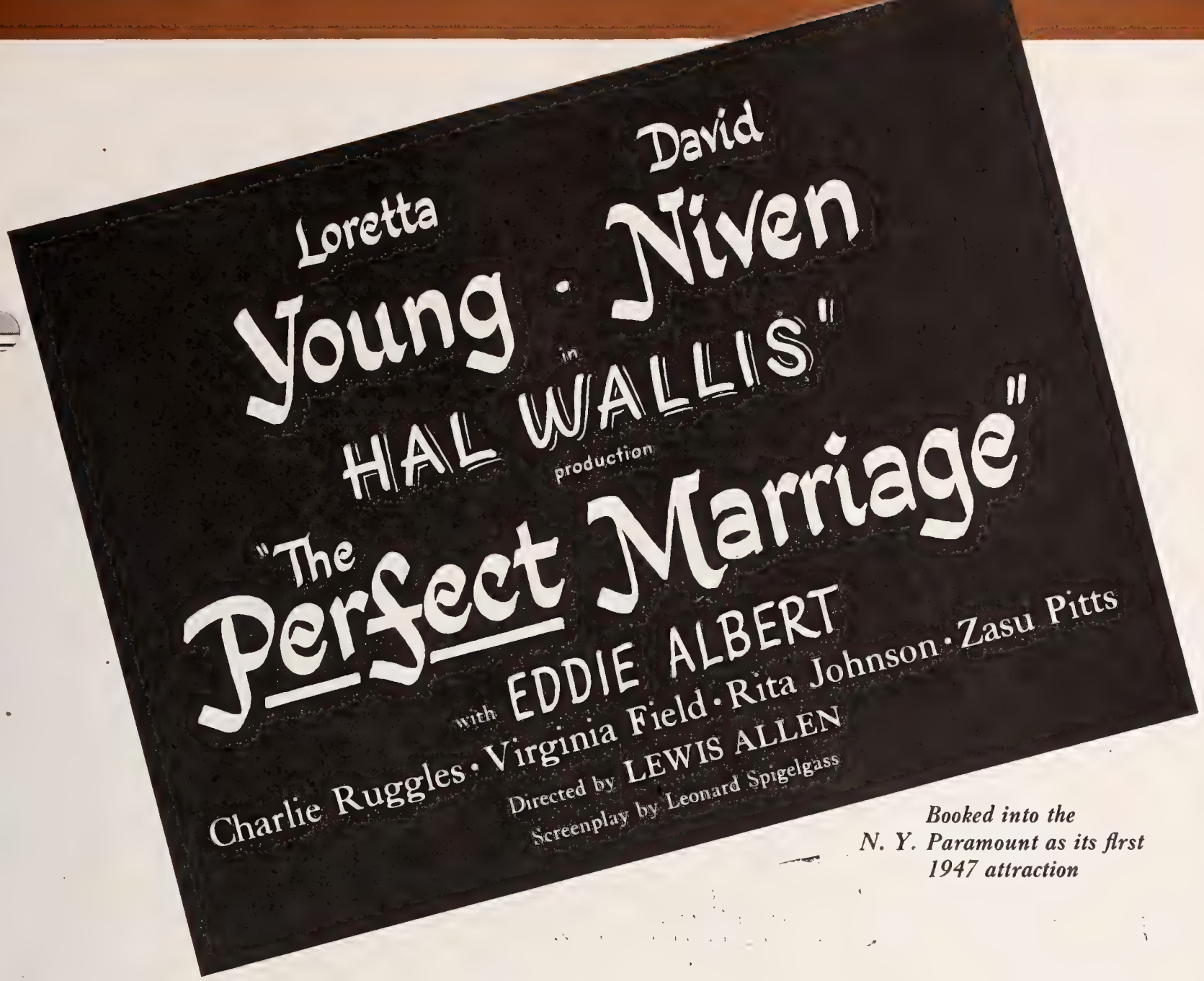
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"THIS IS A HAL WALLIS PRODUCTION—A FACTOR THAT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF!"—*Showmen's Trade Review*

"Broadway hit play is parlayed into a smash by Wallis . . . There can be nothing but admiration for the way he brings off this marital farce. Young-Niven slick team!"—*Hollywood Reporter*

"Should pay off at the boxoffice. A gaily conceived idea which Hal Wallis has built up smartly and with attention to best popular reception. Swift paced tempo...tip-top entertainment!"—*Daily Variety*

"Comedy with accent on laughter. The husband-wife angle will bring chuckles to anyone. Plenty of humorous passages and able support from a strong cast!"—*The Exhibitor*

"Should do well at the boxoffice. Perfect casting, blended with delightful yarn! Fast-paced and funny!"—*The Independent*

"Comes pretty close to being the perfect comedy!"—*Jack Moffitt, Esquire*

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

Christmas shopping and cold, foggy weather cut into grosses at all first-run houses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $8,900)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—CHINESE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $19,000)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,000) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $14,000)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $7,700)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,700)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M reissue) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $23,700)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,500. (Average: $26,200)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,906) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $24,600)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $6,100)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,600. (Average: $15,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,300. (Average: $6,000)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $5,800)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $16,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.) — PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $13,500. (Average: $23,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.) — PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $13,200. (Average: $24,100)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,400)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $9,300)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $15,100)

TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $12,500)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $8,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,600)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,100)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-01.00) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $15,700)

PHILADELPHIA

The pre-Christmas lull has hit the theatres, but "The Killers" and "Blue Skies" still are holding their own. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17-19:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $16,900. (Average: $14,000)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,250)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $19,500. (Average: $22,800)

THE PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-90c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Freddie Slack's orchestra. Gross: $22,500. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 5 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average, for 7 days: $28,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $26,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—KARLTON (1,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $7,800)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week, 2nd run. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,500)

THE KILLERS (U)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $28,300)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $27,500. (Average: $24,900)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,200)

CHICAGO

A cold wave and Christmas shopping have combined to send grosses down. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18-19:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 9th week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c). On stage: Cab Calloway. Gross: $55,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) twice daily, 19th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,000)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c) 3rd week. On stage: Star & Garter and Harvest Moon Revues. Gross: $40,000. (Average: $45,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U) and WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $21,000. (Average: $24,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 6th week. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $29,000)

THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—WOODS (1,200) (95c) 8th week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)

BOSTON

Facing holiday shopping and a bad cold wave, business slumped generally. Brightest box-office spots were Loew's State and Orpheum with "Strange Woman" and "Secret of the Whistler" playing both houses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

GENTLEMAN JOE PALOOKA (Mono.)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10) Stage show: Lena Horne, Bobby Sherwood orchestra. Gross: $26,000. (Average: $27,400)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para. reissue) and THE JUNGLE PRINCESS (Para. reissue)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $4,900. (Average: $6,900)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and DICK TRACY VS. CUEBALL (RKO Radio)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) Gross: $22,000. (Average: $25,000)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-80c) Gross: $23,200. (Average: $25,000)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c) Gross: $32,000. (Average: $23,500)

THE PLAINSMAN (Para. reissue) and THE JUNGLE PRINCESS (Para. reissue)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c) Gross: $13,900. (Average: $15,100)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c) Gross: $17,000. (Average: $16,900)

INDIANAPOLIS

Only one theatre is doing above-average business in this week of pre-holiday slump. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17-19:

IF I'M LUCKY (20th-Fox) and WANTED FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,700)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,000)

STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $14,400)

STRANGE LOVE OF MARTHA IVERS (Para.)—INDIANA (3,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,800)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days on a moveover from the Indiana. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,700)

DENVER

Grosses are holding up fairly well, although Christmas shopping is having some effect on them. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18:

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and THE FRENCH KEY (Rep.)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,500)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—DENVER (2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $15,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—ESQUIRE (742) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $3,500)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $15,500)

THE WEDDING NIGHT (Film Classics) and COME AND GET IT (Film Classics)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International) and THE MYSTERIOUS MR. VALENTINE (Rep.)—RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Denver, Esquire. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,000)

KANSAS CITY

Christmas shopping and strong competition from sports and stage attractions have resulted in relatively low film grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17-19:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,750)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and BLONDIE KNOWS BEST (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and HIGH SCHOOL HERO (Mono.)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

New Actor Fellowships

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 17.—Stanford University, at Stanford, has etsablished in its department of speech and drama six $1,500 fellowships, four for actors and two for theatre technicians, costumers or designers. The fellowships are said to be an innovation in theatrical education, since experienced actors and technicians may partake of their benefits.

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N. Y. First Runs Business Off

Only a few New York first-runs are drawing substantially this week, as Christmas shopping continued to impair the overall income.

"Till the Clouds Roll By," with the annual Christmas show at the Music Hall, is the box-office champion, taking in a triumphant $146,000 in a second week. This tops the first week's figure by $5,000. "The Verdict," with Vincent Lopez on stage, at the Strand, is headed for a substantial $58,000 for a first week.

At the Roxy, "The Razor's Edge," with Rosario and Antonio on the stage, is still doing a good job, with $110,000 slated for a fourth week. The fourth week of "Best Years of Our Lives," at the Astor, is good for $51,000.

"My Darling Clementine" fell off some at the Rivoli, with an estimated $29,000 on the books for a second week, after a $42,000 first week. "Song of the South," at the Palace, grossed a favorable $30,000 in its third week.

"Blue Skies," with Stan Kenton's orchestra, at the Paramount, rolled up a fair $65,000 in its ninth and final week; it will be followed today by "Cross My Heart."

"Abie" to the Gotham

"Abie's Irish Rose" will open Saturday at the Gotham, succeeding "That Brennan Girl" which figures to wind up a second and final week with a mediocre $8,200. About $9,000 is looked for at the Globe for the final six days of "The Chase," which will be replaced Friday night by "It's a Wonderful Life."

The fifth week of "Notorious Gentleman," which ended last night at the Winter Garden, drew around $18,000; the film holds for three additional days and will be followed Saturday by "The Wicked Lady." At the Criterion, "Magnificent Doll" is running about fair, with $20,000 anticipated for a second week.

At the Hollywood, $13,000 is indicated for the ninth week of "Deception," while "Wanted for Murder" is about average with $12,000 looked for in its opening week at the Victoria.

Extra Patron Service at Universal's Park

Universal will continue the extra patron service policy at the Park Avenue Theatre which had been adopted by Walter Reade, previous owner of the house. This includes a snack bar, cosmetics for ladies, a card room, and other features. "U" will open "Stairway to Heaven" at the house on Christmas Day as a roadshow, with a $2.40 top admission.

Grosses Drop in London

Theatres in London are experiencing a seasonal lull, according to the *Wall Street Journal*. Until recently theatre returns had been good and an increase is looked for in the new year.

Delay Scophony Hearing

Hearing on a petition of Scophony Ltd., for dismissal of cross-complaints brought by Scophony Corp. of America and Arthur H. Levy, its president in connection with the government's Scophony anti-trust suit, yesterday was postponed until Dec. 31 in U. S. District Court here.

Briskin Urges

(*Continued from page* 1)

first picture from the new company which he heads with Frank Capra, William Wyler and George Stevens, cost $2,800,000, Briskin said the same picture could have been made three years ago for $1,000,000 less and five years ago for $1,300,000 less.

The increase in costs means that producers of quality pictures will spend more time in their planning and, consequently, will make fewer pictures.

Briskin Statement

"It is in the exhibitors' interest to keep producers of quality pictures in business," Briskin said. "Therefore, they must take in more at the box office, in extended engagements, than before."

He pointed out that quality pictures merit extra playing time, citing experience at Radio City Music Hall where one and two-week engagements once were the rule but where good pictures commonly get six to eight weeks and more now. Briskin denied that producers deliberately endeavor to create a product shortage, asserting that to his knowledge a number of major companies have been prevented from releasing completed pictures of late because of their inability to obtain prints due to the Hollywood strike and other laboratory difficulties. He cited companies and picture titles.

Riskin said that Liberty plans three pictures next year, one each from Stevens, Wyler and Capra, and that Stevens' "One Big Happy Family," with James Stewart and Charles Coburn, would be the first.

Ned E. Depinet, RKO executive vice-president, commended Liberty on its first production, saying RKO Radio was proud to have "It's a Wonderful Life" on its schedule.

"It's the kind of picture that keeps the industry going," Depinet said. "the kind that brings in new patrons and holds the old ones. It is the kind of picture the industry needs to retain the peak patronage it enjoys today. Pictures of that quality are bound to play longer."

E. K. O'Shea, general sales manager of Liberty, presided at the luncheon.

Selznick Divisions

(*Continued from page* 1)

Kusell indicated, but have not as yet severed their connections with other companies. They may, however, be expected to do so quite soon, for SRO plans to hold a managers' meeting in New York either next week or directly after the first of the year, according to Kusell.

The sales manager confirmed reports that negotiations for the handling of SRO's physical distribution have narrowed down to one company, announcement of which is being deferred pending signing of the contract.

Neil F. Agnew, SRO president, left Hollywood yesterday for New York by plane, accompanied by Paul McNamara, head of advertising, publicity and exploitation. Daniel T. O'Shea, chairman of the board, still is on the Coast.

Railway Express

(*Continued from page* 1)

handles the transport of some films to theatres, is interested in expanding that phase of its business, although unwilling to establish exchanges now.

Another difficulty confronting the subsidiary - company plan, Merritt found in his survey, involved municipal requirements for the installation of fire-proof film storage vaults. To this problem, which would be accentuated by the shortage of building materials, was added that of inspecting and servicing the pictures returned by the theatres. The Express officials have decided, for the time being at least, that these functions lie too far outside their experience.

Price rates to be charged by a business of the type that has been considered would have to be approved by the Interstate Commerce Commission, as well as by public utility commissions in the 48 states, another Express spokesman pointed out. This was seen as adding materially to both the initial and subsequent administrative detail.

On the Coast, Merritt says, he found numerous independent producers deeply interested in the project, especially since the prospect of obtaining independent distribution was pleasing to them. Railway Express, however, could not, of course, assist in any way with the selling of pictures, a factor which is understood to have had some bearing on the failure of the representatives of the two industries to get together on a workable basis.

McKay to Capital

(*Continued from page* 1)

rehearing within the 25 days allowed by law, McKay said prior to his departure.

Commenting on the high tribunal's action of Monday, McKay said that rejection of his client's first appeal, on grounds that it was filed before the judgment became final, had been somewhat anticipated. In Washington he will seek to determine the defect in the second appeal, which the Supreme Court held to be in violation of Rule No. 12, raising the point of whether a substantial question was involved.

The Buffalo court, in its decision, ordered partial dissolution of the Schine circuit.

Egg on a (T)Eye

Eastern film journalists are in receipt of handsome, hand painted neckties, the motif being a chicken, egg and eye. Originating at the Universal-International studio, the cravats were accompanied by a letter from Fred MacMurray, general manager of the Col-Mac Egg Ranch, of which Claudette Colbert is president. Oddly enough, the two soon will appear in a picture known as "The Egg and I."

Daff Recovering

Alfred E. Daff, Universal International vice-president, is recovering at Roosevelt Hospital here, from illness which he contracted on his last foreign sales trip.

'The Yearling' Cited

M-G-M's "The Yearling" has been chosen by the *Christian Herald* as the "best picture of the year," according to the film company.

'Variety Club Week'

(*Continued from page* 1)

Variety Club members. This will be followed by an inauguration dinner at 2:00 P.M. for Variety members, their wives, and Mexican and American Government and business leaders, and to be held in Ciro's in the Hotel Reforma. At this dinner O'Donnell will present a Variety Club charter to the first Mexican tent. The entire ceremony will be conducted in Spanish.

That evening, the new Variety Club quarters will be opened with a cocktail party and buffet with the newly elected barker and officers of the Mexican Tent as hosts.

On Jan. 17, the Variety Club visitors will be guests of N. Peter Rathvon at RKO's Studios Churubusco, at a luncheon. At El Patio, that night, there will be a charity ball for the benefit of the Mexico Variety Club, to be attended by Mexican and American stars.

Saturday and Sunday of that week, plans are being made for sightseeing, with most visitors planning to attend the bull fights in Mexico City on Sunday afternoon.

National officers scheduled to attend, besides O'Donnell, are Col. Wm. McCraw, Chick Lewis and John H. Harris. In addition many delegations from tents in this country are planning to attend.

U.S.-Polish Deal

(*Continued from page* 1)

product in all population centres throughout Poland having theatre outlets. "Under terms of the deal, MPEA has received adequate guarantees of friendly cooperation," it said.

Maas, who was accompanied to Warsaw by Louis Kanturek, MPEA European supervisor, worked out dedetails of the agreement with Col. Ford, general manager of Film Polski, who represented the Polish Monopoly.

The directors of MPEA unanimously approved the pact with Film Polski at a meeting presided over by MPEA president Eric Johnston, held yesterday at MPA's New York office.

Connors

(*Continued from page* 1)

the war to work with the MPA first on the releasing of Government film, and as a coordinating group.

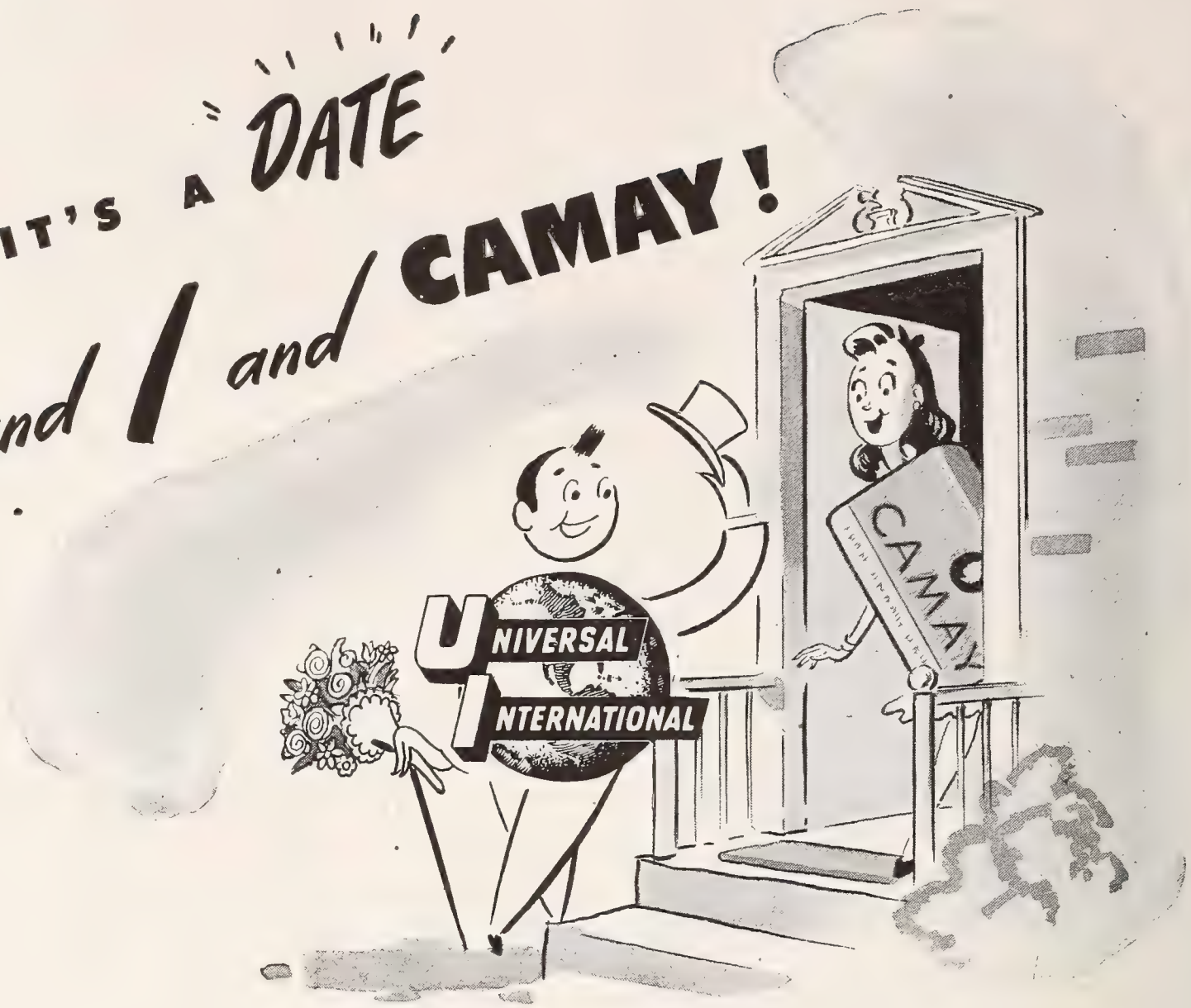
Business on which the group has worked since the end of the war include participation in the Children's Film Library as fostered by the MPA.

In his new position, Connors will represent the distributors on the 12-man coordinating committee for the Government-industry film program.

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Nov. 30	"Notorious Gentleman"
Dec. 7	"The Stranger"
Dec. 14	"So Goes My Love"
Dec. 21	"White Tie and Tails"
Dec. 28	"Along Came Jones"
Jan. 4	"The Egg and I"
Jan. 11	"Dark Mirror"
Jan. 18	"Magnificent Doll"

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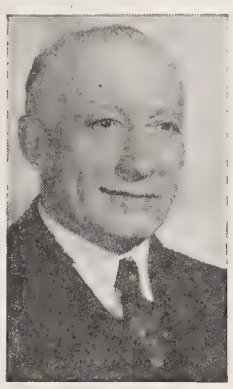
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Zukor Replies To 'Maligners Of Hollywood'

Hits British, Domestic Critics of Industry

Replying spiritedly to those to whom he referred to as "the maligners of Hollywood and the American film industry" at home and abroad, Adolph Zukor, founder and chairman of the board of Paramount, voiced his conviction at a luncheon in his honor at the Sherry Netherland Hotel here yesterday that the industry ranks in achievement with any in the world and is one in which its members may well take pride.



Adolph Zukor

The luncheon, attended by Paramount executives and trade press

(*Continued on page 2*)

Federal Hearing on Industry Abroad

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—As a means of acquainting the next Congress with the functions and position of the U. S. film industry abroad, a hearing with both industry and Government representatives testifying, has been called for tomorrow by a sub-committee of the Special House Committee on Postwar Economic Policy.

Rep. Eugene Worley, chairman of

(*Continued on page 3*)

State Dept. Probes China Quota Puzzle

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—The U. S. State Department is still trying to find the key to the mysterious quarterly film allotments put into effect in China some weeks ago. This restriction on motion pictures is part of an overall allotment plan for all imports, but

(*Continued on page 3*)

8 Millions to Rank From US and Latin Countries in 1946

By PETER BURNUP

LONDON, Dec. 18.—Films of the J. Arthur Rank production group drew unprecedented earnings of $8,000,000 in 1946 from the United States and South American markets, Rank disclosed here today at his annual luncheon for film critics. (The greatest portion of the $8,000,000 is understood to come from the U. S. market—EDITOR'S NOTE).

And he said he anticipates a greater yield from America in 1947, which would confirm a recent prophesy by Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association of America, that the British have it in their

(*Continued on page 3*)

UW, Rank in 16mm. Set-up

United World Films, 16mm. producing unit of Universal, and the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Britain, have launched a seven-year 16mm. joint production-distribution program in collaboration with top-flight institutions here and in Britain, to meet the need, voiced recently by Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, for a long-range, integrated cultural-educational motion picture set-up, it was revealed here yesterday

(*Continued on page 3*)

U.A. Not Rejoining MPA; Is in MPEA

United Artists is giving no consideration to rejoining the Motion Picture Association, so far as is known by Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, who is understood to have been present at meetings of the board of directors when the MPA's invitation to the company to come back was brought up recently.

UA is retaining its membership, however, in the Motion Picture Export Association, Sears said, adding that all the company's producers except Arnold Pressburger and Howard Hughes have by now joined the association also. The joinings have been formalized except in the instance of Hunt Stromberg, who is "tacitly in," Sears declared.

Wallis-Hazen 1947 Program Is Set

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—Following conferences in New York with Joseph Hazen and Paramount executives, Hal Wallis in Hollywood today announced plans for the Wallis-Hazen 1947 production schedule which has been budgeted at $8,500,000. The Wallis-Hazen commitment with Paramount provides for five pictures, all unproduced, and an extension has been under discussion.

(*Continued on page 3*)

"It's a Wonderful Life"

[***RKO Radio - Liberty Films***]

Hollywood, Dec. 18

WHAT mankind needs, it has long been asserted, is a stimulant that will lift the spirits and warm the heart without injurious after-effects. In his first production since his return from the wars, Frank Capra has provided just such a stimulant. For one of the many wonderful things about a wonderful picture is that it leaves the audience agreeing heartily with Mr. Capra's premise that "it's a wonderful life." It is. And James Stewart is a wonderful actor, and the industry which produced such a film is a pretty wonderful industry. Therefore it seems safe to conclude that Liberty Films' initial production is going to do wonderful business at the boxoffice, too.

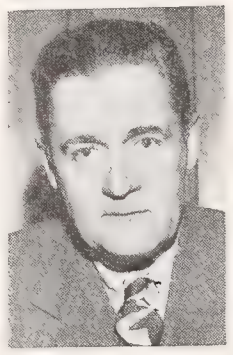
It's essentially a two-man picture. Capra, who produced and directed, also collaborated with Frances Goodrich and Albert Hackett on the screenplay, based on a story by Philip Van Doren Stern. The other half of the two-man team is Stewart, also lately returned from the wars, as lovable, as appealing, as talented as ever. There's scarcely

(*Continued on page 7*)

U.A. Has New Plan on Sales Conventions

Will Screen Films for Salesmen Before Selling

Believing that the type of sales conventions which have been traditional in the industry are now outmoded, United Artists has inaugurated a policy of previewing its full line of product for all sales personnel prior to any attempt at marketing, Gradwell L. Sears, vice-president in charge of distribution, said here yesterday.



Gradwell L. Sears

Screening of the 12 or 13 films UA now has in inventory will begin at branch office and

(*Continued on page 3*)

U.A. Still Selling 4 Selznick Films

United Artists will continue to distribute the four David O. Selznick pictures which it had in release when Selznick withdrew and formed his own releasing organization last week, Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, said here yesterday. The films are "Spellbound," "I'll Be Seeing You," "Since You Went Away" and the reissued "Rebecca."

Sears announced that the law firm

(*Continued on page 3*)

MPEA Takes Over In Austria Jan. 1

Distribution of U. S. films in the American-occupied zones of Austria, which has been in the hands of AMG's information services branch since that country's liberation, will be taken over by the Motion Picture Export Association on Jan. 1, according

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

THOMAS J. CONNORS, 20th Century-Fox vice-president in charge of sales, left New York for the Coast yesterday.

•

IRVING MAAS, vice president and general manager of the Motion Picture Export Association, now touring Europe, is due back in New York shortly after Jan. 1.

•

EVE SIEGEL, magazine and fashion editor in Warners home office publicity department, will be married here on Sunday to LOUIS WEINER.

•

CHARLES M. REAGAN, Paramount vice-president in charge of distribution, will return to New York tomorrow from New Orleans.

•

CLIFF ALMY, Warner supervisor for the Philippines and Japan, has arrived on the Coast from New York en route to Manila.

•

HERMAN GOLDBERG, purchasing agent and supervisor for Warner exchanges, has returned to New York from New Haven.

•

SAMUEL J. BRISKIN, Liberty Films' executive producer and vice-president, will return to the Coast from New York tomorrow.

•

MILTON SPERLING, United States Pictures president, will leave Hollywood for New York on Dec. 28.

•

JONIE TAPS, Columbia studio executive, will leave New York for Hollywood tomorrow.

•

LOUIS NIZER, film attorney, will return to New York from Arizona on Jan. 5.

•

SAM KATZ, M-G-M vice-president, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

DON MCGUIRE, Warner actor, is in Chicago from the Coast.

Rose Sues Mason For $1,760,000

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18. — Charging James Mason with breach of contract, David E. Rose, producer, has filed suit in Federal Court for $1,760,000 and an injunction to prevent the actor from working elsewhere. The complaint asserts that Mason on Nov. 9 repudiated an agreement made on June 5 under which Rose established an American corporation for the production of a minimum of two pictures annually for five years. It also seeks definition of Rose's rights and Mason's obligations under the agreement.

Mason, according to statements made in New York by Rose, was to appear exclusively in the ten motion pictures and would have held half ownership in the company.

Prominent Women Hit Dope Films

Washington, Dec. 18. — The recent industry amendment of the Production Code to permit the treatment of dope subjects in films was condemned by former Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins and other prominent women in the second of a series of articles on the subject in the *Washington Post*.

The series is taking on all aspects of a crusade against production of dope films now that the industry itself has opened the way for them.

Zukor Replies

(*Continued from page* 1)

representatives, was in the nature of a "welcome home" to Zukor and George Weltner, head of Paramount International Corp., who both returned recently from visits to Paramount offices in Great Britain and on the Continent.

Zukor said that he was aware of two distinct types within the British film industry, "both of them influential." One group, he said, wants British pictures to represent the nation in the proper light throughout the world; the second uses the British government and every possible influence for "personal gain," Zukor said.

"It is that sinister influence that gets a hearing," he observed. "The way to do that, apparently, is to lambaste Hollywood and American films. We are charged with 'draining the British Treasury', although the earnings of American films in Britain are but small change compared with the millions that England receives from America for broadcloth, woolens, whisky and many other exports."

"In return for our film revenue," Zukor continued, "we give them pleasure. We have relieved the humdrum life the average Britisher was obliged to live in recent years and helped to maintain their spirit in difficult times. We have kept their theatres open and added to their number. We have created theatres. There would be fewer of them in Britain today if it were not for our pictures.

"Britain blames Hollywood for British shortcomings and British inability," Zukor said, referring to recurrent charges that British films are not exhibited here in proper ratio to their entertainment merit. "All of us know," he said, "that a good picture regardless of its origin, whether from Turkey, Yugoslavia or Tanganyika, can be shown here. We have no restrictive laws of any kind. The only test is whether or not the picture is good."

"Hollywood makes pictures for the world. It has studied the wants of audiences everywhere and, in consequence, it makes the best pictures in the world. Britain makes them without having even America in mind. They haven't studied the wants of foreign markets as we have done traditionally and, therefore, our films are and will continue to be superior."

Turning his attention to other critics of Hollywood, Zukor scored "people who have made 16 pictures in their lifetime who become self-appointed oracles to tell the world what's wrong with Hollywood and, in so doing, malign the American industry. It's preposterous!

"I for one am more interested in the welfare of the industry than in dollars and cents. Our industry and the men in it are deserving of respect. Some of us have worked 45 years for that. We have something to be proud of."

Weltner described the purpose of his and Zukor's European trip as a first effort to reestablish personal relations with the Paramount family overseas after the war and following the recent management changes in the company's British and Continental organizations.

Curtis Mitchell, Paramount advertising-publicity director, presided at the luncheon.

Film Drivers' Pact Signed Tomorrow

Ironing out a ruffle which developed over insistence upon a five-day work week by the Film Drivers and Helpers Union, a new five-year contract, guaranteeing the basic weekly scale agreed upon for five days' work with an additional stipend for a sixth day, will be signed tomorrow between the independent union and the Film Carriers Association, representing 14 metropolitan carriers, it was disclosed here yesterday by Samuel R. Zach, union counsel.

The new contract, which will supplant the current agreement, although the latter still had another two years to run, will grant wage rises ranging from $5 a week for drivers to $18, in clearing up inequities, according to Zach. A floor of $56.50 is set for the drivers, while helpers, who will receive a $3.50 increase, are given a minimum of $30 weekly. Pick-up men are being given a $1 increase, with a minimum of $16 a week.

The stipulation to maintain the present six-day week grants the basic minimum for five days' work, $56.50 in the case of the drivers, plus an extra $4.70 for the additional day in a six-day week.

Becoming effective on Dec. 29, the contract awards still another increase of $3.50 a week for the drivers, in 1948, and will then be open for renegotiation for the following three years. While wage talks in the final three years will hinge on the cost of living, Zach declared, the contract prohibits any cutbacks in wages, "regardless of what happens."

George Jenner, 61

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—George Jenner, film character actor and former associate of George Arliss in London, died in his home here Monday at the age of 61. Formerly connected with British studios, Jenner came to Hollywood in 1927, and had been active here since He leaves a widow, Ida.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

WE HAVE IN HAND, for publication, a Presidential Proclamation from the Republic of Ecuador, inviting all and sundry to accept 124 acres of farmland, plus a town lot, absolutely free, to settle in that country. Married men, or heads of families can have double that acreage.

As a further inducement to settlers, the proclamation points to Ecuador's "salubrious climate," stemming from the cold antarctic Humboldt current which sweeps close inshore; also, Ecuador's soil is compared to the richness of that of Jáva's, sending forth 11 different kinds of bananas.

Furthermore, says the proclamation, Ecuador has a tribe of Colorado Indians "whose women-folk are noted for their beauty of face and grace of body"!!!

▽

An uninitiated prospective investor, while waiting in the ante-room of Baron Rothschild's office, perused some of the banker's financial literature. When he was admitted to the financier's presence, remembering the literature, he remarked, "You advocate the purchase of stock paying 10 per cent and say it is a good investment. You also advise the purchase of a bond paying three per cent and say it is a good investment. Which do you advise me to buy?"

"Well," said Rothschild, 'if you want to eat well, the 10 per cent stock is the one to buy."

"But what of the three per cent bond?

"Ah," replied the banker, "the three per cent bond is the one to buy if you wish to sleep well."

▽

Theatre owners who might be moved to complain about slight inconveniences arising from a coal shortage might well compare their temporary position with that of French exhibitors who are not permitted to start their shows until 5:30 P. M. Since Nov. 20 electricity has been so scarce because of a fuel scarcity that each French region is split up into three sections and each sector is deprived of electricity for two consecutive days. Current is not even permitted in homes on those days until nightfall.

Big Basketball Upset!!!

With a newly-devised attack steered by Chester "Pop" Friedman, editor of the MOTION PICTURE HERALD'S "Managers' Round Table," and captain of the Quigley Publishing Company's basketball team, the QP basketeers last night defeated the team of the Compton Advertising Agency by a score of 28-20. Observers of the Rockefeller Center basketball league games said they considered the QP team finally capitalized on its aggressive potentialities. The game drew one of the biggest "gates" of the season here.

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U.A. Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

exchange-city theatres in March, Sears announced at one of his infrequent press interviews, following his return from the Coast, where 10 days were devoted to previewing the full program for home office sales executives, key men in the advertising-publicity department and nine district managers, after which the pictures were rated and discussed from the standpoint of merchandising.

Sears pointed out that the time-honored method of calling the salesmen together and giving them "pep talks" about pictures they have not seen is, in his opinion, unsuited to present-day conditions in the film industry. "If an exhibitor doesn't buy a picture till he sees it, why expect a salesman to sell it until he has seen it himself?," he asked.

While clearly indicating that he regarded the new preview method as one toward which the industry in general may be expected to move, Sears explained that, in the case of UA, the spread of the production investment among a large number of independent units makes the accumulation of the necessary backlog especially feasible. At present, UA has a $25,000,000 film inventory, he said, adding: "We may not be in the same position a year from now. If not, we will not hold a sales meeting until we are ready. The trip to California convinced me that we'll never hold another sales convention, as conventions have been known in the past."

Expecting the company's backlog to rise to 15 by March 1, Sears held that the weeks following this date will be the most suitable, annually, for the sales previews, inasmuch as the California personal property tax, payable then, makes it profitable for all companies to complete as many pictures as possible and get them out of the state by that time.

During 1947, Sears said, UA will release two "top" pictures every five weeks, in addition to the lower-budgeted product. There is an "excellent chance" that "Carnegie Hall" will be roadshown, while "Arch of Triumph" possibly will be given the same treatment, according to Sears, who predicted a gross in the neighborhood of $10,000,000 for each of these productions.

Sears plans a trip to England after the Christmas holidays. Although declaring this will be on "routine business," he added that UA has "got to get some production in England" in order to meet British quota requirements. "Fanny by Gaslight," he said, is the only unreleased J.-Arthur-Rank film remaining in the company's possession, and it is being withheld for the present in the expectation that the American popularity of James Mason, who is starred, will increase by virtue of prior showing of his more recent vehicles.

Completed pictures previewed by the executives on the Coast were: Benedict Bogeaus' "The Macomber Affair" and "A Miracle Can Happen," Sol Lesser's "The Red House," Hunt Stromberg's "Dishonored Lady," the Morros-LeBaron "Carnegie Hall," the Loew-Lewin "Private Affairs of Bel Ami," Preston Sturges' "The Sin of Harold Diddlebock" and Enterprise's "Ramrod," "Arch of Triumph" and "The Other Love." Also viewed while shooting were: California Pictures' "Vendetta," Howard Hawks' "Red River," Bogeaus' "Christmas Eve," Stromberg's "Personal Column," Sam Coslow's "Copacabana," Seymour Nebenzal's "Heaven Only Knows," as well as several Comet, Hal Roach and "Hopalong Cassidy" pictures.

Selznick, Sears

(*Continued from page* 1)

of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and Kiendl had formally accepted UA's invitation to serve as special counsel for the company to determine whether or not Selznick has breached his contract. (Subsequently, Theodore Kiendl, a member of the firm, said an opinion will be given to UA in about a week).

The dispute, growing out of a charge that Selznick diverted to RKO product to which UA had an alleged claim, reached the rupture point following a legal opinion solicited some months ago from the firm of Pepper, Bodine and Stokes, it was explained yesterday by Sears, who emphasized the UA board has moved concertedly and that a personal battle on the part of Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin against Selznick is not the crux of the matter.

With regard to any possible patching up of the differences with Selznick, Sears said: "Neither the stockholders nor the board of directors have authorized any negotiations of any sort." He made clear that he was in a position to speak only for the UA management and not for the stockholders or the board.

The status of Selznick's continued ownership of one-third of the UA stock will depend, presumably, on the outcome of any legal action regarding the breach-of-contract issue, Sears indicated. Selznick's purchase of the stock was conditioned upon his being credited with delivery of 10 production units, with high-budget "specials" in some instances being credited as more than one. To date, the producer has credit for eight.

Because of UA's virtual persuasion that Selznick had breached his contract, the company refused to distribute his new picture, "Duel in the Sun," Sears said, adding that he assumed that accusations of breach of contract made against UA by Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Selznick's Vanguard Films, were based upon this action.

Warner Club Party

The Warner Club's annual Christmas children's party will be held at the Hollywood Theatre, here, tomorrow, it is announced by Stuart H. Aarons, club president. Gifts will be distributed to the children, grandchildren, brothers and sisters, not over 12 years old, of club members.

UA Deal for Enterprise Distribution Formalized

United Artists' deal for domestic distribution of the first six films made by Enterprise Productions has been formalized, Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president in charge of distribution, said here yesterday. The contract contains the provision that only one of the pictures, "Ramrod," shall be a Harry Sherman production.

"Ramrod" will be the first released, followed by "Arch of Triumph," "The Other Love," an untitled picture starring John Garfield and Susan Hayward, and another starring Ginger Rogers. All are to be delivered in 1947.

UW-Rank 16mm.

(*Continued from page* 1)

by Edmund L. Dorfman, United World vice-president.

Plans, now fully completed, call for the making of one picture a week in the U. S. and in Britain, over the seven-year period, to produce at least 700 individual films encompassing the entire sphere of education for showing in schools and colleges throughout the world, Dorfman said, adding that a production advisory board made up of educators is in process of formation.

The program will supplement textbook and lecture teaching in schools and colleges, and will serve up series of courses rather than present isolated, disconnected treatment of subjects, according to Dorfman. He said the program will in no way be tied in with outside commercial interests.

Dorfman, who will sail for England on Jan. 18 to work with the Rank unit for about a month, said that in Britain the one-a-week schedule is already in operation. In the U. S. production will get underway within six months, and, meanwhile, United World is drawing upon Universal's Bell and Howell film library to set up two blocks of 25 pictures each, to put the program in motion at an early date, Dorfman stated.

The film courses will be dubbed in foreign languages, Dorfman said, adding that even sound-tracks made in England will be remade here to suit Americans. He said the films will be made available for television.

Actual production in the U. S. will take place in New York and, from time to time, in the field whenever necessary, Dorfman said, emphasizing that the program will be entirely divorced from Coast operations.

8 Millions to Rank

(*Continued from page* 1)

power to realize profits of $10,000,000 in America next year.

Probably referring to producers Alexander Korda and Arthur Jarratt, but not mentioning names, Rank commented that "some people think the Americans are not giving British pictures a fair deal." While conceding that America represents Britain's most difficult foreign film market, he declared that progress is "at last" being made.

Touching on theatre operations, Rank said: "We have still to establish ourselves in America."

MPEA in Austria

(*Continued from page* 1)

to a report from Irving Maas, MPEA vice president and general manager.

Details of the transfer of distribution controls and the establishment of MPEA offices were worked out in a series of conferences held by Maas with AMG officials during the latter's recent visit to Vienna.

Wolfgang Wolf, who has been serving as acting film officer for the information services branch in Austria, will resign that post on Jan. 1 to take over as manager for MPEA, under the supervision of Continental supervisor Louis Kanturek. Assisting Wolf in the capacity of sales manager will be Alex Morvay, formerly with Universal in Austria.

Wallis-Hazen

(*Continued from page* 1)

His current production is "I Walk Alone" (formerly "Deadlock"); Byron Haskin directs. The first film to go into production next year is "Be Still, My Love," slated for a late January start. In April, Wallis will leave Hollywood for England to produce "For Her to See," starring Ray Milland and an English-American cast. In the fall, Wallis will film "House of Mist" and a Technicolor film, probably "Lola," to be adapted from a forthcoming story by Philip Van Doren Stern.

With the recent re-signing of Robert Cummings for a seven-year period, and the acquisition of George Rigaud on a term contract, the Wallis talent roster now includes Barbara Stanwyck, Cummings, Lizabeth Scott, Burt Lancaster, Don Defore, Kirk Douglas, Ann Richards, Wendell Corey, Kristine Miller, Douglas Dick, Betsy Drake and Rigaud.

Federal Hearing

(*Continued from page* 1)

the group, today explained that, "We want to know what is doing in our motion picture industry abroad. We like to see ourselves as others see us. People all over the world form opinions of us from our motion pictures. I know from personal observation that in some parts of Europe people think we are all either cattle rustlers or millionaires because of our movies."

Slated to participate are: George Canty, motion picture specialist for the State Department; Nathan Golden of the Commerce Department, and the following representatives of the Motion Picture Association: Francis Harmon, vice-president; Gerald Mayer, director of the international department; Carl Milliken, secretary; Joyce O'Hara, assistant to MPA president Eric A. Johnston.

China Quota Puzzle

(*Continued from page* 1)

there has been no clear explanation now of how the scheme works.

If the operation is not equitable there is strong likelihood of a State Department protest, it is said. One of the puzzles of the new restriction is that some U. S. film companies appear highly satisfied with the new deal in China and others are so badly off there that they have protested and have warned they might have to withdraw their exchanges completely. The Motion Picture Export Association does not function in China.

In general, the new quota system depends upon urgency for the product and upon past performance in its distribution. However, this does not seem to work the same way for all companies.

'Carmen' Condemned By National Legion

Superfilm Distributing Corp.'s "Carmen," French film with English sub-titles, has been placed in Class C (condemned) by the National Legion of Decency.

Three other pictures rated by the Legion have been placed in Class A; they are: "Out California Way," Republic; "Wake Up and Dream," 20th Century-Fox, and "The Yearling," M-G-M.

Christmas Day

IN NEW YORK AT THE HOLLYWOOD
IN LOS ANGELES AT THE HOLLYWOOD WILTERN *and* **DOWNTOWN**

THE WINNER OF THE 1945 ACADEMY AWARD

JOAN C

JOHN G

"Huma

The new Warner

ONE OF THE G
OF THEM

WITH

OSCAR LEVANT · J. CARROL NAISH · JEAN

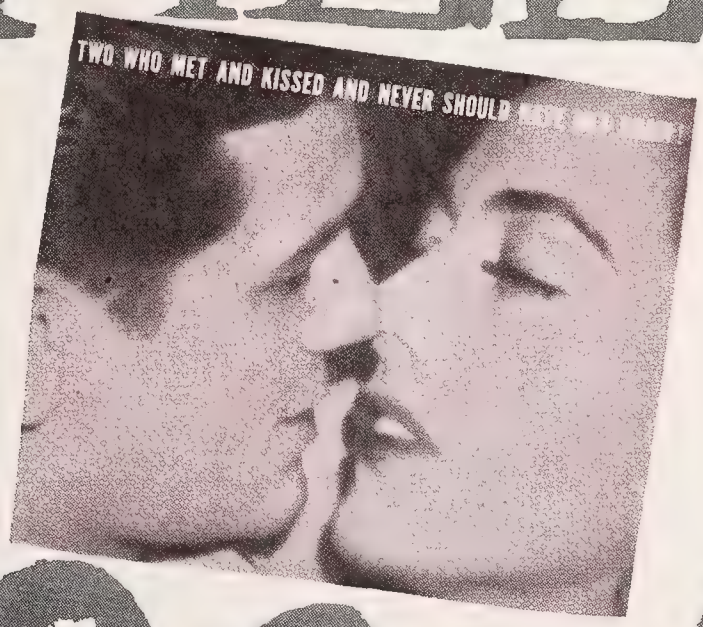
DIRECTED

ILDRED PIERCE'' IS IN ANOTHER HISTORY-MAKING ROLE!

D RAWFORD

ARFIELD

hievement



resque"

PRODUCED BY

ULESCO · JERRY WALD

Screen Play by Clifford Odets and Zachary Gold • Based on a Story by Fannie Hurst • Music Conducted by Franz Waxman

'Best Years' Given Mid-West Premiere

CHICAGO, Dec. 18.—"The Best Years of Our Lives" had its Midwest premiere at the Essaness Woods Theatre here this evening. Cathy O'Donnell, one of the stars of the Goldwyn picture, headed an all-star turnout of theatre personalities, and searchlights blazed in the lobby and in front of the theatre as cameramen recorded the event, and radio interviewer Les Lear introduced celebrities over the air. The facilities of American Broadcasting's local outlet, WCFL, were used.

Llewellyn Miller came here from the Goldwyn office in New York to work with Norman E. Kassel, Essaness publicity head, and William Prager, publicity head for RKO Radio in this territory, on the premiere's promotion.

Traffic was rerouted to facilitate the admission of guests, and police officers were on hand to check the large crowd which had gathered in the vicinity to watch the proceedings.

Among those invited to the premiere were: Sophie Tucker, Willie Shore, Bobby Breen, Joe E. Brown, Ralph Forbes, Katherine Emmett, Walter Kingsford, Sig Arno, Tommy Bartlett, Paul Gibson, Buddy Divito, Curley Bradley, and many others.

Prices being charged at the Woods for "Best Years"—which will be shown continuously from 7:45 A.M. to six A.M.—are 95 cents from opening until 11 A.M., and $1.40 thereafter. There are no special children's prices.

WANTED

One of the major companies needs several experienced, intelligent, personable men as field representatives. Primarily, they must have good advertising sense and a feel for top advertising and publicity values. While these men will be given much personal responsibility in their territory, they must still be men who know how to work organizationally as part of an over-all operation.

If you have a good reputation for diligent, honest, constructive, and creative ability, and if you are at heart a showman, please write to Box 387, MOTION PICTURE DAILY, 1270 Sixth Ave., New York, 20, for an interview, and include a brief résumé of your experience.

(Our employees have been advised of this advertisement.)

Washington Houses Not Fire Hazards

Washington, Dec. 18.—This city's theatres lack the fire hazards of many other of the Capital's buildings, according to a survey by the District Government as a result of the tragic Atlanta hotel fire.

Fire department inspectors found theatre exits and fire-resistant construction better than those in other buildings, but in some of the older theatres they found inflammable wooden facings and improperly-located boiler rooms.

Goodman Quits MPE Returns Here Feb. 13

Morris Goodman, presently the Berlin representative of the Motion Picture Export Association, has cabled his request for the termination of his European assignment, to take effect Jan. 16. The termination, according to Goodman, is in the spirit of an original understanding which was made when he went to Germany in 1945.

Goodman plans to spend a week in Paris with Mrs. Goodman, after which they will visit their two children in Switzerland, where they are attending school, and both will return to New York on the *S.S. Queen Mary* Feb. 13. Goodman's plans will be announced upon his arrival in New York.

20th-Fox Yule Party Tuesday at Astor

Twentieth Century-Fox's annual Christmas party for all employes of the company, Movietonews, National Theatres, the Roxy Theatre, and the trade press, will take place as in previous years, in the Astor Hotel here on Tuesday. A committee of hosts will be headed by president Spyros P. Skouras, Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution; W. C. Michel, executive vice-president, and officers of the company. Jack Sichelman, aide to Connors, will again handle arrangements.

$10 - $250 Bonus Set By Century Circuit

A schedule of Christmas bonuses, ranging from $250 to $10, was announced here yesterday by A. A. Hovell, president of Century Theatres. The arrangement will take care of 621 theatre and home office personnel.

Breakdown of the schedule is as follows: After five years' employment, five weeks salary not to exceed $250; three years' employment, three weeks' salary not to exceed $150; one year's employment, two weeks' salary not to exceed $100. For lesser tenures of employment the scale is graduated downward.

George Henry Hines, 90

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 18.—George Henry Hines, 90-year-old showman, died here Monday. Born in Panola, Ill., he joined a circus at 18, became advance man for Barnum and Bailey and Ringling Brothers circuses and later operated film theatres in Chicago, Englewood, Ill., and South Bend, Ind.

Board Says 'Henry,' 'Open City' Best

"Henry V" has been voted the "best film of the year" by the National Board of Review of Motion Pictures, which also has voted "Open City" the year's best foreign-language film. Laurence Olivier was named the actor giving the best performance; Anna Magnani ("Open City"), best actress, and William Wyler was designated as having contributed the best direction of the year for his work on "The Best Years of Our Lives."

The Board's committee on exceptional motion pictures named the following "ten best" (in the order listed) on the basis of artistic merit and importance: "Henry V," "Open City," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "Brief Encounter," "A Walk in the Sun," "It Happened at the Inn," "My Darling Clementine," "The Diary of a Chambermaid," "The Killers" and "Anna and the King of Siam."

Chosen by the 200 members of the Board's review committees as the "ten best" (in the order listed), on the basis of entertainment, were: "Henry V," "Anna and the King of Siam," "The Green Years," "The Bells of St. Mary's," "Brief Encounter," "Caesar and Cleopatra," "A Walk in the Sun," "The Best Years of Our Lives," "Notorious," and "Saratoga Trunk."

Dec. 29 Premiere of 'Duel' for Veterans

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 18.—David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" will have its world premiere before an audience of 2,000 wounded veterans of World War II in the theatre of Birmingham Hospital in Van Nuys, Cal., on Sunday, Dec. 29. This is said to mark the first time that any motion picture has ever had its first formal showing in a veterans hospital. Selznick also stated that "Duel in the Sun" will follow a "veterans first" policy in all cities throughout the country, following its Los Angeles run.

The premiere will have all the trappings which are seen at top Hollywood premieres.

WE to Meet Dec. 23 On Stock Increase

Seeking to increase Western Electric's authorized capital stock from 6,000,000 to 7,500,000 shares for the purpose of expanding its manufacturing facilities, C. G. Stoll, president of the company, has called a stockholders meeting for Dec. 23. If approved, it is contemplated that the additional stock will be offered pro rata to stockholders.

The board of directors of Western Electric has declared a dividend $1.50 per share, after having paid 50 cents in the third quarter and foregoing the dividend in the first two quarters, when the company was operating at a loss.

Amusements In, Ads Out

BIRMINGHAM, Dec. 18.—The *Birmingham News* and *Age-Herald* were published this week without advertising other than classified and amusements, as a result of a newsprint emergency. The newspapers announced the action would be taken each Monday and Tuesday unless paper supplies improve.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

SAN FRANCISCO

Business, although not up to expectations, is showing a little improvement. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18-20:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—ESQUIRE (1,008) (55c-85c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE VERDICT (WB) and WANTED FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,651) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,500. (Average: $32,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—GOLDEN GATE (2,825) (65c-$1.00) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $30,000. (Average: $32,000)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA) and MYSTERIOUS INTRUDER (Col.)—ORPHEUM (2,440) (55c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $14,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,735) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—UNITED NTIONS (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000.

BLUE SKIES (Para.) and THE MAN WHO DARED (Col.)—STATE (1,459) (60c-85c) 7 days, 2nd week, on moveover. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $13,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—TIVOLI (1,616) (55c-85c) 7 days, 7th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $14,000)

THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.) and PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.)—WARFIELD (2,672) (60c-85c) 7 days. Gross: $23,000. (Average: $27,000)

PITTSBURGH

Christmas shopping is cutting deeply into box-office returns. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 17:

DARK MIRROR (International)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $9,700)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $25,000)

DECEPTION (WB)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week, on moveover from Stanley. Gross: $2,100. (Average: $3,500)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics reissue) and NORTH OF THE BORDER (Screen Guild)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $3,200)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M) and CHILD OF DIVORCE (RKO Radio)—WARNER (3,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $8,000)

CINCINNATI

The holiday seasonal slump is not particularly depressing, and grosses are holding around average. Weather has been cold but not uncomfortably

(Continued on page 7)

REEVES
SOUND STUDIOS, INC.
1600 BROADWAY, N. Y. 19 Circle 6-6686
Complete Film and Disc Recording Facilities

Key Grosses

(Continued from page 6)

:o. Estimated receipts for the week :nding Dec. 17-20:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—RKO ALBEE (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000, after a big $39,000 last week with "Blondie Knows Best," plus Vaughn Monroe and orchestra on stage. (Average: $15,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

THE INNER CICRLE (Rep.) and GHOST HIDDEN VALLEY (PRC)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40) 4 days. Gross: $1,600. (Average: $1,600)

BEAUTY AND THE BANDIT (Mono.) and WAR OF THE WILDCATS (Rep.)—RKO FAMILY (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,100. (Average: $1,100)

THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—RKO GRAND (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $8,000)

NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (U) — KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 9 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,500. (Average, for 7 days: $7,500)

GOD'S COUNTRY (Screen Guild) and NORTHWEST TRAIL (Screen Guild)—RKO LYRIC (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE CHASE (UA)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 6th week; 3rd week at this house following a moveover after three weeks at the Palace. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $5,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

The holiday lull has caught up with business, keeping grosses generally below average. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19:

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,400)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 3d week on moveover from Radio City. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

THE DARK MIRROR (International)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $11,500)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $18,000)

SEA DEVILS (RKO Radio reissue) and ALLEGHENY UPRISING (RKO Radio reissue)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE CHASE (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $13,500)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days, 6th week. Gross: $2,200. (Average: $2,500)



"It's a Wonderful Life"

(Continued from page 1)

a scene in which he does not appear, and his performance in the role of George Bailey is of Academy Award stature.

He is given splendid support by such gifted players as Donna Reed, Lionel Barrymore, Thomas Mitchell, Henry Travers, Beulah Bondi, and others too numerous to mention here. All are excellent, all are most happily cast. Barrymore, as an old curmudgeon lineally descended from Dickens' celebrated "Scrooge," has the most dramatic of the supporting roles, and makes the most of it.

THE story itself is a simple one whose tonalities give it an unlimited variety of appeal. It deals with a man, an average man in an average American town, who, like so many others, has dreamed all his life of distant shores and faroff lands. Through force of circumstance, he is never able to escape from the village of Bedford Falls, and yearly his dream grows dimmer and more unattainable. Toward the picture's end, events beyond his control bring him to the bitter abyss of discouragement and despair. On the brink of defeat, he cries out against his fate, and wishes he had never been born.

His wish is granted. In a series of brief, powerful scenes, it is given him to see how different the lives of his friends, his family, how different the town itself would have been if he had never lived. The girl he should have married is doomed to frustrated spinsterhood; his children are never born. The friends who, at one time or another, relied upon his kindness and courage, have had to do without him, to their ultimate ill-fortune.

At last he realizes that the life of every individual, no matter how humble, is of greater importance than he knows; that each life touches and influences hundreds of others; that life itself, despite its vicissitudes, is man's most priceless possession.

Running time, 130 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 30.

THALIA BELL

CLEVELAND

The usual pre-holiday slump has hit nearly all theatres, but "Undercurrent" is holding strong in its third week. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 17-18:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $7,000)

STRANGE WOMAN (UA) — LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,800)

ANGEL ON MY SHOULDER (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $11,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)

NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,400)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER'S HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $22,600)

DECEPTION (WB)—WARNER'S LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,650)

TORONTO

First-run theatres are carrying on in the midst of shopping tumult, with two attractions being held for a second week in spite of the seasonal competition. The week began with a warm spell, followed by a mixture of strong winds and snow flurries. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19-20:

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $4,700)

THE SEARCHING WIND (Para.)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $14,300)

THE OUTLAW (UA)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,800. (Average: $13,300)

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,100. (Average: $14,600)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U) and WILD BEAUTY (U)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $11,400)

SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB) — VICTORIA (1,240) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $5,300. (Average: $6,800)

SALT LAKE CITY

Grosses are running slightly above average. The weather has been cold but dry. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 19:

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—CAPITOL (1,878) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $8,900. (Average: $7,900)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—CENTRE (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $13,600. (Average: $13,500)

BLONDE FOR A DAY (Mono.) and SINGING ON THE TRAIL (Col.)—LYRIC (1,500) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, with vaudeville. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $3,600)

CLOAK AND DAGGER (WB)—STUDIO (800) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,300) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,900. (Average: $5,800)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—UTAH (1,700) (20c-55c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $12,000)

OMAHA

Only one first-run theatre is grossing above average as business enters the pre-Christmas slump. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 18-19:

OF HUMAN BONDAGE (WB)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,600. (Average: $8,600)

HOME SWEET HOMICIDE (20th-Fox) and DOWN MISSOURI WAY (PRC)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $9,400)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,100. (Average: $11,000)

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,800)

Northwest Receipts Are Holding Well

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 18.—Fears recently expressed by theatremen in this area that theatres would soon follow cabarets in showing a decline in receipts were dispelled with a report from E. F. Kelm, Internal Revenue collector at St. Paul, showing an overall increase in federal tax receipts for November, 1946. The increase was nearly two millions for November.

Clearance Relief Sought in Mass.

Watertown Amusement Corp., operating the Coolidge Theatre in Watertown, Mass., which is subject to 14 days clearance in favor of the University, at Cambridge, and Paramount, at Newton, has requested reduction of clearance to not more than one day in favor of the University and elimination of all clearance in favor of any other theatres in Newton and Waltham, according to a complaint filed with the Boston tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, Paramount, 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio and Warners are named as defendants.

The complaint asserts that in the event that the defendants' motion pictures are not played at the Paramount, a clearance should then stem from theatres owned by M. and P. Theatre Co., of Waltham, and also that the Central Square Theatre of Cambridge becomes an interested party if the defendants' pictures are not exhibited at the University.



Keep your eye on...



WE at U-I do not intend to suggest there is any great magic in what we are doing, but we want you to watch the fast progress we are making.

When you stop to consider that in the past few months Universal-International's customers have had such smashes as "The Killers" and "Canyon Passage" and when you realize that currently they have "Dark Mirror," "Magnificent Doll," "Temptation," "Wicked Lady" and "Notorious Gentleman," you have to admit things are really looking up.

Just around the corner are "Swell Guy," "Smash-Up," "I'll Be Yours," "Stairway To Heaven," and of course, we know you are waiting just as anxiously as we are for "THE EGG AND I." In fact, in knowing circles everyone is saying, "U-I has 'The Egg and I'." What more could anyone have?

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 121 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1946 TEN CENTS

MOTION PIC
AMERICA,
28 WEST 44
NEW YORK,

Rental Rise For Shorts Is Seen Gaining

More Owners Reported 'Willing to Cooperate'

Exhibitors are demonstrating increasingly a willingness—however grudging, in many instances—to cooperate with short-subject distributors by accepting higher rentals, which, according to insistently repeated reports, are being forced by skyrocketing production costs, a survey of distributors, here, discloses.

Many exhibitors, and in increasing numbers, clearly recognize the short-subject rental problem facing distributors and are showing a spirit of cooperation, Norman H. Moray, Warners short subjects distribution manager, reports. Moray admitted, however, that a vast number of exhibitors continue adamant in refusing to pay increased rentals, but he believes

(*Continued on page* 8)

See Schary Deal to Ease Rathvon Load

N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, who also has headed the company's production activities on the Coast since the death of Charles W. Koerner, early last year, is anxious to be relieved of the brunt of his studio duties in order to have more time to spend on general administration, a spokesman for Rathvon indicated here yesterday, adding that there is a strong possibility that Dore Schary, producer for David O. Selznick, may become RKO - Radio production chief, but

(*Continued on page* 8)

Para. To Sell Some Florida Theatres

ATLANTA, Dec. 19.—Florida State Theatres, Inc., which operates 107 houses throughout that state, 14 of them in affiliation with Paramount, plans to dispose of a good many units around Jan. 1, it is reliably reported here. Booking offices for a new circuit, composed of a number of the FST units, are expected to be established in this city, under the direction of B. B. Garner, who is at present Flori-

(*Continued on page* 8)

ITOA Urges Yearly Drive

Coordination of all national and regional collection drives conducted through motion picture theatres into one campaign, uniting all "worthwhile charities," was urged yesterday in a resolution adopted by the Independent Theatre Owners of America at its meeting at the Hotel Astor here. Harry Brandt, president of the organization, was chairman of the meeting.

Asserting that it recognized the desire on the part of exhibitors to cooperate in one drive a year, the resolution, which was adopted unanimously, called for unification of all national exhibitor organizations and regional unit efforts for a drive to be know as "National Health Week."

After hearing a report from Brandt

(*Continued on page* 8)

UA Circuit Doubles Its 1945 Earnings

Earnings of United Artists Theatre Circuit, Inc., traded over-the-counter, in the year ended Aug. 31, 1946, were more than double those of the previous year, the company disclosed here yesterday, the net amounting to $1,173,335, equal after preferred dividends, to $1.82 on each of 600,000 common shares. This compared with 89 cents a share in 1945 and 77 cents

(*Continued on page* 8)

St. Louis Suit Asks 6 Millions

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 19.—Ten film companies, Fanchon and Marco Service Corp., five subsidiary companies, and seven F. and M. officials are named defendants in a $600,000 monopoly suit filed today in Federal Court here by Martin W. D'Arcy, former owner of the Shubert Theatre.

D'Arcy states he leased the Shubert in midtown St. Louis in September, 1942, for a five-year term. He charges that the distributors and exhibitors named in his suit conspired to keep him from getting films and he was forced to abandon the theatre after three months. He places his loss at $200,000 and asks treble damages.

The circuit executives named are Harry C. Arthur, Jr., James Arthur, David Arthur, Edward Arthur,

(*Continued on page* 8)

Phila. Court Awards Goldman $375,000

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 19.—Judge William H. Kirkpatrick in District Court here today handed down a decree awarding William Goldman $375,000 in his suit in behalf of his Erlanger Theatre against Stanley-Warner and the distributors.

The judge also ordered that the defendants pay $60,000 in attorney fees, and that they pay the cost of the trial.

(*Continued on page* 8)

Defections In CSU Weaken Coast Strike

Possibility of Ending After Jan. 1 Seen Here

Defections from the ranks of the striking Conference of Studio Unions in Hollywood have virtually nullified the effect of the current studio strike, placing the CSU in a weaker position than it occupied when the Cincinnati compromise saved last year's walkout from collapse, according to sources close to the New York headquarters of the IATSE, which has expanded the membership of its Coast locals to keep studios running.

Although "IA" observers here do not rule out the possibility of a settlement after Jan. 1, they find production now maintaining such a satisfactory level that the CSU leadership may simply be forced to order its

(*Continued on page* 8)

Rodgers Sees No General Shortage

There is no current product shortage in first-run situations and in many subsequent runs, William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, said yesterday at an informal company luncheon at the Astor Hotel here attended by trade press representatives.



William F. Rodgers

Rodgers said that a product pinch exists for theatres on a double feature policy with four changes a week and intimated that he sees no relief, product-wise, in sight for such situations.

"Pictures cannot be made at today's

(*Continued on page* 8)

$450,000 to Start United Nations Film Program

The United Nations film program, designed, in part, to help tell the story of the world's current efforts toward lasting peace, has been granted an appropriation of $450,000 for the year 1947 by the UN general assembly, Edmund Wright, secretary to the administrative and budgetary committee, said here yesterday. This grant, designated to be used for "motion picture supplies and services," represents a slight cut under the amount requested by the film and visual information division of the Department of Public Information but will be quite adequate, according to a spokesman for the division.

A substantial part of the appropriation, it is understood, will be used for

(*Continued on page* 6)

NBC To Televise Rose Bowl Game

An NBC television film crew will cover the New Year's Day football game at the Rose Bowl, Pasadena, Calif. for presentation over the company's New York television station WNBT on the following day, Jan. 2. An interview with Bob Hope and glimpses of the Tournament of Roses also will be part of the program. The films will be flown here.

In This Issue

"The Fabulous Suzanne," "Blondie's Big Moment" and "Mr. Hex" are reviewed on page 10, with the short, "Nobody's Children."

Arbitrator Rejects Availability Request

Dismissing a demand to secure availability of pictures 10 days after national release because it is beyond his jurisdiction under the consent decree, William A. Porteous, Jr., arbitrator in a complaint brought before the New Orleans tribunal of the American Arbitration Association, did order the abolition of all clearance in contracts between the Palace Theatre, Rodessa, La., and 20th Century-Fox, RKO Radio, Paramount and Warner Brothers. He dismissed a complaint against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, which maintained that it had no clearance provision in its contract with the complainant.

In his award, the arbitrator declared that in finding his powers limited on availability, he expressed no opinion as to whether the complainant should receive any relief and stated that he left the door open to file any demand in the future. L. W. Watts and T. F. Keasler operate the Palace.

Republic, PRC Units Voted SPG Support

"Complete support of the entire membership" of the Screen Publicists Guild, Local No. 114, UOPWA, here, has been voted to the Republic and PRC SPG units during their current negotiations for a new contract, "according to the terms of a resolution."

What form the support will take was not revealed in the resolution, but it was pointed out by a representative of the Guild that the membership at Republic and PRC are primarily interested in job security at this time and that the overall Guild action would probably be designed to urge management into meeting Guild demands on these clauses.

Mochrie Starts 1946 'Depinet' Campaign

Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president and general sales manager, has opened the 1946 "Ned Depinet Drive" with simultaneous wires to all RKO Radio exchanges throughout the country. This 10th annual Depinet drive will extend over a 20-week period, ending May 8. Len S. Gruenberg, RKO Radio Rocky Mountain district manager, is the 1946 drive captain, and he has already completed a preliminary tour of the company's exchanges.

Irving Mack Will Expand in U. S.

CHICAGO, Dec. 16.—Irving Mack, sales manager of Filmack trailers, announces that representatives are now being appointed to handle the company's new prevue trailer service in all exchange centers in the United States.

Among the first representatives to be appointed is Clair E. Hilgers, who will represent Filmack's new prevue trailer service in Texas and Oklahoma.

Personal Mention

N. PETER RATHVON, RKO president, will leave New York for Hollywood today.

•

STERLING HAYDEN, Paramount star, has been awarded the United States Marine Corps' Silver Star in recognition of his undercover work as a Marine attached to the OSS during the war.

•

CORMACK G. KEENEY, theatre operator in Reading, Pa., is leaving the industry and will be succeeded by his son BERNARD B. KEENEY as manager-director of the Rajah and Plaza theatres.

•

JEAN BENOIT-LEVY, director of the film and visual information division of the United Nations' department of public information, is due in New York from Paris Dec. 28.

•

AL DAFF, vice-president of Universal-International, who has been undergoing treatment at Roosevelt Hospital here is improved and is expected to leave the hospital next week.

•

E. T. GOMERSALL, assistant to WILLIAM J. SCULLY, Universal vice-president and general sales manager, has returned to New York from the Midwest.

•

CAROL BRANDT, Eastern story head for M-G-M, and OLIN CLARK, Eastern story editor, are due to return here from the Coast Thursday.

•

ENRIQUE MOLINA, Paramount International's branch manager for Colombia, will leave New York by plane today for Bogota.

•

JOHN A. SCHWALM, manager of the Northio Rialto in Hamilton, Ohio, and MRS. SCHWALM are in Florida for a holiday.

•

HUGH OWEN, Eastern and Southern divisional sales manager for Paramount, will leave New York today for Hollywood.

•

RED KANN, vice-president of Quigley Publications, will arrive in New York from the Coast today.

•

WILLIAM CLARK, RKO assistant division manager in Cincinnatti, is vacationing in Florida.

•

EDDIE KAY, Monogram musical director, has returned to Hollywood from New Orleans.

•

WILLIAM G. BRENNER, head of M-G-M's field auditors, has returned here from Toronto.

•

LINDSLEY PARSONS, Monogram producer, has returned to Hollywood from Louisiana.

•

HOWARD DA SILVA will leave Hollywood today by plane for New York.

•

XAVIER CUGAT is en route to Mexico City by plane from New York.

HERBERT J. YATES, SR., Republic president, will leave Hollywood for New York tomorrow.

•

NEIL F. AGNEW, Selznick Releasing Organization president, who has been delayed in his departure from the Coast, is expected to arrive in New York over the weekend.

•

JOSEPH F. MULLEN, 20th Century-Fox manager in Mexico, will leave Mexico City for Virginia at the beginning of the year to recuperate following an operation.

•

"HAPP" BARNES, formerly with several film exchanges in Atlanta, now operates the Drive-In Theatre at Montgomery, Ala., has been visiting Atlanta.

•

LEON D. NETTER, vice-president of Paramount Theatres Service Corp., left New York yesterday for Washington, and will return today.

•

JERALDINE COOPER, of the Paramount home office exploitation staff, has returned from a trip to Los Angeles, San Francisco and Dallas.

•

ABE SCHWARTZ, exhibitor of Cleveland and Painesville, O., and MRS. SCHWARTZ, have left for their annual Miami winter vacation.

•

L. J. (ROY) MILLER, Universal exchange manager, is recovering at St. Joseph Hospital, Omaha, following an operation.

•

LOU GOLDSTEIN, Schine Circuit film buyer, Gloversville, N. Y., and MRS. GOLDSTEIN, are the parents of a baby girl.

•

NAT LIEBESKIND, Buenos Aires theatre-owner, and MRS. LIEBESKIND, are in New York for a three-month visit.

•

MAX J. ROSENBERG of Motion Picture Ventures has returned to New York by plane from the mid-West.

•

WILLIAM RICHARDSON, president of Astor Pictures, of Georgia, has returned to Atlanta from Alabama.

•

CHARLES K. STERN, assistant treasurer of Loew's, has returned to New York from Baltimore.

•

H. M. RICHEY, M-G-M exhibitor relations chief, has returned here from the mid-West.

•

IRVING SHAPIRO, distributor, is aboard the *S. S. America*, due here from Europe shortly.

•

WARREN DOUGLAS, Monogram star, will leave Hollywood for Minneapolis tomorrow.

•

P. F. THOMAS, Altec treasurer, has returned to New York from Cincinnati.

•

LIONEL KEENE, retired Atlanta theatre owner, is vacationing in Baltimore.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'way at 47th St.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR
Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES, Inc.

Darryl F. Zanuck presents
JOHN FORD'S
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
Paramount presents
'TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST'
ALAN LADD
IN PERSON
JOEY ADAMS
MARK PLANT
TONY CANZONERI
PAT ROONEY
Victoria SCHOOLS

Betty Hutton
Sonny Tufts
in "Cross My Heart"
A Paramount Picture
In Person! THE ANDREWS SISTERS
LES PAUL & HIS TRIO
Extra! TONY PASTOR And Band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Tender...brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

Open New RKO House

TRENTON, Dec. 19.—RKO's new Hamilton theatre in Township, Trenton, will open on Christmas Day, with special dedication ceremonies marking the occasion.

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20th CENTURY-FOX will next electrify the industry with

JAMES CAGNEY

in

13 RUE MADELEINE

with **ANNABELLA · Richard CONTE · Frank LATIMORE**

and **Walter Abel · Melville Cooper · Sam Jaffe** · Original Screen Play by John Monks, Jr., and Sy Bartlett

Directed by **HENRY HATHAWAY** · Produced by **LOUIS de ROCHEMONT**



Made by the Producer
and Director of
"The House on 92nd Street"

"SUPER-CHARGED WITH SUSPENSE, SEETHING ACTION AND DRAMATIC IMPACT! WILL GET RECORD GROSSES!"—Motion Picture Daily

Stickelmaier and Wallerstein Raised

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—John Balaban, secretary-treasurer of the Balaban and Katz organization, and treasurer of Publix-Great States Theatres, both Paramount affiliates, today completed a new executive set-up for Great States organization, with Henry C. Stickelmaier, who served as assistant to the late Jules J. Rubens appointed division manager of Northern Illinois and Toledo.

David B. Wallerstein, formerly district manager of a group of Balaban and Katz theatres in Chicago and Indiana, has been appointed division manager for Central and Southern Illinois, and will continue his supervision of Indiana theatres. Maurice M. Rubens continues his executive post with Great States as well as directing advertising and publicity for the circuit, as he has in the past.

Stickelmaier will have supervision overthefollow
over the following cities: in Illinois: Aurora, Blue Island, Chicago Heights, Elgin, Freeport, Harvey, Joliet, Kankakee, Streator, Waukegan, Lasalle and Peru; in Ohio: Toledo. Wallerstein will have supervision over the following cities: in Illinois: Bloomington, Danville, Decatur, Galesburg, Kewanee, Normal, Pekin, Peoria, Quincy, Springfield, Alton, East St. Louis, Edwardsville and Woodriver. In Indiana: Gary, Marion, Hammond and South Bend.

Richmond Federation Hits Proposed Tax

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 19.—A proposed 10 per cent admission tax upon amusements in this city is 58 times as great per dollar volume as that imposed on retail merchants, and is an arbitrary exaction, the Richmond Amusement Federation has asserted in arguments before ordinance and license committees of the Richmond City Council in opposition to the proposed ordinance for imposing the tax.

"That this tax, together with the existing Federal tax of 20 per cent (in itself too heavy a burden), would mean that a patron of a place of amusement would pay $1.80 in taxes for every $6.00 of entertainment, while the same $6.00 spent in a retail store (even though spent entirely for luxuries), would be taxed only one cent," the Federation declared.

ANFA Convention Is Planned for Spring

The Allied Non-Theatrical Film Association met in New York this week to plan a spring convention and to act on progress reports from various divisions and committees. Representatives attended from New York, New England, Baltimore and Philadelphia. Similar regional membership meetings have been held in Cleveland and Chicago.

William F. Kruse, of United World Films, presided at the New York meeting, and Orton H. Hicks, Loew's International, was a guest speaker.

'Duel' in Hollywood Run

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—David O. Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" is set for a two-a-day run at the Egyptian Theatre here, starting Dec. 31, under a reserved-seat policy. Admission prices will be $1.20, $1.80 and $2.40.

Gluck in Theatre Post

Norman E. Gluck has been named house manager and John E. Hudson his assistant at the new Park Avenue Theatre, which is to be operated by Universal as a first-run "showcase."

Italian to Produce Picture in Uruguay

By PAUL BODO

MONTEVIDEO, Dec. 15 (By Airmail).—Dino de Laurentis, producer associated with Lux Film of Rome, has arrived in Montevideo to organize a production company here in which both Italy and Uruguay will participate. A local bank is ready to back the new company and finance its first production. If the deal can be closed within a couple of weeks, equipment and a technical crew could arrive from Italy as early as February to begin production.

The first picture for the new company will be "The Life of Anita Garibaldi," which will be made in both Italian and Spanish versions, and which will be shot partially in Uruguay, where Garibaldi fought against the Spaniards in the war for the independence of Uruguay. De Laurentis declared that production facilities here are satisfactory although the locally available equipment is somewhat reduced. The low production costs here are counterbalanced by the high cost of raw stock.

Rename Herb. Kohn Memphis Tent Head

MEMPHIS, Dec. 19.—Herbert Kohn, Malco Theatres executive, was re-elected chief barker of the Memphis Variety Club at the annual election of officers.

The new directors also elected other officers, as follows: Dave Flexer elected first assistant chief barker; R. M. (Buster) Hammond, second assistant; E. B. Sapinsley, property master, and Bailey Prichard, dough guy. Committee chairman named were: House Committee, R. P. Dawson; entertainment committee, Leonard Shea and Nat Wyse, co-chairmen; membership, Ed Williamson; luncheon committee, Herman Chrisman.

Warner Shifts Two Theatre Managers

James Barnes, who has been manager of the Warner Theatre in Memphis, has been transferred to Oklahoma City where he will manage the Warner there. James McCarthy, formerly manager of the Badger Theatre, Racine, Wis., succeeds Barnes in Memphis.

The Memphis operation, as well as Oklahoma City, is now under the supervision of James Coston, zone manager for Illinois and Wisconsin.

Widen Shea Group Plan

Expansion of the M. A. Shea Theatrical Enterprises employes' fund to provide sickness and accident insurance for all employes of the circuit was announced here yesterday by E. C. Grainger, president of the Jamestown Amusement Co., parent organization of the Shea circuit. Arthur F. Driscoll, John Cunliffe and Richard Reid are trustees of the fund. About two years ago a group life insurance plan was instituted.

Coast Strike Hits National Screen

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19.—The strike against the major studios spread today to National Screen Service's Hollywood plant when IATSE technicians' Local 683, which is supporting the CSU, established picket lines at NSS on the contention that the company had discharged a laboratory worker for refusing to take out a card in the reorganized technicians' union set up by international representative Roy M. Brewer.

Ralph Wilshin, NSS manager, said pickets had not interfered with operations today but that work might be slowed down tomorrow if members of Painters Union, Local 644, declined to cross picket lines. However, the normal output will be maintained by transferring some of the work to New York.

Cincinnati Variety Club Plans Charity

CINCINNATI, Dec. 19. — Establishment of a non-sectarian summer camp for underprivileged children as the first major humanitarian activity planned by the new officers of Cincinnati Variety Club Tent No. 3 has been announced by Irving Sochin, chief barker. The project will get under way with a "giant radio jamboree," with proceeds marked for the camp.

New officers installed by William McGraw, national director, were Sochin, Ben Cohen, first assistant, and Jack Frisch, second assistant chief barkers; William Onie, treasurer; Saul Greenberg, property master.

Hilgers Gets Post in New Filmack Service

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Irving Mack, Filmack head, leaving for a two-week combination business and vacation trip to Florida, announced the appointment of Clair E. Hilgers as representative of Filmack's new prevue service in the Texas and Oklahoma territory.

Mack said that Hilgers' appointment is among the first of several representatives to be appointed to handle the new service in all exchange centers in the U. S.

Cartoonists Elect Sotille and Eletto

Rose Sotille and Vincent Eletto have been elected recording secretary and financial secretary, respectively, of the Screen Cartoonists Local 1461, here.

Additionally, Marcia Kaplan has been elected a trustee of the local, and Ben Farish has been named a delegate from Famous Studios.

James Clancy Retires

HARTFORD, Dec. 19. — James F. Clancy, sales promotion manager of radio station WTIC, Hartford, will retire Dec. 21. Before joining WTIC, Clancy was manager for eight years of the Poli Capitol Theatre, Hartford. He was active in the management of Keith and Poli circuit theatres for almost 25 years. Before coming to Hartford, he was with the publicity department of Paramount Pictures in New York.

Film Studios in Distribution Deal

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Film Studios of Chicago has appointed Henri Elman's Capitol Film exchange distributor of the one-reel series, "Woman Speaks," through Illinois, Indiana, and part of Kentucky.

The films are produced monthly in Hollywood. Arrangements for distribution of the shorts have now been made in Buffalo, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, New York, and Oklahoma City, all with Film Classics; Atlanta, Film Classics of the Southeast; Boston, Bay State; Chicago, Indiana, and Louisville, Capitol Film; Dallas, Favorite Film; Des Moines and Kansas City, King Enterprises; Minneapolis, North Star Pictures; New Orleans, Dixie Film Exchange; Pittsburgh, Franklin Film Exchange; Salt Lake City, Screen Guild; San Francisco, Astor Pictures; Washington, Equity Film Exchange.

Dallas Telenews Sets Newsreel Tie-ins

DALLAS, Dec. 19.—The Telenews Theatre, jointly operated by Interstate and Telenews, Inc., will inaugurate a new policy on Christmas Day in which edited newsreel programs will be presented in conjunction with special feature films, these to include all J. Arthur Rank product, in addition to others. The house will be a class showcase for films of this type in the southwest. L. A. Audrian, Rank representative, is here now completing the deal with Interstate and Ellis Levy, Telenews Western division manager, will arrive Wednesday.

Friedman to Liberty As Contract Head

Martin Friedman has been named head of Liberty Films' contract and playdate department by E. K. O'Shea, general sales manager.

Freidman has been in the industry for 20 years, of which 15 were spent with Warners. He served three years in the Marine Corps as a combat cameraman. Friedman goes to Liberty Films, whose product is distributed by RKO Radio, from a post in the sales department of International Pictures.

Predicts 320,000 New Video Sets in 1947

R. C. Cosgrove, president of the Radio Manufacturers Association, predicts that between 320,000 and 360,000 television sets would be manufactured during 1947. Production lines on television sets are now getting into full swing according to the Television Broadcasters Association.

U. S. Will Appeal In Griffith Case

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—The Government's first step toward appeal in the Griffith Theatres anti-trust suit will be the filing of papers with the District Court in Oklahoma City either today or Monday, the deadline for filing.

Adopt Ad Sign Ban

HARTFORD, Dec. 19.—The Common Council, here, has approved a municipal code amendment prohibiting the carrying on the city streets of showboards, placards or other advertising signs exceeding nine by 12 inches.

TRADE VIEWS
by W. R. WILKERSON

• THIS PICTURE INDUSTRY owes a lot to Frank Capra. It is indebted to Frank for his many wonderful amusements, creations that not only have grossed millions of dollars at the box-office, BUT have continually won new patrons for our entertainments who, through their patronage, have brought additional millions to our company exchequers.

This Capra pat is occasioned by our viewing his latest creation, "It's a Wonderful Life," which we believe is his greatest. It was shown Monday night to an audience packed into the Ambassador Theatre, all of whom walked out much happier than when they went in and each gushing with praise for Frank and his magnificent production.

"It's A Wonderful Life" is just a wonderful picture; every foot of it pushes fresh air into lungs that have been clogged with pictures of many angles, of all type subjects and for varied purposes. The Capra show is fine and clean, heart-wringing in spots and, in others, hilariously funny. It's a good American yarn, brilliantly written —dialogue that's so real it constantly sends shivers up your spine—and, needless to say, expertly directed and acted by a superb cast.

This bit of enthusiasm is not written as a review of "It's a Wonderful Life," but in praise of one of our greatest creators of motion picture entertainment, who certainly shoulders up to our best and towers over all the others. It's a bit of praise for the greatest of all Capra pictures, and in saying that, one must mean one of the greatest pictures of this or any other year.

Capra took an idea that appeared in pamphlet form that RKO formerly owned and, together with his writers, developed one of the most refreshing stories that has ever been photographed. The creation of the picture story in itself will probably win every award that can be bestowed on such a work, with each of the artists assigned by Capra fitting their parts so well you could possibly imagine that it was written with that artist in mind, and that goes from the most important to the small bit roles.

This is the first picture to appear under the Liberty banner of Capra, Willie Wyler, George Stevens and Sam Briskin, and it will be a tough one to top.

It's a Wonderful Life!!!

LIBERTY FILMS INC.

Distributed by

RKO RADIO PICTURES INC.

Indian Trade Seeks A United Industry

BOMBAY, Dec. 14 (By Airmail).—An all-Indian film conference, held in Bombay, was attended by representatives of all branches of the industry.

The time chosen for the conference was not opportune, due to the country-wide political disturbances, complete paralysis of the industry and the closing of cinemas all over the country except for thinly-attended matinees.

Object of the conference was to bring into existence a film federation of all screen organizations of the country. For that purpose a committee was appointed to change the constitution of the Motion Picture Society of India, founded by K. S. Kirlekar in 1933.

Foreign Competition

One of the principal subjects under discussion was the danger of competition from abroad with dubbing of foreign films in Indian languages, the exhibition of 16mm. foreign films and the amount of foreign capital invested in the local industry receiving considerable attention. The conference passed protesting resolutions on these subjects.

B. G. Kher, Prime Minister of the government of Bombay, who opened the session, said he wished to be associated with the conference because he considered the film as the "supreme apostle of education." His complaints about the industry were that some of the films now being produced did not conform to high ideals. While films are an instrument of entertainment, he said, they must at the same time not be allowed to become an instrument for corrupting the moral ideas of a nation.

Referring to the foreign "invasion," the Prime Minister remarked that foreign films should help local producers in improving both the content and technique of films produced in India.

Oklahoma's Largest Theatre Opens

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 19.—Ceremonies for the opening of the Home Theatre, operated by R. Lewis Barton, who leased the house from Home State Life Insurance Co., are scheduled to be held here Monday night. The theatre, with 2,000 seats and up-to-date facilities and layout, will be Oklahoma's largest motion picture house, according to Barton, who operates eight other theatres in this state.

Remodeled and refurnished from the former Shrine auditorium, the Home has stage facilities which will accommodate theatricals. Vaudeville attractions have been added to the first week's program. Gene Hudgens is house manager.

Mirasola Pleads Guilty

Joseph Mirasola entered a plea of guilty yesterday, before U. S. District Judge Vincent Leibell here, to each of seven criminal-information counts charging him with copyright enfringement of feature films. Mirasola, alleged to have exhibited the pictures at Catskill resorts, will be sentenced on Jan. 6, which date has also been set for trial of Arthur Schwartz and Mortimer Van Brink, who pleaded not guilty of charges in connection with alleged sale of the films.

United Nations

(*Continued from page* 1)

the production of short subjects designed for both theatrical and non-theatrical distribution on a global basis. Distribution arrangements remain to be worked out, with the possibility that the industry may be called upon to donate some of its facilities for handling the pictures in this country.

Establishment of a U. S. film industry committee to cooperate with the UN program awaits the return from France, on Dec. 28, of Jean Benoit-Levy, director of the film and visual information division. France, Mexico, Chile and several other South American countries already have set up such groups, and Benoit-Levy is understood to have been working toward the creation of a British committee during his trip abroad.

Puerto Rico Taxes Are on the Upswing

By REUBEN D. SANCHEZ

SAN JUAN, Dec. 14 (By Airmail).—Puerto Rican theatre-goers paid a total of $675,053 in admission taxes during the first 10 months of 1946, an increase of more than $100,000 over the same period in 1945.

An analysis of the excise tax payment for public shows indicates that motion picture theatres enjoy the best months of the year from January to April and that the highest record of admissions, especially for theatres, is registered annually during Holy Week when large crowds of country residents invade the towns and go to theatres to see the religious films traditionally shown.

The cost of entertainment has increased 27 per cent during the past years. Admission taxes were increased in 1943, 1944 and 1945.

That the industry has enjoyed relative prosperity is also reflected in the increase in gross income for all film exchanges on the island. For the majority of the exchanges, the gross increased from $578,505 in 1941 to $1,010,130 in 1943 and the gross is now above $1,300,000, according to a survey made by the Minimum Wage Board of Puerto Rico before fixing minimum wages for theatre employes.

Simon, Proctor Join 'Dimes' Drive Group

Bernard Simon and James Proctor have joined Emil Jensen's March of Dimes film-amusement division, and will concentrate on the organization of legitimate theatres throughout the country. Simon, who has been press representative for John Golden for six years, has been named executive secretary of the legitimate theatre committee, and Proctor, also a press representative and producer for several years, has been named publicity counsel.

Publicity for the theatre committee will be coordinated by Charles Reed Jones, national publicity manager of the Motion Picture Division.

Chaplin Trial March 3

Trial of Conrad Bercovici's suit against Charles Chaplin, alleging plagiarism in connection with "The Great Dictator," was set for March 3 in U. S. District Court here yesterday by Judge Henry W. Goddard. Schwartz and Frohlich, counsel for the defendants, had sought adjournment until April 20. Bercovici seeks an accounting and damages of $5,000,000.

Italy Arranges for Industry Training

By ARGEO SANTUCCI

ROME, Dec. 15 (By Airmail)—The Italian government has leased the Cinematographic Experimental Center and its annexed studios to the Universalia Co. on condition that the company devote part of its time to organizing and teaching courses in film making and that young Italian actors and technicians be given employment in the pictures which Universalia will produce abroad and in Italy. The company will set up competitions for the 45 positions in its school.

The Lux Film Co. has increased its capital from 10,000,000 lire to 100,000,000 lire, about $444,444, and has established agencies in Paris, London, Madrid, Brussels, Amsterdam, Stockholm, Sofia, New York, Buenos Aires and Tangier.

Upon the complaint of Italian producers, exhibitors and trade unions, the government has withdrawn its bill which would have increased admission taxes. The press pointed out that that the government did not realize the uncertain situation of the exhibition and production industry.

An agreement between Poland and Italy includes provisions for export from Italy to Poland of about $267,000 worth of equipment and $53,300 of pictures.

Bulgaria to Return 25 Stolen Czech Pictures

PRAGUE BUREAU, Dec. 14 (By Airmail)—The Bulgarian Minister of Information Dimo Kazasoff, has notified the Czechoslovak Cultural Attache in Sofia of the Bulgarian Government's decision to return to Czechoslovakia 25 Czech features stolen by Germany during the occupation and sold to Bulgarian distributors.

A Bulgarian delegation is expected shortly in Prague to sign a Czech-Bulgarian film agreement. Bulgaria intends to import the whole Czechoslovak production of features and shorts in both 16mm. and 35mm.

Greenhouse Sues Moss

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 19. — Daniel Greenhouse has filed suit, in Superior Court, against Lou Moss and Lou Moss Pictures Corp., seeking recovery of $10,000 assertedly invested in a Johnny Weissmuller picture for which, the plaintiff sets forth, Moss claimed he had a Republic releasing deal. Suit charges misrepresentation, breach of contract, violation of the corporate securities act, and asks for an accounting.

Argentinians May Limit Film Imports

By NATALIO BRUSKI

BUENOS AIRES, Dec. 15 (By Airmail). — Well-informed sources here have advised that a group of members of the Chamber of Deputies are planning the presentation of a bill which would limit the number of foreign films to be imported to a total of 300, of which 200 would be American. The act contemplates the establishment of import licenses whereby the importer would be subject to amounts going, perhaps, up to $50,000. Monies obtained would be destined for the promotion of local production. A special chamber would be created to supervise the act.

Municipal authorities are about to issue an act for 1947 which would double the already high taxes paid by exhibitors. A license would be created for every reel of film to be surveyed by the censor's office and the license charge for daily exhibitions would likewise be raised 100 per cent for those theatres beginning their programs before eight P.M.

The M-G-M office in Buenos Aires reports that the company will discontinue importing Spanish-dubbed product into this country.

Hawaiian Theatres 100% for 'Dimes'

Every theatre in the Hawaiian Islands—104—has pledged its support of the March of Dimes, according to J. Roger MacGuigan of Consolidated Amusement Co., Honolulu, vice-chairman of the March of Dimes in Hawaii, which is the first state or territory of the U. S. to pledge support 100 per cent, according to Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

E. I. Parker, president and general manager of Consolidated, is chairman of the Hawaii March of Dimes.

Rank Films Set for National Theatres

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 19.—A deal with Charles Skouras and Edward Zabel for exhibition of all the J. Arthur Rank product to play in all National Theatres houses, where Universal pictures are also shown, was announced today by William Heineman, general sales manager for the Rank division of Universal.

Heineman also announced that "Stairway to Heaven" will go into the Carthay Circle Theatre on a road-show basis following "The Yearling."

Scout Drive Breakfast

Fred J. Schwartz and Louis A. Lotito head the amusement division of the 1947 campaign committee of the Greater New York Councils, Boy Scouts of America. A "Dawn Patrol Breakfast" is scheduled for the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel on Jan. 8.

Tradeshow 'Ladies' Man'

Paramount's "Ladies' Man," produced by Daniel Dare and directed by William D. Russell, will be tradeshown in all exchange centers on Friday, Jan. 3.



wishes you

A Merry Christmas

and

BLUE SKIES*

for 1947

*(And "Cross My Heart," and "The Perfect Marriage," and "California," and "Ladies' Man," "Easy Come, Easy Go," "Suddenly It's Spring," "My Favorite Brunette" and "The Imperfect Lady"!)

CSU Defections

(*Continued from page* 1)

members to return to work, it is said.

Most crippling effect of the strike, according to reports from the Coast, came when IA's own Local No. 683 of laboratory technicians, joined the walkout. Since the international union, however, stepped in and took over this local, 1,400 of its 1,500 affiliated workers have returned to their jobs, with the result that the processing plants for black-and-white films now are running at capacity, while Technicolor, which was completely hampered at first, soon will be turning out 6,000,000 feet per week—near normal—according to "IA" calculations here.

Meanwhile, former CSU studio workers in at least half a dozen other classifications have gone back to work under the "IA" banner, with 34 out of 90 set decorators being cited as a typical example. Set designers, scenic artists, carpenters, painters and story analysts are among other "numerically important" defections, it was said.

Although some of these groups are understood to be petitioning for "IA" charters, indications at the union's headquarters here are that these will not be granted—being unnecessary because existing classifications, such as "mechanics," can be expanded in times of emergency to take in enough craftsmen to fulfill all studio needs.

Presumably, therefore, when the strike is over, workers not normally falling within the jurisdiction of "IA" will be free to return to their original locals—it being clearly indicated here that the "IA" has no desire to expand to take in all studio employes. This is given as further explanation of the union's Coast denial of charges by the Screen Writers' Guild that Richard F. Walsh, "IA" international president, had requested full and permanent jurisdiction over workers in all branches of production.

In general, unions showing evidence of Communistic domination are those the "IA" does not want, according to the international headquarter's view here.

St. Louis Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Thomas Arthur, Harry C. Arthur III, and Edward L. Murphy. The companies are Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, Warners, Universal, United Artists, Columbia, Monogram, Loew's and Republic.

"As part of a conspiracy, the distributors, acting in concert and agreement with the exhibitors, refused to sell me first-run pictures and refused to sell sufficient later-run pictures on a reasonable and competitive basis and conditions to enable me to operate," says D'Arcy in his petition.

Alleged violation of the Act of Congress of July 2, 1890, entitled "an Act to Protect Trade and Commerce Against Unlawful Restraints and Monopolies" is the basis for the action.

James Arthur, president of the defendant circuit corporation, claims here that D'Arcy's charges are without foundation. He denied any action to prevent the plaintiff from obtaining product. He said that F. and M. acquired the theatre after D'Arcy relinquished it. The house is a first-run, although of late it has been playing mostly reissues.

Rental Rise

(*Continued from page* 1)

that when these showmen come to recognize that superior quality shorts will not, in the final analysis, be obtainable except by payment of higher rentals, they, too, will show willingness to accept the inevitable.

A variation of this viewpoint was presented by Paul Lazarus, Sr., United Artists sales executive. The market, Lazarus said, is glutted with good cartoon and other short subjects. The exhibitor still appreciates the value of the short subject, particularly as a necessary program filler, he said, adding that, although he sees definite signs of exhibitor willingness to cooperate in the higher rentals situation, for the most part "it is like pulling teeth" to get most showmen to come through with more money for shorts. It is, he said, primarily a selling job for the distributor.

Generally, in distribution circles, an optimistic view of the higher short-subject rental situation is being taken. In the past, short-subject producers' spokesmen, notably of Walt Disney Productions, have opined that if higher rentals are not forthcoming, mounting production costs will bring about virtual extinction of short subject cartoon entertainment and sharply reduce the yearly output of short subjects in general. The reported "slow-but-sure" general exhibitor willingness to cooperate with the distributors, however, may sharply alter this producer viewpoint.

UA Circuit Doubles

(*Continued from page* 1)

a share in the preceding year.

The company also reported notable improvement in its working capital position. Current assets as of Aug. 31 were $2,500,000 against current liabilities of $600,000. At the previous year-end, current assets were $2,600,000 and current liabilities were $1,400,000. Long-term debt was reduced during the year from $1,066,178 to $570,425.

The company derives its income from three main sources: Direct operation of 15 theatres in large cities throughout the country; investments in operations of other houses; and operations of theatres in conjunction with independent exhibitors.

Current capitalization consists of 600,000 common shares, 16,303 five per cent preferred shares, in addition to the funded debt.

13 Votes Disputed In Managers' Poll

A hearing to decide which of 13 challenged ballots cast in an election yesterday to determine whether the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild will act as collective bargaining agent for the managers of six theatres operated by Combined Bronx Amusements are to be counted will be held within a few weeks by the board, according to I. Philip Sipser, attorney for the union. Sipser explained that the forthcoming holidays would probably delay immediate action.

P. F. Thomas Elected

P. F. Thomas, treasurer of Altec Service Corp., has been elected assistant treasurer of Altec Lansing Corp.

Para. Selling

(*Continued from page* 1)

da State's general manager, and Marion Talley.

The prospective partners in the new enterprise formerly held full ownership of the theatres involved in the deal and are now understood to be taking them back on a full proprietary basis.

Paramount's minority interest in some houses in the Florida State circuit is being sold to B. B. Garner and Marion Talley, according to Leonard H. Goldenson, president of Paramount Theatre Service Corp., here. The company has an interest in the Coral and Gables at Coral Gables, the Hialeah at Hialeah; Boulevard, Dade, Olympia, Paramount, Regent, Rex and Tivoli at Miami, and the Beach, Colony, Sheridan and Cinema Casino at Miami Beach.

Other Florida State houses are located in Arcadia, Bartow, Bradenton, Clearwater, Daytona Beach, Deland, Delray, Eustis, Fort Lauderdale, Fort Myers, Gainesville, Hollywood, Jacksonville, Jacksonville Beach, Lakeland, Lake Wales, Lake Worth, Melbourne, Mount Dora, New Smyrna, Ocala, Orlando, Palatka, Palmetto, Plant City, St. Augustine, St. Petersburg, Sanford, Sarasota, Stuart, Sulphur Springs, Tallahassee, Tampa, Vero Beach, West Palm Beach, West Tampa, Winter Haven, Winter Park and Ybor City.

Schary, Rathvon

(*Continued from page* 1)

not until his present contractual commitments are fulfilled.

At the same time, it was stated in behalf of Rathvon that Hollywood reports linking Selznick with the RKO Radio production past are "ridiculous". Home office executives disclaim knowledge of a group of bankers who are said to be interested in RKO and to have approached the producer about joining the company. They see the possibility, however, that certain financiers may desire to buy into RKO and may hope to strengthen their position through an alignment with Selznick, who said yesterday in Hollywood he will examine their proposal but that prospects of his concluding a deal are unlikely.

ITOA Urges 1 Drive

(*Continued from page* 1)

on the Motion Picture Foundation which was drafted at New Orleans, the ITOA expressed its support of that charity.

The group also endorsed the recommendations of its study committee in its efforts to cooperate with the U. S. Government during the post-war period.

'Dimes' Press Book Ready in January

The 1947 March of Dimes press book, which is now in production, will be ready early in January, according to an announcement by Emil C. Jensen, director of the film division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. Charles Reed Jones, film division publicity director, is supervising preparation of the book.

Rodgers

(*Continued from page* 1)

costs for the return which can be realized from those situations," Rodgers said.

He reported that double featuring is on the decline and said that Loew's theatres, which have been on that policy in the past, will play single bills "at any time." Single feature houses with three changes a week will use 156 pictures a year, he pointed out, adding that such theatres will not be using all of the available product.

Rodgers expressed the opinion that too many reissues playing the same locality concurrently are not good for the business. He cited an instance involving simultaneous use of reissues by three first-run theatres in the same city and implied that such bookings should be avoided whenever possible.

M-G-M will make 24 pictures next year, as announced by Nicholas M. Schenck, Loew's president, last week. Rodgers said he wants another Lassie picture and is anxious to have the mutt co-starred with Bess, the horse.

The M-G-M sales head will leave for Florida today to spend the holidays and will visit the studio early in the New Year.

"I think 1947 will be a big year for the industry, at least, for those within it who have the vision to prepare for it," Rodgers said.

Goldman Award

(*Continued from page* 1)

He further restrained the defendants from "any monopolistic combinations and practices, from monopolizing first-run pictures or making any similar type contracts" here.

In the next week or 10 days, Goldman's attorney, William A. Gray, probably will enter another suit for supplemental triple damages of $6,000,000. The present decision is for 1942, and Goldman claims he has incurred additional losses from that time to the present.

Goldman will immediately apply for first-run product for his Erlanger, Karlton and Keith's houses, which would give him three major first-runs here in addition to his Goldman.

Yule Bonus, Turkey For Buchanan Staff

A week's salary for employes who have been with the company more than a year, and half a week's salary for those with at least three months' employment has been announced by Buchanan and Co., motion picture advertising agency. In addition, all staff members will be given a 15-pound turkey on Monday.

Topping off the week's celebration will be a Christmas dinner party next Friday evening at the Roosevelt Hotel.

United Artists To Pay Christmas Bonus

United Artists has declared a Christmas bonus for all employes who have been with the company six months or more. All on the payroll for two years or more, earning salaries up to $250, will receive a week's pay. Those in brackets above this figure will get $250. Employes with the company less than two years but in excess of six months will receive one-half a week's salary.

Season's Greetings

Confidential Reports, Inc.

Coming Events

Jan. 7—Television Broadcasters Association annual meeting, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York.
Jan. 14-17—Materials Handling Exposition, Public Auditorium, Cleveland.
Jan. 15-30—March of Dimes drive (theatre collections are scheduled for the week beginning Jan. 24.)
Jan. 22-23—Western Pennsylvania Allied Motion Picture Theatre Owners' annual convention, William Penn Hotel, Pittsburgh.
Jan. 26-28 — Theatre Owners of North and South Carolina annual meeting, Charlotte.
Jan. 31 — National Allied board meeting, Statler Hotel, Washington.

Flaherty New Head Of Chicago Club

CHICAGO, Dec. 19.—Frank Flaherty of Columbia Pictures has been elected the new president of the Reel Fellows Club. He succeeds Milton Simon of 20th Century-Fox.

Other officers elected, all of whom will be installed on Jan. 19, are: Ted Meyers, first vice-president; R. C. Herman, second vice-president; Thomas Greenwood, treasurer; Robert Funk, assistant treasurer; Si Lax, secretary; John Sokeley, assistant secretary; Oscar Bernstein, sergeant-at-arms, and three trustees: Jack Armgardt, Cleve Adams, and Lou Goldberg.

Saul Goldman of Variety Pictures, secretary of the club since its organization, five years ago, who declined to run again, was given a vote of appreciation for his services.

Mason Tops Crosby In 'Kine' Poll

LONDON, Dec. 19.—James Mason, British star, topped in popularity this year the perennial British favorite, Bing Crosby, according to the yearly survey of the *Kinematograph Weekly*, trade publication. His picture, "The Wicked Lady," nosed out American productions, and, the magazine said, was the biggest box office attraction of 1946.

Runners up to Mason and Crosby were Bob Hope, Alan Ladd, Ray Milland, Bette Davis and the British players, Anna Neagle and Steward Grander, in that order. A sudden decline in attraction of American Technicolor musicals was one of the "surprise" trends of the year, the magazine added.

'Madeleine' Tradeshow

William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has set a tradeshowing of "13 Rue Madeleine" in all exchange centers for Dec. 24. The picture was produced by Louis de Rochemont and directed by Henry Hathaway.

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Reviews

"The Fabulous Suzanne"

(Republic)

DELIGHTFULLY witty and engaging, "The Fabulous Suzanne," which offers Barbara Britton in the title role, is sure-fire entertainment which may come as a surprise to irrespressible theatre-goers who have been complaining about unfunny comedies. This one, which amalgamates several situations familiar to motion pictures, is definitely funny with the players maintaining a restraint that bolsters the humor.

Affianced to a proud, plodding diner-owner, Bill Henry, who is too stubborn to accept her aid, Miss Britton leaves for New York to "invest" a legacy in stocks. Her investment inspirations, like her advice on horse-betting, derive from a "lucky pin" which she jabs into a list of stocks, or horses, whichever the case may be. She amazes "The Street" with her luck and, coincidentally, is rushed by the courting Courtneys, her investment counselors: Rudy Vallee, who turns in a good performance as the "stuffed-shirt"; Richard Denning, as his dashing and irresponsible brother, and Otto Kruger, wise, dapper and elfish as their young-in-heart father. A merry mix-up keeps the gags popping and the situations spinning before Miss Britton ends up in Henry's arms. Also in the cast is Veda Ann Borg as the waitress who has her matrimonial finger pointed in Henry's direction.

Steve Sekely was associate producer and director. Tedwell Chapman and Randall Faye wrote the scenario, from a story by Chapman and William Bowers. Vallee appears as himself in one scene to sing "A Couple of Years Ago," incurring some wry looks and comments from the character he portrays.

Running time, 71 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 15.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Blondie's Big Moment"

(Columbia)

THE pundit who observed that we are sure of two things overlooked Dagwood Bumstead, that blithering, butter-fingered Milquetoast who constantly hobbles along incompetently, after discovering himself in a crisis, until his willful wife and the uncertain hand of Fate intervene. Trying though Dagwood may become at times, the Bumsteads are a sure source of clean family entertainment for an hour. With Anita Louise and Jerome Cowan supporting this picture, "Blondie's Big Moment" will hold its own among the Bumstead fans, who, by this time, must feel that looking in on Blondie and Dagwood is like peering into a neighbor's apartment to find out what he is having for dinner.

Arthur Lake returns to his office after a vacation to discover that the man he smeared with jelly on his ride down to the office is his new boss, Jerome Cowan, who purchased the business from J. C. Dithers. Demoted for almost wrecking a big business deal, Lake is further oppressed by a scheduled trip to his office by his son's class, for the lowered status would reflect on his son. By a ruse, and with the aid of his colleagues, Lake succeeds in regaining his status for an hour, but when the boss returns Lake is fired. It all ends happily, however, when the land Cowan needs for the deal winds up in Lake's hands.

In addition to the usual members of the cast, including Penny Singleton, Larry Simms, as the Bumstead son; Marjorie Kent, as their daughter; Danny Mummert, as the fresh kid next door, and Eddie Acuff, as the much-battered mailman, this picture casts Anita Louise as a teacher, Johnny Granath as the silent, near-sighted, sad-eyed boy who turns out to be Dagwood's deliverer, and, naturally, Daisy and her flop-eared brood. Burt Kelly produced and Abby Berlin directed. The screenplay was written by Connie Lee.

Running time, 68 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 9.

I. K.

"Mr. Hex"

(Monogram)

Hollywood, Dec. 19

LEO GORCEY, Huntz Hall, Bobby Jordan and the other "Bowery Boys" take up boxing in the course of their latest adventure, produced by Jan Grippo and directed by William Beaudine.

A young lady long admired by the boys is forced to leave her job in order to care for an ailing mother, and the lads lend a hand to raise sufficient funds to provide proper medical attention. They enter one of their number in an amateur boxing contest, and ensure his success by hypnotizing him into the belief that he is a second John L. Sullivan. Gangsters, attracted by the boy's prizefighting prowess, try to muscle in on what looks like a sweet racket. Their nefarious scheme goes down to defeat, and all ends well on the Bowery. Producer Grippo is credited with the original story, and associate producer Cyrus Endfield with the screenplay.

Running time, 63 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 7.

THALIA BELL

New Rank Film Here

The J. Arthur Rank-Australian made film "The Overlanders" will have its American premiere at a invitational performance sponsored by the Australian Ambassador to the U. S., Norman J. O. Makin, at the Rialto Theatre, New York, tonight. Regular performances will start at the Rialto immediately after the premiere, with the film scheduled for an extended run.

Zenith Files Patent Suit

WILMINGTON, Dec. 19.—A suit seeking to have 15 patents held by three other firms declared invalid has been filed in U. S. District Court by the Zenith Radio Corp. Zenith also asked that the court find the patents have not been infringed by the plaintiff. The other concerns named were Radio Corp. of America, General Electric and Western Electric.

Short Subject

"Nobody's Children?"

(March of Time-20th-Fox)

March of Time follows up its recent "Life with Baby" with another, and totally different, examination of a child's relationship to the world. This latest MOT subject delves into the facts behind child adoption. The camera and narrator take the audience behind the scenes in hospitals and children's institutions to show some of the pitfalls which await unwary foster parents-to-be, and point up the many steps followed in the effecting of adoptions. Also, the sordid "black market in babies" is examined.

Strong in audience appeal, especially with reference to the distaff side, this film carries some splendid shots of cute "tikes" and fine-looking children. It is a film well designed to make one deplore the fact that there are "nobody's children." Running time, 17 minutes.

'Fame' Radio Scroll To Allen on Sunday

Fred Allen, who took top honors in the 11th annual radio editors and columnists poll conducted by MOTION PICTURE DAILY for *Fame*, will be presented with the *Fame* "Scroll of Achievement" on his NBC network program for Tenderleaf Tea, on Sunday at 8:30 P.M., EST. Allen scored on three counts: his show was voted "Champion of Champions," as well as best in the comedy division, while he personally was named "Best Comedian."

Dinah Shore, winner in the "Female Vocalist" class, and Peter Lind Hayes, who placed second as the "Most Promising Star of Tomorrow," received their awards on Miss Shore's CBS program last Monday evening, with Eddie Cantor making the presentation.

Washington Theatres Back 'Dimes' Drive

Sixty theatres, 100 per cent of the houses in Washington, D. C., have pledged full support to the motion picture division of the March of Dimes. According to the Washington March of Dimes committee, of which Commissioner John Russell Young is chairman, every theatre will make collections at every performance from Jan. 24 through Jan. 30. Frank La Falce, Warner Theatres publicist in the territory, has been named publicity director for the District of Columbia.

Steiner Buys Story

Joseph Steiner, president of Broadcast Pictures, has purchased "Hotel Pierre," by Beth Brown, who is putting the finishing touches on the story. "Hotel Pierre" will be the next production on the BPI schedule, following "Universal Station," now in preparation.

'Humoresque' Showing

National tradeshowing of "Humoresque" has been set by Warner Brothers for Monday, Jan. 6. It will have a special pre-release engagement at the Hollywood Theatre, New York, starting Christmas Day, with general release scheduled for late January.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 23	TERROR TRAIL Chas. Starrett Smiley Burnett O—55 mins. (862) (Rev. 11/1/46)	(Nov. Releases) TWO SMART PEOPLE D—93 mins. (Rev. 6/6/46)	BRINGING UP FATHER C—68 mins. (604) (Rev. 10/21/46)		LADY CHASER Ann Savage Robert Lowery D	(Nov. 15 Releases) PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY Bill Elliott Vera Ralston O—82 mins. (523) (Rev. 11/4/46)	NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)	(Nov. Releases) MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (Rev. 10/9/46) MARGIE (Color) (Rev. 10/16/46) WANTED FOR MURDER (Rev. 11/11/46)	(Nebenzal Prod.) THE CHASE Robert Cummings Michele Morgan D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	(Nov. Releases) MAGNIFICENT DOLL D—94 mins. (Rev. 11/15/46)	THE VERDICT Sydney Greenstreet Peter Lorre D—86 mins. (607) (Rev. 11/8/46)
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—61 mins. (824) (Rev. 11/28/46)	UNDER-CURRENT D—111 mins. (Rev. 10/2/46)	THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)		SANTA FE UPRISING Allan Lane Bobby Blake O—56 mins.				NOTORIOUS GENTLEMAN (Rev. 10/24/46)	
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue O—73 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)	(Nov. 18 Release) AFFAIRS OF GERALDINE Jane Withers Jimmy Lydon C—68 mins. (603)	GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)			(Dec. Releases) SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth D—87 mins. (Rev. 12/5/46)	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	(Dec. Releases) LADY IN THE LAKE Robt. Motgomery Audrey Totter D—105 mins.	(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Nov. 21 Release) SIOUX CITY SUE Gene Autry Lynne Roberts	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)		(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce C—65 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)		
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)	SECRET HEART Claudette Colbert Walter Pidgeon D—97 mins.	SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan M—75 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)			(Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)		I'LL BE YOURS Deanna Durbin Tom Drake William Bendix Adolphe Menjou	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—64 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)		SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely 'Lasses' White O—681	BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev. 9/26/46)		(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648) (Rev. 12/2/46)	(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru D—96 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)		THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) M—105 min. (610) (Rev. 12/10/46)
Jan. 4	(Dec. Release) RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO Louis Hayward Barbara Britton		GINGER Frank Albertson Barbara Reed			(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunn Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)				
Jan. 11			CISCO AND THE ANGEL Gilbert Roland O						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd		THE MAN I LOVE Ida Lupino Robert Alda D—96 mins. (611)
Jan. 18						ANGEL AND THE BADMAN John Wayne Irene Rich					
Jan. 25			VACATION DAYS Freddie Stewart June Preisser			THE PILGRIM LADY Adela Mara Warren Douglas			PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI George Sanders Angela Lansbury		HUMORESQUE Joan Crawford John Garfield D—125 mins. (612)
Feb. 1						CALENDAR GIRL Jane Frazee William Marshall					

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Drama. (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Date.*

NUMBER 1

on the Hit Parade

"OLE BUTTERMILK SKY"

from

"CANYON PASSAGE"



NUMBER 1

on Universal's

"ALL-TIME HIT PARADE"

"CANYON PASSAGE"

in Technicolor

A WALTER WANGER PRODUCTION

WALTER WANGER presents

Dana ANDREWS Brian DONLEVY Susan HAYWARD

in

CANYON PASSAGE

IN TECHNICOLOR

introducing Patricia ROC

with HOAGY CARMICHAEL WARD BOND ANDY DEVINE

STANLEY RIDGES FAY HOLDEN VICTOR CUTLER

Directed by JACQUES TOURNEUR • Produced by WALTER WANGER

A UNIVERSAL RELEASE • Screenplay by Ernest Pascal

Adapted from the Saturday Evening Post Story "Canyon Passage" by Ernest Haycox



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FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 122 NEW YORK, U.S.A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1946 TEN CENTS

Phila. Decree Raises Issue Of 'Showcases'

Two Companies Involved; Appeal Held Probable

Counsel for distributor defendants in the anti-trust suit brought by William Goldman Theatres, Inc., of Philadelphia, were preparing at the weekend to take a "probable" appeal following Federal Judge William Kirkpatrick's final decree, which gives Goldman's Erlanger Theatre the right to bid on all product of the companies, without specifically reserving for Warner Brothers and 20th Century-Fox exhibitors in that city the right to "show-case" their own product in their own houses.

Whether such a guarantee will be sought in the expected appeal was a point on which the attorneys were unable to pass hasty judgment as they settled down to consideration of the Philadelphia decree. Noting that the

(*Continued on page* 18)

FCC Rebukes Paramount

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—Paramount Pictures, Inc., must pare down its holdings in the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., and Interstate Circuit, Inc., of Dallas, or forfeit some of its pending applications for television stations, the FCC said here today. The commission's announcement was made as it awarded Paramount its second commercial television grant in Los Angeles. The company, through Balaban and Katz Co., a subsidiary, is

(*Continued on page* 15)

International Film Council Organized

John Grierson, producer, returning over the weekend from Paris where he was a member of the British delegation at the first annual UNESCO conference, discloses plans have been drawn for the establishment of an international film council.

The suggestion for such an organization, Grierson stated, originally

(*Continued on page* 15)

$13,500,000 Suit By Selznick Against UA and Co-Owners

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Court actions seeking damages of $13,500,000 against United Artists, Charles Chaplin, Mary Pickford and the Pickford Corp. were filed here Friday by David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films as an outgrowth of the controversy which resulted in the withdrawal of Selznick's pictures from UA distribution and the formation of his own releasing organization, it was announced by the Selznick studio.

Stating flatly that Selznick would have "no further dealings with United Artists or Pickford and Chaplin and their relation to the affairs of United Artists, except through the courts," the announcement broke down the litigation into two separate actions, as follows:

In Superior Court, against Chaplin,

(*Continued on page* 18)

NY State Upholds 'Outlaw' License

Rejecting the petition of Benjamin Fielding, New York City license commissioner, the motion picture (censorship) division of the State Education Board announced on Friday that it cannot revoke its license for "The Outlaw" in view of the evidence submitted.

Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director

(*Continued on page* 18)

Mexican Production At Top, Numerically

Mexico City, Dec. 22.—Announcement by the Producers Association that 68 pictures were made this year up to Nov. 30 indicates that unless there is another flareup of film labor trouble to stop work in the studios, Mexico's production in 1946 will reach 72, as four productions are to be completed by Dec. 31. This will be nine more than 1945.

However, at present 60 films are "frozen" because of lack of theatre room, due to American, British and Argentinian bookings.

20 PRC Exchanges In One Corporation

Twenty PRC exchange corporations have been dissolved and have been consolidated into one corporation, PRC Exchanges and Ohio Corp. The change in the corporate setup is said to have been made for "convenience," to eliminate bookkeeping entanglements.

Involved are the PRC exchanges in New York, Boston, New Haven, Albany, Buffalo, Philadelphia, Washington, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, Indianapolis, Omaha, Des Moines, St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Salt Lake City and Los Angeles.

Cites Feasibility of 'Showcase' Conversion

By GENE ARNEEL

With his own experience attesting to its practicability, David Flexer, independent circuit operator of Memphis, sets forth what he describes as a matter worthy of consideration by independent exhibitors—more conversions of subsequent runs into "showcase" theatres. Quite naturally, thought would have to be given to the obvious factors that present themselves, he states, including the location and "class" of the house, but not necessarily product availability.

Flexer, head of a 12-unit circuit bearing his name in Mississippi and Tennessee, disclosed on a visit here with Mrs. Flexer of the "unqualified success" realized at his 900-seat Ritz Theatre, Memphis, which switched to a first-run policy in October. "Brief Encounter" made its Memphis debut at the house; a roadshow engagement of "Henry V" is now bringing in customers.

The circuit chief lays stress upon the necessity of "selling" both the house as well as the attraction, in order to assure profits. That the new Ritz policy went over is attributable to the tremendous build-up it was given by the press and through other promotional outlets, he added.

An abundance of evidence of an excellent campaign was provided by Flexer in feature, news and editorial page copy in the two Memphis newspapers, the *Commercial Appeal* and the *Press Scimitar*. The latter gave full credit for the publicity to Thomas O. Baldridge, formerly in the field for United Artists.

Retaliation on Quotas Urged By Legislators

Milliken Rebels; Zanuck Wires Support of Plan

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—A subcommittee on foreign trade and shipping of the House Special Post-War Committee on Economic Policy, which is seeking ways to help the American film industry get back into foreign markets, suggested at a hearing here on Friday—attended by Motion Picture Association and Motion Picture Export Association representatives—the possibility of recommending legislation to Congress which would restrict here all films of nations which put up barriers against ours.

Such retaliation, suggested by

(*Continued on page* 15)

Stoltz in New Post at PRC

Arnold Stoltz, for the past two year national director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for Producers Releasing Corp., has been promoted to the newly-created post of special national sales representative, it was announced at the weekend by Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager. Stoltz will be succeeded by Harold Danson, formerly of the Paramount home office advertising department.



Arnold Stoltz

(*Continued on page* 18)

In This Issue

"Humoresque," "A Diary for Timothy" and "The Beast with Five Fingers" are reviewed on page 16; "Lady Chaser," "Great Expectations" and "Les Miserables" on page 17.

Personal Mention

SANTA CLAUS will leave the North Pole tomorrow for points South.

•

DR. W. R. G. BAKER, vice-president of General Electric's electronics department, Schenectady, has received the War Department's "Certificate of Appreciation" for his war work.

•

CHARLES POLETTI, attorney for Howard Hughes Productions, returned to New York from Europe yesterday on the *America*.

•

EDWARD FISHER, publicity director of Loew's Theatre, Cleveland, has been named March of Dimes chairman in that area.

•

C. E. PEPPIATT, Philadelphia district manager for 20th Century-Fox, is recuperating after a recent operation.

•

SANFORD MILLER, son of JOSEPH MILLER, PRC district manager in Albany, has joined the RKO Radio home office.

•

JACK BARRETT, Florida representative for Monogram Southern Exchanges, is visiting in Atlanta.

•

WILLIAM SEIB, Columbia branch manager in Salt Lake City, is back at his office from Chicago.

•

MAURICE LEV, general manager of Western Hemisphere Films, has left here for Philadelphia and Boston.

•

FRANK WALKER, of the M-G-M record department here, has arrived on the Coast.

•

RAY MOON, 20th Century-Fox district manager here, has returned from Albany.

•

ARTHUR C. BROMBERG, president of Monogram Southern Exchanges, Atlanta, is visiting in Memphis.

•

CHARLES LEVY, publicist for Walt Disney Productions, is in Cleveland from Hollywood.

•

HENRY KRUMM, United Artists branch manager in Atlanta, has gone to Jacksonville.

•

MORRIS MECHANIC, owner of the New Theatre, Baltimore, is back in that city from Miami Beach.

Segal to Century Circuit

Maurice Segal has resigned from the home office publicity department at 20th Century-Fox, for a position in the advertising-publicity department of Century Circuit, here.

Day Joins Astaire

Charles L. Casanave, executive vice-president and general manager of Fred Astaire Dance Studios Corp., has engaged Harvey B. Day, Jr., as director of advertising and publicity for the new corporation.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

GRAD SEARS told a trade press conference last week that he never again will conduct a sales convention in the traditional industry manner. It's a changed industry today, says Sears, except for its still horse-drawn sales meetings.

He proposes to accumulate a dozen or so of United Artists' top productions by March or April of each year and when they are in the cans and ready for showing to the sales force, and only then, he will call the men into session. There will be a succession of regional sales meetings, one following the other until the country has been covered, at which the pictures will be screened, discussed and sales policies set. The men will look at the pictures they are to sell; not at colorful brochures while digesting extravagant claims and frequently over-enthusiastic descriptions of non-existent product.

"If today's exhibitor doesn't buy until he sees the pictures, why should today's salesmen sell before seeing?" Sears asked.

It's a proper question with a sound idea behind it. The only flaw in Sears' plan, and he brought it to the fore himself, is that a $25,000,000 completed picture inventory such as United Artists will have next spring may not be at hand every year.

•

Sears revealed that he had finally received Bennie Berger's letter to him threatening state censorship in Minnesota if "Abie's Irish Rose" is released by UA, a letter which was publicized from New York to Hollywood before it had reached the addressee. In reply, Sears told Berger, in effect, that he could think of easier ways of getting his name in the papers.

"Berger hasn't even seen the picture," Sears said.

The UA distribution chief explained that the company had carefully chosen preview locales for the picture, had listened to competent advisers and had accepted their counsel with respect to the picture.

"Whatever objections remain," Sears said, "could not be satisfied unless we eliminated everything but the title and the final frame of the picture. They are objections to what is inherent in the play itself."

• •

By no means a minor portion of the journalistic tributes which have been accorded Sam Goldwyn and his "The Best Years of Our Lives" was that recent Lloyd Lewis column in the Chicago *Sun*, wherein Lewis wrote with unmistakable sincerity of the Goldwyn sincerity in picture making.

Much too long to reproduce in its entirety here, the following quotation will serve as a sample of what the literate Lewis had to say: "Year by year the public has come to expect from a Goldwyn picture solid value in entertainment—nothing of startling radicalism, but also nothing of empty bunk and maudlin drivel. Goldwyn is one of the few individual producers to sustain a reputation for giving the public, picture by picture, just a little better than it had expected."

• •

And while on the subject of sincerity, there was a really impressive quantity of that virtue in what the esteemed Adolph Zukor had to say at the luncheon last week, tendered him on his return from Europe with George Weltner, concerning the "maligners" of American films and the American industry.

No gallant ever championed the cause of a fair lady assailed with more forthrightness and genuine feeling than did Zukor the cause of the industry to which he has given 45 years of his life and whose name will remain on many of the foundation stones on which it is built. Much of what Zukor has worked for, particularly in his later years, has been the attainment of an industry integrity which has earned it increasing respect throughout the world. You can join with him in saying that today "This is an industry of which to be proud."

Zukor and many men like him have made it possible to say that. In doing so they have given the industry a vitality and a soundness that the maligners and name-callers assail with spectacular futility.

• •

The British actor, James Mason, had so little to say when he arrived from London that the mteropolitan press was affronted. Ever sensitive to such vanities, his handlers on this side worked long and diligently to get him to talk. He did. Then they had to work just as hard to shut him up. Seems he had the wrong things to say, and knew it from the outset.

• •

To all of you, a merry, merry Christmas!

Newsreel Parade

CHRISTMAS greetings for America from children of foreign lands is one of the highlights of current newsreels. Other items include news from Russia, France, India, Holland and Italy. On the domestic front, aviation developments, basketball and a report from fur-raisers claim[illegible]st footage. Complete contents fol[illegible]

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 33—Rocket science: plane to fly at 1,700 mph; rocket soars 114 miles high. India assembly meets to write a constitution. Amazing cyclist still a champion at 76. Dutch policemen learn to swim. Glen Davis—best football player. Holiday greetings from foreign children.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 231—Man-made meteors tested: V-2 rockets. German doctors on trial for Nazi mass murders. Moscow puts on air show for Stalin. Children of many lands wish Yuletide cheer. First U. S. rocket plane. Grounded Navy armada. Aquatic-star cops. New 1947 fur crop.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 34—Russians reveal new aviation progress. Lady weightlifter. Nobel prizes honor Americans. Junior UN: Embassy kids send Yuletide greetings to U. S. Socialists take over French cabinet. Basketball: Texas vs. Long Island University.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 36—India constitutional assembly. Danube opens free shipping. Rocket plane speeds 1,700 mph. Fur breeders' record crop. Army fires V-2 at night. Blum heads new French government. Stalin views Soviet air might.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 565—Rocket sets altitude record. Dental aid for Italy's war waifs. Fur farmers. Costume Jewelry. Meet "Miss Muscle." Christmas greetings from foreign "ambassadors" of good-will.

Eight Reissues for Devonshire Films

BOSTON, Dec. 22.—Eight reissues will be offered for state rights distribution by Devonshire Films of Boston. The list includes "Wings of the Morning," in Technicolor; "Dinner at the Ritz," "Dark Journey," "Farewell Again," "Action for Slander," "Under the Red Robe" and "South Riding."

Formerly released by 20th-Fox and United Artists, Devonshire controls the rights for the United States and Canada and has completed a complete new line of posters, lobby displays, trailers and prints.

$600,000 St. Louis Suit

As reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 20, $600,000 is asked of Fanchon and Marco and other defendants in a suit brought by Martin W. D'Arcy in St. Louis; due to a typographical error, the headline on the story stated that $6,000,000 is sought.

Weber Combines Sound

ROCHESTER, N. Y., Dec. 20.—The Weber Machine Corp., manufacturers of projectors, soundheads and sound systems, has combined the soundhead and projector into a new, single syncro-dynamic unit. (The girl is a separate item.)

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Get ready for great shows –

and lots of them!

You can make that "Paramount" permanent . . . because we've opened the flood-gates of a reservoir of brilliant product, with enough fine releases to keep first-run marquees dazzling with great names and titles every day for the next five months . . .

FOR DATES RIGHT NOW...

"TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST"

All engagements, from New York to San Francisco, have records lashed to "The Mast"! Variety reports it the industry's top-grossing hit!



starring

Alan Ladd · Brian Donlevy
William Bendix · Barry Fitzgerald

with ***HOWARD DA SILVA · ESTHER FERNANDEZ · ALBERT DEKKER***
LUIS VAN ROOTEN · DARRYL HICKMAN

Directed by JOHN FARROW

Produced by Seton I. Miller • Screen Play by Seton I. Miller and George Bruce • Based on the Novel by Richard Henry Dana, Jr.

FOR MERRY CHRISTMAS HIGHS...

Irving Berlin's "BLUE SKIES"

In Technicolor

32 Berlin songs—and Bing sings 16! Last chance to see Fred dance! First dates all-topping, all-terrific! All-time record-holder, Paramount, N. Y. C.!



starring

Bing Crosby
Fred Astaire
Joan Caulfield

with

BILLY DE WOLFE
OLGA SAN JUAN

Lyrics and Music by Irving Berlin







Directed by STUART HEISLER • Screen Play by Arthur Sheekman • Adaptation by Allen Scott

TO START THE NEW YEAR BRIGHT....

"Cross My Heart"

...in hope to die laughing!

Betty's first all-out comedy since "Here Come The Waves"! She sings 3 top-popularity songs in this story of a girl who can't tell the truth to save her life! A fast musical, a thrilling mystery, a howling comedy—all in one and all wonderful!



starring

Betty Hutton

and

Sonny Tufts

with

MICHAEL CHEKHOV
(Hit of "Spellbound")

RUTH DONNELLY
HOWARD FREEMAN
RHYS WILLIAMS

Directed by JOHN BERRY





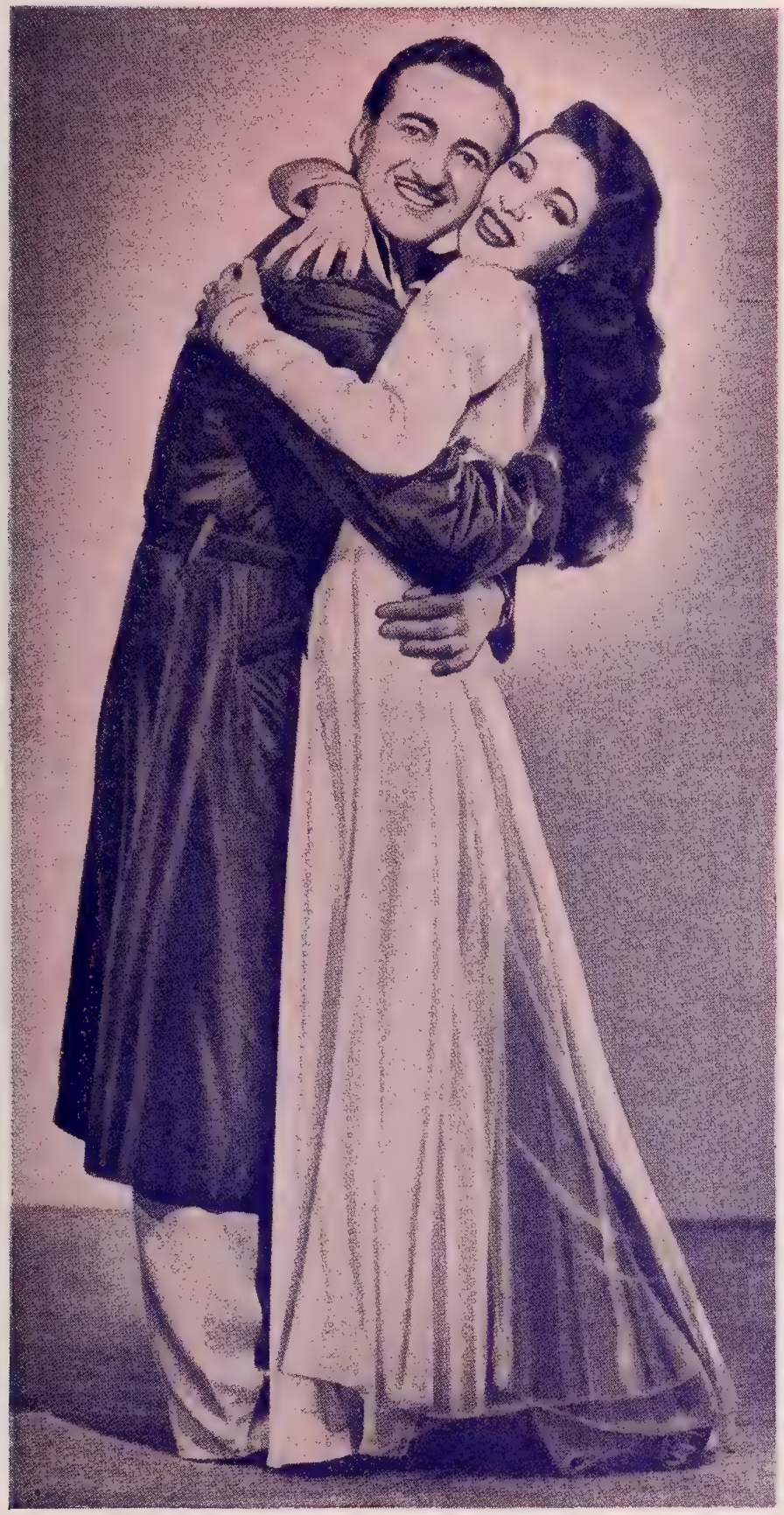
Produced by Harry Tugend • Screen Play by Harry Tugend and Claude Binyon • Based on a Play by Louis Verneuil and Georges Berr

FOR THAT FINE JANUARY TIME....

Hal Wallis' Production

"The Perfect Marriage"

Esquire Magazine says: "Comes pretty close to being the perfect comedy!" And Life described its captivating 10-year honeymoon in a big full-color feature, read by 20 millions! When its romantic stars run around in triangles, it's all top box-office fun!



starring

Loretta Young and David Niven

with

EDDIE ALBERT
CHARLES RUGGLES
VIRGINIA FIELD
RITA JOHNSON
ZASU PITTS



Directed by LEWIS ALLEN • Screen Play by Leonard Spigelgass

FOR EARLY MARCH DATES...

"EASY COME, EASY GO"

Sonny's crazy over Diana—and Barry's crazy over horses... the ones that come in last! Here's hilarious laughter, directed by the man who made "Two Years Before The Mast." With Barry actually delivering more laughs than in "Going My Way"!



starring

Barry Fitzgerald
Diana Lynn
Sonny Tufts

with

DICK FORAN · FRANK McHUGH
ALLEN JENKINS · JOHN LITEL
ARTHUR SHIELDS · FRANK FAYLEN

Produced by Kenneth MacGowan
Directed by JOHN FARROW





Screen Play by Francis Edward Faragoh, John McNulty and Anne Froelick • Based on sketches by John McNulty

FOR A RECORD-BLOOMING SPRING...

"Suddenly It's Spring"

A spring-feverish love-fest—when Fred meets Paulette, lovelier than she was in "Kitty"—and MacDonald Carey, in his first postwar role and gorgeous Arleen Whelan tangled in a marital quadrangle that's balmy with comedy and sunny with romance!







A
MITCHELL LEISEN
Production
starring
Paulette Goddard
and
Fred MacMurray
with
MACDONALD CAREY
ARLEEN WHELAN
Produced by CLAUDE BINYON
Directed by MITCHELL LEISEN

Screen Play by Claude Binyon and P. J. Wolfson • Original Story by P. J. Wolfson

FOR A GLORIOUS BOX OFFICE EASTER...

"My Favorite Brunette"

Here it is—gross-topping, hilarity-topping successor to "Beaucaire"! In fact, it's the funniest Hope picture—all the way back to "My Favorite Blonde"! As an international detective, Bob starts laughs heard 'round the world. And Dotty's the spy he loves to eye!



starring

Bob Hope

and

Dorothy Lamour

with

PETER LORRE

LON CHANEY, Jr.

Produced by DANIEL DARE

Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT





Screen Play by Edmund Beloin and Jack Rose • A Paramount Release

FOR POST-EASTER PROFITS...

"The Imperfect Lady"

The season's most exciting star team! Ray Milland, winner of the Grand Prix International for the *world's* best performance, now in his first great love story in years! Plus Teresa Wright at her peak in what is bound to be the best year of her life. Together in a superstrong drama of a beauty who sullies her own honor that a man may live.

starring

Ray **Milland** and Teresa **Wright**

with

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE
VIRGINIA FIELD
REGINALD OWEN
ANTHONY QUINN
MELVILLE COOPER

Directed by LEWIS ALLEN







Produced by Karl Tunberg • Screen Play by Karl Tunberg

These 10 Great Attractions In The Next 4 Months

are eloquent evidence that there will be no quality or quantity letdown from Paramount's industry-pacing standards of the past year.

They are a factual demonstration that this company is prepared with enough—and great enough—product to maintain the preeminence that has made Paramount not only the talk of the trade, but the wonder of America's industrial and financial world.

Yet these are but the forerunners of a year's program so rich in box-office values that again in 1947, for the fourth successive season, the verdict of the show world must be.....

"Paramount

IS AMERICA'S LEADING MOTION PICTURE COMPANY"



Retaliation

(*Continued from page* 1)

Rep. Eugene Worley (Dem., Tex.,), committee chairman; Rep. Francis Walter (Dem., Pa.), and Dr. William Y. Elliott, Harvard University professor on loan as committee counsel, apparently sent shudders through the MPA and MPEA officials present.

Wm. E. Milliken, MPA secretary, and an afternoon witness, declared emphatically that the industry wanted no part of any such deal.

"The industry," he said, "asks no special privilege here or abroad. We want only the opportunity to compete. We have never asked and do not ask here now for any form of protective tariff. We want only the utmost freedom. We want no retaliation or punishment of anybody."

However, the committee received and put into the record a telegram from Darryl Zanuck in which he called for what appeared to be pretty much the reverse of what Milliken called for.

"Now is the proper time," said Zanuck, "for Congress to openly support us as other foreign Governments are openly supporting their own products and discrediting ours."

Much of the session was given over to discussing the methods used in the rest of the world to keep out our pictures or use them to discredit this country by showing only certain parts of our output.

Johnston Statement

In the absence of Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston, his prepared statement highlighting the fact that the industry wanted State Department aid in facing the world problem, was presented by Jack Bryson of the local MPA office. Johnston told the committee in part:

"The American film industry is thinking in terms of an expanding world market and not a narrowing one. Only a small percentage of the people in the world see motion pictures today. Actually there are millions who have never seen a picture before. The industry cannot grow to its greatest usefulness and greatest service, however, as long as there are restrictions on the interchange of pictures among countries.

"Your committee wants to know what the United States Government may legitimately do to assist the motion picture industry abroad.

"The best possible course is to continue the present policy of the State Department. As you know, this policy is free of any party tag or label. It is based wholly on the traditional American belief in freedom of expression and communication and is designed to remove and prevent discriminatory restrictions."

Turning to what the industry is doing about improving the quality of pictures exported, Johnston said of MPA that: "We recognize it is to the best interest of our country and the film industry to exercise prudent selectivity of pictures going abroad. Through use of self-regulation we believe that we can be more discriminating in the type of pictures sent to other countries.

"We are also practicing selectivity in another way by voluntarily limiting the number of pictures we are exporting to several countries.

"But in our desire to guard against undesirable pictures going abroad, we must resist any curbs which would cramp the screen's freedom. Whenever censorship of that nature has been attempted, the result has always been harmful."

Charles Hulten, deputy chief of the State Department division of international information and culture, declared that the Department's policy was to aid the flow of our films abroad irrespective of type, but said he was "encouraged" by the willingness of the industry to eliminate "petty annoyances and distortions of American life."

Pressed by Congressman Walter, Hulten admitted that in a few countries—most notably Russia—the barring of our pictures, both informational and entertainment, was giving the State Department cause for concern.

It was at this point that the issue of retaliation against such countries was first brought up by Dr. Elliott, who suggested hitting back in such cases. Obviously not prepared to declare a Department policy, Hulten said this would have to be decided in higher circles.

Monopolies Question

Elliott asked whether state film monopolies, such as Russia's did not "effectively enable the selection of pictures which were deleterious to us" as well as being an effective way of preventing exhibition at all.

"A national monopoly is certainly an effective way to prevent exhibition," admitted Hulten. "I know that our Ambassador Smith in Russia is trying hard to get more of our pictures shown there. But the selection is small."

"Carefully selected," cut in Elliott. "Either never-never land or showing the seamy side of our life."

John Begg, chief of the motion picture division of the International Information and Culture Division, was asked by Rep. Worley whether, during his recent trip to Europe, he had found that "our commercial films were giving a distorted picture of American life."

"I feel," was the reply, "that certain factual films should and must be shown to balance the picture given by our entertainment films." He was also asked about the fact that there are no restrictions about showing Russian pictures in this country, while ours generally fail to get through the "iron curtain."

"Do you feel," asked Walter, "that we should have a reciprocal trade agreement with Russia not to show their pictures unless they agree to let ours be shown?"

"That is a matter of the free flow of information which we favor. There is the question of changing it," replied Begg.

Nathan D. Golden, motion picture consultant for the Department of Commerce, declared that the U. S. industry is turning out better quality films now than a few years ago. He agreed that in the past our cheap films "hogged" so much playing time on the foreign screens that it furnished a good reason for some of the restrictive laws of other nations. However, Golden said, this situation was substantially changed at present due to the Motion Picture Export Association.

Asked About Reciprocity

Winthrop Brown, head of the commercial policy division of the State Department, blocked in the general outline of foreign restrictions against our pictures and then was asked about reciprocity against countries which do not permit free import of our films.

"That," he warned, "would mean drastic control in the U. S. and would seriously control the rights of the American industry. The rights to send abroad whatever our industry wanted to send would be curbed.

'Our importers would be told what foreign pictures they could import. This would be something the State Department would want to consider seriously: Whether we would wish to impose controls alien to our whole philosophy."

65 MPEA Pictures To Poland in 1947

WASHANGTON, Dec. 22.—Sixty-five American films will be channeled through the Motion Picture Export Association to Poland in 1947, Francis Harmon, MPEA vice-president, told a Congressional committee here Friday.

The contract specifies that MPEA will nominate 100 features and from these the Poles will choose the 65. All towns with four or more theatres may play all 65; towns with three theatres may play 75 per cent of the product; those with only two film houses are to get 50 per cent, and one-theatre towns may have only one-fourth of the product. These terms were not given in the announcement of the deal last week.

Harmon was one of several witnesses before a sub-committee of the House Special Post-War Committee on Economic Policy.

International Council

(*Continued from page* 1)

came from Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association. Grierson, who is also reporter for the commission on mass media, covering films, press and radio for educational purposes, heads The World Today, Inc., his own motion picture company, which will deliver 26 short subjects during 1947 for release through United Artists.

Another point of business undertaken at the Paris conference calls for the establishment of a commission to study the technical needs of war-stricken countries. This commission, Grierson points out, would study immediately the needs for material, equipment and trained technical personnel in the fields of film, radio and press. It will encourage international exchange of instructors and trainees, Grierson said. The foremost feature of this arrangement would be the training of guest personnel in the various fields of mass media.

A world feature-story project, calling for researchers, writers, radio and film producers to cooperate in presenting and producing a major theme of world interest and significance in the field of UNESCO's interests, is contemplated in such a way that the subjects will appear simultaneously in all media.

A 1947 survey on press and films will be undertaken to make a factual analysis of the present world structure of mass media. Included for specific analyses are themes and distribution of feature and short films, content of newsreels, and recent techniques for the utilization of films.

FCC Rebukes

(*Continued from page* 1)

already licensee of station WBKB, Chicago.

Paramount owns 50 per cent of Interstate Circuit, an exhibitor company which is bidding for a television outlet in Dallas, and all of the Class B stock of DuMont. DuMont has two video stations in New York and Washington and has applications pending for Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Boston.

An FCC ruling forbids any one company from owning or controlling more than five video outlets and the Paramount-DuMont-Interstate Circuit setup has been under investigation for the past six months.

FCC said Paramount's 50 per cent holding in Interstate constituted control since the picture company could veto any directorship vote. Commission took same position on the picture outfit's ownership of all Class B stock in DuMont. Although Paramount has never voted this stock, it has not waived its right to exercise this option and still maintains a veto right.

Six Video Bidders Get Permission to Build

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The FCC today handed out building permits to six bidders for television stations in the Hollywood-Los Angeles area but deferred action on the seventh application, that of the Don Lee Network. Its standard station license renewals are up for hearing next month.

New television permittees and the channels assigned them are NBC, channel 4, ABC, No. 7, *The Times-Mirror*, No. 11; Television Products, Inc., Paramount No. 5; Dorothy Thackerey, No. 13 and Earle C. Anthony, Inc., No. 9.

The vote on Anthony's grant was four to two, with FCC Commissioners Clifford J. Durr and Rosel Hyde of the opinion that FCC should defer action until it had decided whether or not to renew the license of Anthony's station, KFI. The license of KFI was protested by several Los Angeles groups because of a new station policy requiring that all commentators be station employees.

Television Productions and Don Lee were already licensed to operate experimentally in the Los Angeles area. It was understood FCC will act on the Don Lee video application after a hearing on renewals of its four standard stations.

The commission said it was giving Television Productions a grant despite a pending anti-trust suit against the company for attempts to monopolize television patents. In the event of an adverse decision, here, the commission said it would take appropriate action on the license renewal of the Paramount television station in Los Angeles.

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmack's NEW Prevue Trailer Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.

Goldwyn 'Fireworks' Missing in London

LONDON, Dec. 22.—The "fireworks" anticipated at Samuel Goldwyn's first press conference here did not materialize, with the American producer declining to discuss his recent criticism of Hollywood except to say that his view of British pictures' success will be an inspiration to Hollywood.

Goldwyn denied vehemently that British films are not getting a fair distribution deal in the U. S. He declared that the Rank organization is following "the best policy" by securing extended runs in small theatres rather than in big-time restricted runs, and pointed to the success of his own films under that policy.

Goldwyn said Molotov has seen his "Best Years of Our Lives" twice—once in New York and once aboard the *Queen Elizabeth*. Prime Minister Attlee, Goldwyn said, isthe film's first customer in Britain, he having asked that the picture be shown him privately this weekend.

The Samuel Goldwyn office, here, on Friday disclosed that Goldwyn told the British press that "speaking as a motion picture producer of rather long experience in Hollywood—and as one who loves Hollywood—" he welcomes the challenge which British pictures are making to Hollywood.

Last month, on the eve of his departure from New York for London, Goldwyn blasted Hollywood with the charge that it has not changed in these changing times, and called for a sharp decrease in the amount of product made annually by American companies, with a corresponding increase in quality.

Tax Threatening For Tulsa Houses

TULSA, Okla., Dec. 22.—Attorneys representing Tulsa theatre operators have presented an alternate revenue program to city commissioners who have been considering assessment of an admissions tax on local amusements.

Ralph Talbot, Tulsa exhibitor, met with the commissioners last week and succeeded in delaying passage of the original tax ordinance which had been drafted in final form for passage.

Smith of MPA in Science Discussion

Theodore Smith, assistant to Francis Harmon, New York vice-president of the Motion Picture Association, will point up the knowledge of science which various films impart to the public in a round-table discussion of "Science and the Public" at the Hotel Bradford, Boston, Dec. 28. The discussion will be a part of the meeting of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

New Warner House Opens Christmas

WASHINGTON, Dec. 22.—The newly-built MacArthur Theatre, on MacArthur Boulevard, will be opened by Warner Brothers on Christmas Day.

Ken Davis will manage the house. "Never Say Goodbye" is the opening attraction.

Reviews

"A Diary for Timothy"

(English Films)

THE effects of the scourge of war on the future of a baby born in Britain during the dark days of 1944 is the problem pondered in this short-feature documentary, produced by the British Ministry of Information and imported by English Films. Timothy, the baby, born and reared in the vicinity of London amid war's privations and travail, is addressed by the narrator, Michael Redgrave, as the screen reviews disconnectedly sundry phases in the wartime lives of the "little people" of England—soldiers, workmen, home-guardsmen, miners. "Appraised" of what is going on about him, the infant is asked finally what kind of world he and all the other war babies will make out of the peace they have inherited.

Essentially a kaleidoscopic review of the war from a British home-front standpoint, this film is quite good as such. However, the question remains: are such films too antedated? Only the box-office can answer that. However, the exhibitor who has his customers' tastes pretty well indexed already has the answer. Basil Wright is down as producer; Humphrey Jennings directed.

Running time, 40 minutes. General audience classification.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Humoresque"

(Warner Brothers)

REQUESTS for more integrity in Hollywood films, heard recently from within the industry on both sides of the Atlantic, are fulfilled in large measure—perhaps much too large—by this distinguished Jerry Wald production starring John Garfield, Joan Crawford and Oscar Levant in a searing, true-ringing study of the rise and woes of a concert violinist and the pain, as well as the pleasure, he brings to those about him. That the result, on celluloid, will bring much extreme pleasure to discriminating audiences, especially through its symphonic backgrounds and foregrounds, is reasonably certain; but chances are that smashing success, for the exhibitor, cannot be expected—because the picture inflicts, and reiterates, too much of the pain, rather than merely communicating it. (See running time recorded below).

The story follows Garfield, as a self-centered musical genius, from the traditional East Side boyhood upsurge through to, and way beyond, his meeting with the equally traditional Park-Avenue talent dabbler, who is so magnificently portrayed by Miss Crawford that the editors apparently have refrained, to the film's detriment, from trimming her scenes to acceptable length. The lady drinks gallons, from boredom—of a sort never experienced in the simple home of her protege's parents (J. Carroll Naish and Ruth Nelson), who, incidentally, object to their son's falling in love with a married woman. This love has a brief season of beauty, but the violin soon emerges as its master's real mistress, and, in a soul-gripping, though too-protracted climax, the unfortunate socialite walks into the ocean—to the orchestral strains of a triumphant performance of "Tristan and Isolde."

The inspired touch of Clifford Odets, who, with Zachary Gold, turned out the screen play, is apparent through much of its length—especially in the dialogue given Oscar Levant, who almost steals the show as the hero's lifelong friend and accompanist. The film is based on a Fannie Hurst story, which in an earlier screen version was given a far more romantic and perhaps more popular treatment, stressing self-sacrifice rather than dipsomania and frustration.

Students of the art of the motion picture will have just cause to rave over many telling effects obtained through Jean Negulesco's direction, while music-lovers will enjoy the numbers conducted by Franz Waxman and a brief appearance which Fritz Leiber makes.

Running time, 126 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, Jan. 25.

TOM LOY

"The Beast with Five Fingers"

(Warner Brothers) *Hollywood, Dec. 22*

HERE is one for the followers of the chill-thrill-kill school of melodrama, particularly as personified by Peter Lorre, who has in this picture complete freed on for the display of his special talent. Others present are Robert Alda, Andrea King, Victor Francen, J. Carroll Naish, Charles Dingle and David Hoffman, to name the top half-dozen. It is a picture that lives up to the promise of the title and the repute of actor Lorre.

The time is 1900 and the scene is a small town in Italy where a wealthy recluse, who has learned to play the piano with one hand after losing the other, is attended by an American nurse and a man-servant (Lorre), addicted to astrology. Alda plays a young composer who has made some special musical arrangements for the recluse (Francen) and makes his living by bilking tourists. He is in love with the nurse (Miss King) but not much is done about that until the picture ends. Prior to then there are a number of killings, seemingly done by an animated hand believed to have been amputated from the recluse (first to die). Suspense mounts steadily until the devices by which Lorre, in his dementia, has accomplished the killings are discovered.

The production is by William Jacobs, from a screenplay by Curt Siodmak, based on a story by William Fryer Harvey; Robert Florey directed.

Running time, 90 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

Bayless Transferred

DETROIT, Dec. 22.—A. E. Bayless, formerly of Altec's Detroit office, has been appointed credit manager of the Cincinnati district and has left for that city to take over his new duties.

Universal Dividend

The board of directors of Universal Pictures has declared a quarterly dividend of 50 cents a share on common stock, payable Jan. 31 to stockholders of record on Jan. 15.

Century Proposes Educational Plan

A project of using motion pictures and theatres to augment classroom studies has been offered without cost to the New York City Board of Education by Century Theatres, according to an announcement from its vice-president, Fred J. Schwartz.

The plan was discussed at a meeting here, which brought together Dr. J. E. Wade, superintendent of schools; Maximilian Moss, member of the Board of Education, and other officials, as well as commissioner of licenses Benjamin J. Fielding; Roger Albright, director of visual education for the MPA. Schwartz, J. R. Springer and Edward Schreiber were present for the theatre group.

The plan, as presented by the Century vice-president, called for a program of tapping regular entertainment pictures, with educational meaning, documentaries and strictly classroom films to be dove-tailed with school curricula. Shows would be given in Century theatres on regular school mornings, with the houses considered a part of the school.

Century would absorb the entire cost, including film rentals and would make no admission charge.

Plan received "unofficial" approval of those attending and will be brought before a meeting of the board of superintendents for final approval. Commissioner Fielding indicated administration sympathy for the plan and labeled it "a step in the right direction."

Hinson Resigns As Monogram Manager

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 22.—Sam Hinson, manager of the Monogram exchange here, has resigned to accept a position with Colonial Theatres of Valdese. Hinson will supervise booking and buying for the nine theatres operated by the corporation. In addition, he will be in active charge of the theatres.

The firm operates theatres in Valdese, Granite Falls, Madison, Conover, Mayodan, Shelby and Hickory.

NY Group Against 'Dimes' Collections

Cooperation in "every practicable way," but excluding theatre collections, for the March of Dimes drive next month, has been voted by the board of the Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Owners, headed by Fred Schwartz.

The group's policy, it was said, favors one "hat-passing" drive a year for all charity funds.

Heifetz to Federal

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—William LeBaron and Boris Morros have taken an option on the services of Jascha Heifetz for "Carmen from Kenosha," a musical scheduled for next year. The violinist appears in the first LeBaron-Morros production for Federal Films, "Carnegie Hall." The producers also have options on the services of Lily Pons and Ezio Pinza for "Carmen from Kenosha," which will be filmed in New York, it was said. Next on the LeBaron-Morros schedule will be "Babes in Toyland," to be made here.

'U' Premiere On C. and O. Flyer

World premiere of the Mark Hellinger's "Swell Guy," being released by Universal, will be held aboard the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad's "George Washington" train, on its regular run from Washington to Cincinnati, on Jan. 6. This will be the inauguration of regular nightly motion picture showings by the C. and O.

At the same time, it was announced that Robert R. Young, chairman of the board of C. and O., and Universal have signed a one-year contract for the showing of Universal releases in 16mm. on the railroad. The C. and O. will book each release for a two-week period.

For these first regular on-train showings, a specially-adapted twin-unit dining car seating 50 persons will be used. Two 16mm. projectors operated by a regular union projectionist will provide a continuous performance. In the spring, the C. and O. intends to bring out a new train, "The Chessie," to operate over this route and it will have specially-built cars to provide a "theatre-on-wheels."

The premiere of "Swell Guy" will be sponsored by Young, with over 50 newspaper representatives from Baltimore, Norfolk, Richmond, Charleston and Huntington, West Virginia, invited to the premiere.

New Film Council Is Launched in Chicago

CHICAGO, Dec. 22. — The Chicago Film Council has been formally organized by 70 representatives of film and other audio-visual users, producers and manufacturers in the Chicago area.

Officers elected for the first quarter of 1947 are: President, Ralph P. Creer, in charge of the motion picture division of American Medical Association; vice-president and program director, Wesley Greene, president of the International Film Bureau; secretary-treasurer, June M. Hamilton, director of the Film Workshop of the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. The Chicago Council will be affiliated with the Film Council of America, organized by seven national organizations in educational and 16mm. film.

Wein Heads Film Union in Cleveland

CLEVELAND, Dec. 22. — Local B-5, IATSE, at its annual meeting elected the following officers: President, John C. Wein; vice-president, George Sendry; financial secretary, Harry Lyman; recording secretary, Kitty Heisz; sergeant-at-arms, Justin Compton. Wein, who organized the union in 1937 and is now serving his sixth consecutive year as president, was also named business agent, a post he has held for the past five years.

The new executive board consists of Pearl Geib, George Sendy, Oscar Adelman, Rose Stephan, Gertrude Swee, Joe Bernstein, Henry Fosbender. John Wein and Pearl Geib were named delegates to the national convention, and Wein and Justin Compton will represent B-5 in the Cleveland Federation of Labor.

Reviews

"Lady Chaser"

(*Producers Releasing*)

ROBERT LOWERY is the dashing "chaser" of the title, and the lady, Ann Savage, playing the part of a blackmail artist, happens to be the elusive key to the solution of a murder in which the former's fiancee is deeply involved. Thus, Fred Myton lays the foundation for his screenplay which thereupon develops into a lively, melodramatic affair and a tailor-made job for the action trade.

Sigmund Newfeld's production, directed by Sam Newfield, exercises a certain amount of care in that the large doses of robust action, such as scrapping and the like, punctuate rather than interfere with the flow of the yarn.

Inez Cooper, Frank Fergusen, William Haade, Ralph Dunn and Paul Bryar are less prominently involved in the story, which has Lowery constantly flirting with sudden death in his attempts to find Miss Savage and wring from her the identity of the real murderer. It is played hard and fast all the way and the climax, while not too surprising, is quite acceptable.

Running time, 58 minutes. General audience classification.

GENE ARNEEL

"Great Expectations"

(*Cineguild-General Film Distributors—British*) *London, Dec. 22*

FIRST of a promised block of productions based on the works of Charles Dickens, "Great Expectations" is an outstanding triumph for all concerned in its making, and an infallible box-office proposition. Not the least of the achievements of producers Anthony Havelock Allen and Ronald Neame and director David Lean is that film-goers will come away from this one feeling that Dickens himself might have written the script. They have taken the dozen story threads of the original (any one of which is exciting enough to make a fine film) and have woven and interwoven them into a grand, spectacular, heart-warming whole.

Dickensians are familiar with the story of Pip, the poor country blacksmith's apprentice who, inheriting a fortune from a mysterious, annoymous benefactor, comes to London with "great expectations," and finds ultimately that the benefactor is none other than an escaped convict sentenced under England's harsh laws of a century ago to transportation to Australia. Non-Dickensians will marvel at the fertility of Dickens' tale-telling. The picture may well make Dickensians film-fans, and film-fans into Dickens addicts.

"Great Expectations" has, indeed, every ingredient of a great motion picture, namely, quick, urgent action, delicate sentimentality and bloodstirring suspense, all due not only to the integrity and sincerity of the script and tactfully imaginative direction, but also to the invariable immaculacy of the long cast of players, notably John Mills, as Pip; Valerie Hobson, his girl friend; Francis L. Sullivan, as the attorney; Alec Guinnes, and two child actors: Anthony Wager and Jean Simmons. It's a sure bet for all forward-looking showmen.

Running time, 118 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"Les Miserables"

(*Distinguished Films*)

HARRY BAUR, one of France's greatest actors, fell victim to one of the most brutal tyrannies ever to sweep across the earth. And it is fittingly ironic that Baur, who was marked for death before the Nazis occupied his native land, should have won immortality on celluloid through one of his deepest and most forceful characterizations in an equally immortal role: as "Jean Valjean," the brutalized victim of an oppressive society which jailed him for stealing a loaf of bread. Endowed with the gift of breathing reality and humanity into the grotesque and the tragic, Baur scored a cinematic triumph when this film was first produced more than 10 years ago. He still lives in this penetrating portrayal of the guilt-obsessed "Valjean," imprisoned within himself by a compulsion to expiate his original sin.

"Les Miserables," in this current version, which is set for Christmas Day showing at Brandt's Apollo in Manhattan, N. Y. C., and Atlantic Playhouse, in Brooklyn, is an integration of two films produced in pre-war France, one of which received an earlier showing in this country. The implacable "Javert," pursuing "Valjean" with indomitable doggedness, is played by Charles Vanel, who gives a fascinating performance as the embodiment of "Valjean's" relentless guilt, and Josselyne Gael, appearing as the "Fantine" and "Cosette," mother and daughter, the latter "Valjean's" ward, turns in a convincing performance in both roles.

The story, based, of course, on the Victor Hugo novel, is probably one of the most familiar to American motion picture audiences, since the Hollywood version, in 1935, brought Fredric March and Charles Laughton to the screen in the leading roles, the latter as the menacing police inspector.

Overlong though it may be, and suffering from lenient editing, this picture has much to commend it for it combines magnificent acting with periodic touches of excellent camera-handling, managing thereby to overcome defects in an old print. Since it synchronizes two individual productions, an uneven pace is to be expected, offering several anti-climaxes after the initial court scene. Devotees of the French film and of Baur particularly will enjoy it.

The earlier releases of "Les Miserables" were reviewed in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on April 1, 1935 (20th Century-U.A.), and Oct. 29, 1936 (Franco-American), both MPD estimates hailing the pictures as masterpieces. Produced by Pathe Consortium Cinema and directed by Raymond Bernard, the picture has English sub-titles which, as is usually the case, do not follow the French dialogue literally.

Running time, 200 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, Dec. 25.

IRVING KAPLAN

See Film Shipment Easing Occupation

A slight improvement in the motion picture situation in the European theatre of operations is anticipated momentarily, according to the U. S. Army Theatre Special Services, which announces that a shipment of film is due at Bremerhaven, Germany, containing twenty-seven different titles. To dispatch the shipment with utmost speed on to Frankfurt from where it will be forwarded to film exchanges throughout the European theatre, a courier has been posted at Bremerhaven.

Approximately $338,000 in motion picture coupon books were sold in August and September by the Army Exchange Service, the Special Services branch reports. Almost 245,000 persons attended showings of 16 mm. films in the European theatre for the week ending Nov. 22, with 35mm. films playing to 180,320 for the same period, the report revealed, adding that with the opening of a new 35mm. theatre at Kulmbach the total of these houses now stands at 113.

Mexican Film Labor Issue Seen Revived

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 22.—Upsetting a ruling by ex-President Camacho who, as umpire in a jurisdictional dispute between the National Cinematographic Industry Workers Union and the Picture Production Workers Union, declared that the former could participate only in the production of newsreels, factual films and other short subjects, the First District Court here has decreed that the Union could participate in the production of feature motion pictures. Under the Camacho decision the Picture Production Workers Union, which is expected to appeal the District Court's ruling to the Supreme Court, enjoyed exclusive rights to provide labor for the production of features.

Hayward in Two Picture Deal with E-L

Eagle-Lion Films has signed Louis Hayward to a two-picture starring contract. Bryan Foy, vice-president in charge of E-L production, who concluded negotiations with Hayward, yesterday revealed that the actor's first assignment will be a co-starring role with Joan Leslie in "Repeat Performance," scheduled to go before the cameras Dec. 26.

"Repeat Performance" is said to be the highest budget picture to be scheduled by Eagle-Lion since the company's formation several months ago, $1,500,000 having been set for this production, which will be directed by Alfred W. Werker.

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'Outlaw'

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the division, in disclosing the decision which was under consideration for more than a month, declared that the legal consultants of the board did not feel that the advertising samples submitted, basis of Fielding's arguments, fall within the jurisdiction of the board.

Since the statements submitted by Fielding through the New York corporation counsel did not touch on the motion picture itself, Bowen continued, the film division confined itself only to the advertising point raised by the city official, who contended that the nature of the advertising was obscene and immoral.

The question of whether "The Outlaw" will be exhibited in New York City, where it was originally scheduled to begin its run Oct. 26, remains unsolved, however, with two court cases still pending in New York Supreme Court. One is United Artists' proceeding for a permanent injunction to enable exhibition of the film at the Gotham, Rialto and Republic, as scheduled before Fielding and Police Commissioner Arthur Wallander blocked fulfillment of the contract by advising Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer that they would be subject to prosecution and revocation of their licenses if they went ahead with the showing.

Also before the court is a suit instituted by Hughes Tool Co., owner of the motion picture, to secure a declaratory injunction against Wallander and Fielding to prevent them from "threatening to revoke the operators' licenses" before conviction of any crime or misdemeanor, and also for definition of the police and license commissioners' powers under the city statutes. Both cases are scheduled for January hearing.

Edward C. Raftery, president of UA, and Fielding were unavailable for comment, but spokesmen for the attorneys handling the UA and Hughes suits declared that they were "naturally delighted with the decision by the film division because it vindicates our position." They withheld further comment on the ruling until they receive official notification of the division's action.

A spokesman for the city corporation counsel's office expressed surprise over the decision.

Table Connolly Bill On Licenses Here

The New York City Council's committee on general welfare has put aside for some future meeting Councilman Eugene P. Connolly's bill designed to prevent the city license department from acting against exhibitors unless a conviction has first been obtained for showing films of a questionable moral nature, committee chairman Samuel S. DiFalco reports.

The bill, which would amend the city's administrative code, and on which city license commissioner Benjamin Fielding has declined to comment, is said to have arisen out of the still-unsettled court dispute over the exhibition in New York of Howard Hughes' "The Outlaw." Fielding has petitioned the state motion picture division to revoke the film's license because advertising pertaining to it has been "indecent and immoral." Hughes interests and UA, the film's distributors, have brought court action to compel New York showings.

Scroll to Allen Dec. 29

Presentation of the MOTION PICTURE DAILY-*Fame* radio award to Fred Allen, originally scheduled for his NBC program of last night, has been postponed to his Dec. 29 show.

Selznick Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

Pickford and the Pickford Corp. for damages of $6,000,000, alleging "that they maliciously conspired to deprive Selznick's company of a distribution agreement executed in October of 1942 for selfish purposes of their own which will be revealed"; and,

In Federal Court, against United Artists, of which Vanguard, Chaplin and Miss Pickford are each one-third owners, seeking damages of $7,500,000. "This action," the announcement said, "has to do also with the distribution contract and claims deliberate and wilful mishandling of Selznick's productions, including the sale of weaker product of other producers on the strength of Selznick's pictures."

The Vanguard statement claimed that "both Miss Pickford's and Chaplin's actions, over a period of two years, against the Selznick interests have been strongly resisted by the management of United Artists, which repeatedly stated the necessity of retaining the high quality and high grossing Selznick's product"; adding: "The management repeatedly advised Miss Pickford, Chaplin, and their representatives that there was no merit to their claim that Selznick or Vanguard had violated their contracts by turning over to 20th Century-Fox and to RKO stories and scripts which Selznick had abandoned, as provided for in his distribution agreements, because he did not think them up to his standards; that the agreements also provided for Vanguard's and Selznick's right to lend producers, directors and players to other studios."

It was stated by Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard, that the advancement of claims of violation on the part of Vanguard and Selznick were specious, a "red herring" used by Miss Pickford and Chaplin to serve their own ends, and that the "meretricious" nature of the claims was demonstrated by depositions already taken from the UA management and from Sir Alexander Korda, a former stockholder of the company, who negotiated the original Vanguard and Selznick agreements jointly with Edward C. Raftery, Chaplin and Miss Pickford. O'Shea said depositions will be taken from Miss Pickford and Chaplin.

He stated that attempts had been made to settle the situation through offers made to Selznick and Vanguard, starting at $1,000,000, and that recent attempts had been made by the management of UA to bring about a peaceful settlement through an accession by Selznick and Vanguard to Miss Pickford's demands concerning her own productions.

Simultaneously, Selznick issued a statement charging that Miss Pickford and Chaplin "had not contributed anything of appreciable value to the company for years."

Efforts to reach United Artists home office executives for comment on the Selznick action and statement were unsuccessful.

Philadelphia Decree

(*Continued from page* 1)

New York Federal District Court had stressed the "show-case" right in its June 11 opinion in the Government's anti-trust suit against the industry, some of the counsel appeared inclined to interpret Judge Kirkpatrick's ruling in the same light—inasmuch as expressions made by him during the trial, as well as inferences inherent in his written opinion, held that a distributor should not be forced to offer product away from its own theatres. That his decree itself, however, failed to actually offer this protection was unquestioned.

The decree restrains the distributors from "licensing their feature motion pictures for first-run performance in the city of Philadlephia to any one or more of the defendants without giving the plaintiff an opportunity to inspect and negotiate for said pictures equal to and in all respects the same as the opportunity afforded any other exhibitor."

The plaintiff previously had been rewarded $435,000 damages, representing $325,000 triple damages and $60,000 attorney fees. Interest of $90,000, since Dec., 1942, was denied.

Wilby-Kincey Holds Managers Meeting

CHARLOTTE, Dec. 22.—Wilby-Kincey Theatres Corporation theatre managers from four states held their first post-war Christmas party at the Hotel Charlotte, at the weekend. Approximately 150 managers from Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina, their wives and friends attended.

Argentina Cites Stars

Emphasizing the cultural importance of the recent goodwill tour of South America by Tyrone Power and Cesar Romero, the Argentine Chamber of Theatre, Cinema and Radio, meeting in special session, hailed the visit and declared that Argentina is looking forward to "future visits of American goodwill ambassadors to cement cultural ties and to spread enlightenment between the two countries," according to the 20th Century-Fox home office.

Philatelists Meeting

The first programmed meeting of the Cinema Stamp Collectors, new organization of philatelists in the industry, will take place Jan. 8 in the New York Museum of Science and Industry, Rockefeller Center, here, it is announced by president Nat Cohn. Harry Lindquist, president of the Centenary Exposition and publisher and editor of *Stamps* magazine, will speak.

M-G-M Releasing Two

M-G-M will release "The Show-Off," starring Red Skelton, with Marilyn Maxwell, and "The Secret Heart," starring Claudette Colbert with Walter Pidgeon and June Allyson, the latter part of this month. Both films have already been tradeshown in all territories.

Minnesota Theatre Burns

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 22.—Fire of undetermined origin burned the Renvilla, at Renville, to the ground, with loss estimated at $35,000. H. J. Landers was the owner.

Stoltz, PRC

(*Continued from page* 1)

Stoltz will function as assistant Lloyd L. Lind, vice-president and assistant general sales manager. A major portion of his duties will consi of the sale and promotion of a ne series of pictures which PRC wi announce within the next few days.

Stoltz has been in the industry fo more than 20 years, beginning with op eration of the Mission Theatre in Lo Angeles for Warner. He has b publicity director and advert manager of Warner and Loew Theatres and manager of Warner's Avon in Utica, N. Y., in which spot he won the "Quigley Silver Grand Award" for the best exploitation campaign of 1941.

In 1943, Stoltz was named national director of exploiation for United Artists and went to PRC as Eastern publicity manager in Feb., 1945.

Suit Against MCA Asks $3,000,000

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22.—Larry Finley, Mission Beach ballroom operator, has filed a Federal Court suit against the Music Corporation of America and its officials for $3,000,000, charging that MCA's action "depriving him of name bands" had caused him a loss of $1,000,000 in revenue since March 20, 1945. Finley, in asking treble damages, contends that the MCA gave a competitor exclusive call on top name bands. In a similar action last year Finley won a $50,000 judgment, later set aside by the court.

Sayles Testimonial

ALBANY, N. Y., Dec. 22. — Alex Sayles, manager of the Palace Theatre for the Fabian circuit during the past 12 years, will be given a dinner by the Albany Variety Club on Jan. 6. Sayles at one-time was general manager in Albany and Glens Falls for the late Christopher Buckley, who sold his local theatre holdings and transferred operations to Bennington, Vt. Sayles came into the motion picture business from newspapers.

22 Weeks for 'Henry'

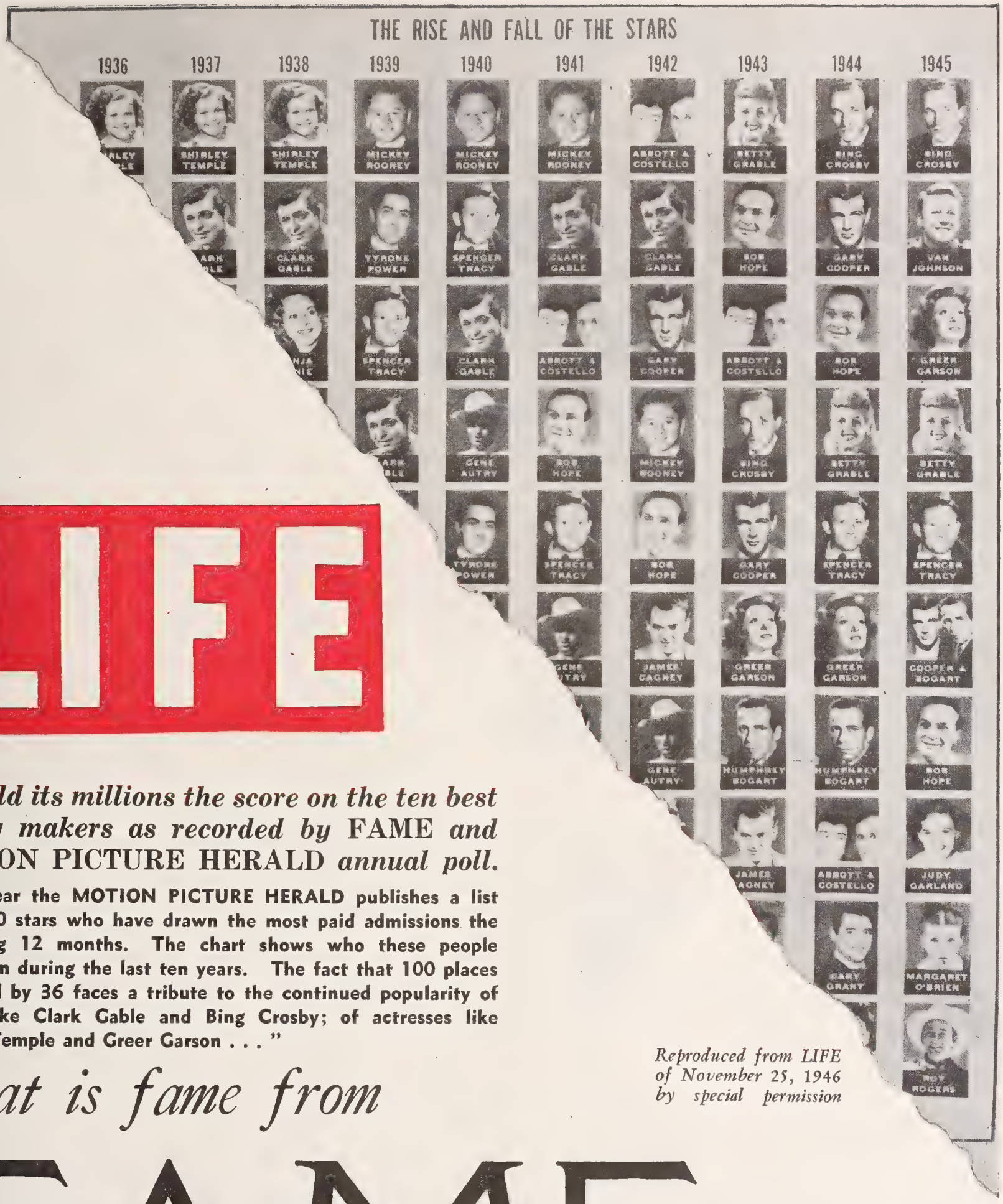
CHICAGO, Dec. 22.—"Henry V" will end its road-show run at the Civic Theatre on Jan. 4, after a total of 22 weeks, the longest of its kind in any legitimate theatre in Chicago. The lessors, John Wildberg and Joseph H. Curtis, have indicated that they are receptive to other road-shows. Universal's "Stairway to Heaven" is a candidate for the spot.

86 'Razor's' Bookings

A total of 86 key city bookings has been set on Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge" for the Christmas and New Year holidays, it was announced by Tom Connors, vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th Century-Fox. Of this number, 27 will open on Christmas Day, while the remainder will start their engagements on or just after New Year's.

WB Signs Bogart

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 22. — Humphrey Bogart has formally signed a 15-year contract recently negotiated with Warners.



LIFE

has told its millions the score on the ten best money makers as recorded by* FAME *and* MOTION PICTURE HERALD *annual poll.

"Each year the MOTION PICTURE HERALD publishes a list of the 10 stars who have drawn the most paid admissions the preceding 12 months. The chart shows who these people have been during the last ten years. The fact that 100 places are filled by 36 faces a tribute to the continued popularity of actors like Clark Gable and Bing Crosby; of actresses like Shirley Temple and Greer Garson . . . "

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VOL. 60. NO. 123 NEW YORK, U.S.A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 1946 TEN CENTS

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Names . . . in Today's News

JOSEPH BERNHARD, who several months ago sold his half interest in the new United States Pictures to his partner, Milton Sperling, yesterday purchased a "substantial interest" in Film Classics, headed by Edward L. Alperson. The interests which he acquired were those of Joseph Auerbach and Stillman, the latter the company's law firm. Whether he will actively participate in Classics has not as yet been determined.



Joseph Bernhard

Prior to forming United States Pictures, Bernhard was executive of both Warner Brothers theatre and film companies.

Danson Is Confirmed as PRC Advertising Chief

Harold L. Danson has been named director of advertising, publicity and exploitation for PRC Pictures, by Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager, confirming first mention of that possibility in MOTION PICTURE DAILY yesterday.

Danson comes from the Kayton-Spiero advertising agency, where he headed creative activities on the 20th Century-Fox account. Prior to that Danson spent 12 years with Paramount in executive advertising-promotion posts in New York and Hollywood. He was in charge of national exploitation and also served as assistant advertising manager and head of the studio advertising, trailer and radio transcription divisions.

Zimbalist Is Named Ad Head of Film Classics

Al Zimbalist has been named national director of advertising, publicity and exhibitor relations by Film Classics Pictures which now has 29 exchanges operating throughout the United States and Canada; and also

(*Continued on page 2*)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, Christmas Day and a legal holiday.**

Some N.Y. 1st Runs Improve; 'Clouds,' 'Lady,' 'Life,' Score

Business at some New York first runs jumped to more impressive levels this week, particularly those which brought in new product, while other situations have yet to emerge from the seasonal slump. Prosperity is, of course, looked for presently by all.

Still outstanding is "Till the Clouds Roll By," with the annual stage presentation at the Music Hall, where the third week's income, including tomorrow's holiday take, is expected to reach a huge $152,000. The theatre yesterday began operating on a new schedule for the holiday period, with the doors opening at 7:30 A.M. to allow for five complete shows.

"The Wicked Lady," according to Universal, is doing extremely gratifying business at the Winter Garden, where a total gross of $62,000 for the first week is said to be indicated. Nine shows are presented daily but this does not detract from the fact that $62,000 is a huge figure for the house.

"It's a Wonderful Life" made its debut at the Globe and the results are good. The first week promises to bring in a strong $40,000. Another newcomer, "Abie's Irish Rose," got off to a much slower start at the Goth-

(*Continued on page 6*)

Grant Gov't Appeal In Griffith Case

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—An order permitting an appeal to the Supreme Court in the Griffith Theatre's anti-trust case was signed in Oklahoma City today, according to word received by the Justice Department here.

The Government is appealing a decision favorable to the Griffith interests on the ground that the Griffith circuit was guilty of practices similar to those in the Crescent Theatres case, which the Government won in the Supreme Court.

The technical step of allowing the appeal was signed by Federal Judge Broadus.

'47 Variety Charity Goal: $2,000,000

St. Louis, Dec. 23.—William McGraw, executive director of the National Variety Club, in a talk before members of St. Louis Tent No. 4, said the club spent $1,500,000 for charity in the past year and expects to donate $2,000,000 in 1947.

See Month Delay in Selznick Suit Move

First defense action in the $13,500,000 damage suits brought by David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films against United Artists, Mary Pickford and Charles Chaplin, may be delayed until near the end of January, it was indicated here yesterday by a spokesman for defense counsel.

Although the suits were filed on Friday in California, the charges are not expected to be served on the defendants immediately, possibly not until after Jan. 1, and it is indicated that preparations of answers or motions to test the claims will require most of the statutory allowance of 20 days beyond that time. Attorneys here still were awaiting copies of the charges last night.

As reported yesterday in MOTION

(*Continued on page 7*)

Berger Sues Nine For $1,350,000

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—Suit for $1,350,000 damages has been filed in Federal District Court here against nine companies by the Duluth Theatre Corp. and the Lyceum Building Corp. of Duluth, charging the defendants with violating the Sherman and Clayton Anti-trust acts by conspiring to withhold first-run pictures.

Defendants include: Minnesota Amusement Co., Paramount Pictures, Loew's, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox, United Artists, Universal and Warner Brothers.

The complaining corporations, of

(*Continued on page 7*)

Merry Christmas

Para. May Buy Partnerships Under Decree

Would Seek to Increase Its Interests to 95%

In the event that that part of the New York Federal Court equity case opinion covering defendant companies' holdings in theatre properties is sustained, Paramount will endeavor to increase to the specified 95 per cent its interests in certain circuits with which the company is now affiliated on a partnership basis, an official of the company discloses.

The court's opinion, handed down June 11, directed that the producer-distributors may not hold more than five per cent or less than 95 per cent of any theatre concern. If this is to remain a part of the ultimate decree, Paramount would be

(*Continued on page 7*)

Final WAC Report Made by Schaefer

The final audit of the War Activities Committee of the motion picture industry was completed here yesterday, and showed a surplus of $83,086, it was announced by George J. Schaefer, WAC chairman. Of this sum, two-thirds was returned to George Borthwick on behalf of eight producer-distributors, and one-third to Leonard Goldenson, treasurer of the theatre di-

(*Continued on page 7*)

Services Thursday For Wm. J. Clark

Funeral services for William J. Clark, 54 short subjects and Movietone sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, who died on Saturday at the Lutheran Memorial Hospital, in Newark, will be held Thursday, at Brown's

(*Continued on page 7*)

In This Issue

"The Story of the Pope" and "The Man I Love" are reviewed on Page 6; key city grosses are given on the same page. "Mr. District Attorney" and "Heldorado" are reviewed on page 7.

In Today's News

(*Continued from page* 1)

of International Film Classics, which distributes throughout the world, it was disclosed here yesterday, by Jules K. Chapman, assistant general sales manager.

Emanuel Frisch Elected Treasurer of Randforce

Emanuel Frisch has been elected treasurer of the Randforce Amusement Corp., Brooklyn and Long Island circuit, by the board of directors, filling the post held for many years by his father, the late Louis Frisch.

The new treasurer went to the company in 1937 when he gave up the practice of law with the firm of Weisman, Celler, Quinn, Allan and Spett, with whom he had been associated. Shortly after joining Randforce, he was elected assistant treasurer and during the past few years gradually took over many of his father's duties.

Sidney Alexander Joins Ad Agency on Film Accounts

Sidney G. Alexander, formerly Eastern director of advertising and publicity of Selznick International-Vanguard Films, yesterday was named director of the motion picture division of the New York office of the advertising firm of Brisacher, Van Norden and Staff.

Alexander, who last week resigned his post with the Selznick organization, will also serve in his new affiliation as senior account executive. Prior to his Selznick affiliation, he was advertising manager of Columbia Pictures for four years.

Rank's Ealing Sets Six New Features

Six new films, the first of which will go into production shortly after Jan. 1, have been announced by the Ealing Studios in London, for distribution by the J. Arthur Rank Organization, as disclosed by the latter here.

The pictures include: "It Always Rains on Sunday," to be directed by Robert Hamer, from an original story by Arthur La Bern; "Against the Wind," to be directed by Charles Crichton. "Saraband for Dead Lovers," to be directed by Basil Dearden from the novel by Helen Simpson; "Toilers of the Sea," an adaptation of the Victor Hugo novel, to be directed by Cavalcanti. "Scott of the Antarctic," to be directed by Charles Frend, based on the epic expedition to the South Pole by Scott. "Eureka Stockade," to be directed and filmed in Australia by Harry Watt and to star Chips Rafferty.

$620,000 Aniline Bonus

More than 7,500 employes of the General Aniline and Film Corporation will share in a year-end bonus of approximately $620,000, it has been announced by George W. Burpee, president.

Personal Mention

NORTON V. RITCHEY, president of Monogram International, has returned to New York from Havana after installing M. J. MESSERI as Cuban representative.

•

DIXIE GRAHAM, manager of the Kay Film Exchange in Atlanta, announced that his son DIXIE, Jr., and MISS DORIS GWENDYLYN HILL, also of Atlanta, will be married this evening. MR. and MRS. GRAHAM, Sr., will also celebrate their 27th wedding anniversary this evening.

•

DANIEL J. LOVENTHAL of RKO's legal department and MISS DORIS ANN SULTAN of Associated Publications editorial staff will be married January 5.

•

GORDON SWARTHOUT, Paramount director of special events here, will spend the holidays in Fort Wayne, Ind.

•

JAMES R. BRAMLETT, for the past 30 years with Loew's in Atlanta, has been presented by the company with a diamond-studded service pin.

•

RALPH MCCOY, special representative of Eagle-Lion in Atlanta, has been visiting the Charlotte and Memphis branches.

•

SANDY KORN of the 20th Century-Fox home office advertising department returned to New York yesterday from a Canadian honeymoon.

•

HAROLD H. MALONEY, manager of Loew's Poli at Worcester, Mass., is recovering from illness.

•

GROVER PARSONS, PRC district manager in Atlanta, has been visiting Jacksonville.

•

NORMAN JACKTER, Columbia booker at Charlotte, has been promoted to salesman.

ARTHUR MAYER, operator of Rialto here, is en route back to New York from Europe which he toured on assignment for the Red Cross.

•

C. J. FELDMAN, Western sales manager for Universal, was in Salt Lake City from New York visiting BUCK WADE, exchange manager there, as was F. M. BLACK, district manager of Los Angeles.

•

CARL NEDLY, M-G-M branch manager at Salt Lake City, was host recently to HENRY TRIEDEL, district manager at Denver, and JACK KELLY, New York representative of the import department.

•

GEORGE PETER DEVINE, Universal-International salesman in Cleveland, was married Saturday to HELEN LOUISE DUDEK in the First Lutheran Church.

•

CHARLIE KARR, manager of the Martin Booking Office, Atlanta, and BEN HILL, UA publicity director, will spend the holidays in Dallas.

•

R. V. GRABER, special home office representative in Atlanta, has returned to New York.

•

W. A. FINNEY, southern district manager for Loew's Theatres, has left Atlanta for Daytona Beach, Fla.

•

LIONEL KEENE, veteran showman, has returned to Atlanta from Chicago and New York.

•

REX TAYLOR, Paramount eastern publicity pictures co-ordinator, is on a vacation trip through the Midwest.

•

HAL KEETER, PRC manager at Charlotte, is visiting in Dallas.

•

GEORGE ROSCOE, Columbia manager at Charlotte, has returned from Chicago.

KMTA Will Hold Several Meetings

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 23.—Regional meetings under the auspices of the Kansas-Missouri Theatre Association are contemplated under the new administration, beginning in January, the first to be held at Abilene, Kas.

The series in Kansas is planned to be completed before the convening of the state legislature of that state. Meetings in Missouri towns will follow. The exhibitor in each town where a meeting is held, will be chairman of the gathering in that town; a Kansas and a Missouri committee has been appointed to assist such local chairmen in his host and chairmanship functions.

Homer Strowig, president, and C. E. Cook, secretary, of the KMTA, will attend all regionals. The definite plans for the events were made by the board of directors, at a recent session in Kansas City.

Festive Air Brings Yule Coast Truce

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 23. — Hollywood slowed to holiday pace this afternoon. With Columbia shutting down until Thursday and other studios announcing cessation of work Tuesday noon, even strike activity hit new minimum as pickets and labor officials finished holiday shopping on Hollywood Boulevard. It was clogged with multitudes jamming every place of business except theatres.

Half-Day Today at Company Offices

Christmas parties will be in order this afternoon at many of the film company home offices. In consequence thereof—or simply because it is Christmas Eve—none of the home offices will be "open for business" this afternoon.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHO

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN Paramount presents 'TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST' ALAN LADD
IN PERSON JOEY ADAMS MARK PLANT TONY CANZONERI PAT ROONEY Victoria SCHOOLS

Betty Hutton Sonny Tufts in "Cross My Heart"
A Paramount Picture
In Person! THE ANDREWS SISTERS LES PAUL & HIS TRIO Extra! TONY PASTOR And Band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Tender...brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

JAMES MASON MARGARET LOCKWOOD PATRICIA ROC in "The Wicked Lady"
WINTER GARDEN B'WAY AT 50TH
DOORS OPEN 9:00 A. M. TO 3:00 A. M.

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WHITE XMAS!

M-G-M's

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"

(Technicolor)

BIGGEST M-G-M BIZ IN HISTORY OF RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL. WATCH NATIONWIDE HOLIDAY DATES!

starring

VAN JOHNSON · JUDY GARLAND
FRANK SINATRA · JUNE ALLYSON
ROBERT WALKER · VAN HEFLIN
KATHRYN GRAYSON · DINAH SHORE
with Lucille Bremer · Lena Horne · Angela Lansbury · Tony Martin · Virginia O'Brien

M-G-M's

"THE SECRET HEART"

BREAKS ALL-TIME RECORD AT LOS ANGELES OPENING! WATCH CAPITOL, N. Y. AND ALL HOLIDAY OPENINGS

Claudette Colbert · Walter Pidgeon · June Allyson

M-G-M's

"THE YEARLING"

(Technicolor)

PRIZE PICTURE OF THE YEAR OPENING XMAS DAY, CARTHAY CIRCLE, L. A. TWICE DAILY. ALL SEATS RESERVED

Gregory Peck · Jane Wyman · Claude Jarman, Jr.

M-G-M's

"THE SHOW-OFF"

HOLIDAY HOWLS COMING!

Red Skelton · Marilyn Maxwell



MERRY! **MERRY!**

3 New Companies Organized Here

Formation of a new motion picture production company, "Two Continents Pictures," resumption of Academic Film Co., and organization of an export division by Miles Sherover to handle U. S. films for distribution in Europe and the Far East were announced here yesterday.

The export concern, to be known as Sherover Enterprises, has secured distribution and reissue rights for 34 Hollywood productions. Henry W. Kahn, who recently left the Motion Picture Export Association, is vice-president and general manager.

First formed in 1940 for production and distribution of a series of two-reel American history shorts on 16mm. Academic Film has been revived by its founders, Milton J. Salzburg and Harold Baumstone, who have resigned from their positions as president and vice-president, respecitvely, of Pictorial Films. Expansion of subject matter beyond purely educational material, to include features and short subjects and industrial films, is announced among the plans for Academic.

Two Continents, which will produce films here and in Europe, with English and foreign language versions, is headed by Paul Gordon, who recently completed "That We May Live." Albert D. Bottenstein is attorney.

Canada's Astral in Screencraft Sphere

TORONTO, Dec. 23.—I. H. Allen, president of Astral Films, here, announced today he had secured the Canadian franchise for 24 features from Screencraft Pictures, Inc., of New York, and will open Astral branch offices in Vancouver and Montreal.

His expansion program, Allen said, also includes appointment of Jerry Ostrow, formerly of Pittsburgh, as salesman out of the Toronto office. Ostrow is a brother-in-law of Paul L. Nathanson, former president of Odeon Theatres of Canada.

Apart from his Astral company, Allen recently became general manager for Canada of Foto-Nite Amateur Shows, after returning from New York where he completed the deal with Screencraft.

Dayton Owners' Unit Delays Election

DAYTON, O., Dec. 23.—The meeting of the new Dayton Theatre Owners Association, to elect permanent officers, has been postponed to the second week in January, due to holiday activities of exhibitor-members, according to James Curl, Salem Theatre manager, who is temporary chairman.

Monogram Meeting

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 23. — Discussions of 1946-47 sales, and screening of Roy Del Ruth's "It Happened on Fifth Avenue," will be among the features of a franchise holders' and branch managers' meeting which Monogram will hold here on Jan. 11-12.

Open - Door Policy At Academy Event

Hollywood, Dec. 23.—The Academy awards ceremonies will be open to the public for the first time when the 19th annual bestowal takes place on March 13 at the Shrine Auditorium. About half of the auditorium's 6,700 seats will be offered to the public for sale at an undetermined price, with a committee, headed by Mervyn Leroy, preparing an elaborate entertainment program.

The first 15 Academy Awards events were held in hotels, taking on banquet form, the next three being run off at the Chinese Theatre under wartime conditions. The decision to admit the public, which long has clamored for admittance, is attributed to the growth of the Academy membership, now nearing 1,700, which requires a larger seating capacity than is available in any hotel or theatre here.

Chicago Considers Entertainment Tax

CHICAGO, Dec. 23.—State assistance is a far better remedy for the financial ills of Illinois municipalities than a tax levy against entertainment, according to Alderman James B. Bowler, whose views were given to members of Chicago's city council finance committee, which reopened a proposal of an entertainment tax levy this week.

Pointing out that cities and villages in Illinois have never before made a united demand for the state to share the occupational tax, Bowler declared the state government could solve current problems by affording relief to all villages and cities. Answering demands by Alderman Frank Keenan for a tax against amusement places, Bowler said he is opposed to "placing a tax on poor kids and their parents going to a show."

Meanwhile, the city is proceeding with plans for securing cooperation of all state municipalities in a program requesting the state to share funds derived from the state sales tax.

Fisher Heads Sales For E-L of Canada

TORONTO, Dec. 23. — Frank H. Fisher has resigned as Western division manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, to become general sales manager of Eagle-Lion of Canada, effective Jan. 2.

President Earl Lawson of Odeon has not yet appointed a successor to Fisher.

'Bobys' Services Today

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23.—Services for Moses Philip, 48 (known in the trade as "Phil Bobys"), veteran salesman for the local M-G-M exchange, will be held at Danzansky's Funeral Parlors here tomorrow afternoon. Philip died yesterday of a heart attack at Emergency Hospital, where he had been in an oxygen tank for a week. Surviving is his widow, Mrs. Jean Pearl Philip.

MPA's Educational Films Get Underway

The Motion Picture Association's program of seven educational films which it will produce at a cost of $100,000, finally is underway, months after the plan, as originally announced by MPA president Eric A. Johnston, was to materialize.

The matter of having the number of educators interested in the idea come to an agreement on the subjects and manner of presentation caused the delay. At present, two films are in production. The remaining five have yet to be set. Hand-drawn illustrations will be depicted in the films.

The purpose of this first MPA participation in production, as Johnston announced, is to encourage more extensive visual education and the production of better and more educational pictures by producers in that field.

Variety Artists to Hold 1st Convention

The American Guild of Variety Artists, having reached the point of stability where autonomy has been returned to it by the AAAA, will hold its first national convention in Chicago shortly after Jan. 1, with more than 250 delegates expected to attend, according to Matt Shelvey, national director.

On the agenda are: adoption of a constitution and by-laws and election of officers, plus choosing of a 45-man board of directors. Scheduled also is completion of the streamlining of the organization through the elimination of the Chicago, Philadelphia, and Pittsburgh locals.

On the AGVA's 1947 program of aims, Shelvey states, are: a 20 per cent increase in the basic minimum wages of chorus lines and some classes of principals, establishment of a six-day week for a chorus in traveling shows, correction of the "unpleasant and unhealthy dressing-room situation," elimination of the compulsory "mixing evil" and franchising of line producers.

Paramount to Build New Exchange

CINCINNATI, Dec. 23.—Included in Paramount projects being prepared by local architects is a film exchange building to be constructed on Central Parkway as soon as building conditions permit.

The same architects are developing plans for a 2,000-seat theatre at nearby Hamilton, a 700-seat house at Clyde and another with a 1,000 seating capacity at Bellevue, for Northio Theatres, Paramount subsidiary, with headquarters here.

Key West Ordinance Hits Sunday Showing

KEY WEST, FLA., Dec. 23.—Enforcement of a city ordinance dating back to Oct., 1913, will affect motion picture houses, providing for operation only after six P.M. on Sundays and also requiring theatres to pay 20 per cent of its net proceeds from this performance to a local charitable institution. City Manager O. J. S. Ellington has announced that he will carry out "strict enforcement" of the "Sunday blue law."

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 23

FREDERICK DE CORDOVA has been assigned to direct "The Wallflower," Warners' version of the Broadway play by Mary Orr and Reginald Denham. The picture is scheduled to start within a few weeks, with Joyce Reynolds and Robert Hutton in starring roles. Alex Gottlieb will produce. . . . Jacques Tourneur has been engaged to direct "Babylon Revisited," the F. Scott Fitzgerald story which will be produced by Artists Alliance for United Artists release.

•

Thirteen-year-old Richard Tyler, currently appearing in the Moss Hart stage play, "Christopher Blake," has been signed by Eagle-Lion for a major role in the Louis Bromfield story, "Kenny," which Bryan Foy will produce personally. . . . Monogram producer Lindsley Parsons is back in Hollywood after four weeks in Louisiana, where he headed a production unit at work on the studio's forthcoming film biography of Gov. James Davis.

•

Max Ophuls, French director, has been signed to a long-term, joint contract by Universal-International and Douglas Fairbanks, Jr. Ophuls' first assignment will be "The Exile," which Fairbanks will produce, and in which he will also star in the title role. . . . "Sea of Darkness," novel by George Adams, has been purchased by Republic and assigned to Alfred Santell, who will produce and direct. . . . Actor Dick Simmons has been signed to a new long-term contract by M-G-M.

•

Lou Appleton, Jr., and Bernard Small have been signed by Columbia to produce two "Bulldog Drummond" features yearly under the banner of Venture Pictures. . . . Although the official Academy award nominations have not yet begun, the citizens of Kirk Douglas' home town, Amsterdam, N. Y., have launched a pre-election campaign urging his nomination for an award, as a result of his performance in Hal Wallis' Paramount production, "The Strange Love of Martha Ivers."

•

Helene Thimig, currently working in Monogram's "High Conquest," has been invited by the Austrian government to head the state drama school at Schoenbrunn Castle. She will journey to Vienna in the spring to take charge of the school. . . . United States Pictures has purchased "Nothing but the Night," a murder mystery by Roy Huggins. It will be added to the company's 1947 production schedule for release through Warners.

•

Louis Hayward has been signed to a two-picture contract by Eagle-Lion. His initial assignment will be a co-starring role with Joan Leslie in "Repeat Performance." . . . "The Black Hat," original screenplay by Ladislas Fodor, has been acquired by Enterprise for production next season. . . . Allyn Joslyn will have a top comedy part in RKO Radio's forthcoming musical, "If You Knew Susie," starring Eddie Cantor and Joan Davis.

Joseph Robin, 57, Industry Engineer

PALISADES, N. J., Dec. 23.—Funeral services were held here today for Joseph E. Robin, 57, president of the supply and theatre equipment export company which bears his name, who died Saturday at his home here. Burial was in Englewood.

A member of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers and Theatre Equipment Supply Manufacturers Association, Robin was one of the organizers and a former executive secretary of the Independent Theatre Supply Dealers of America.

He was formerly sales manager of the old Simplex Projector Co. and president of the Strong Projection Lamp. At the time of his death he was vice-president of Imperial Electric Co. of Akron, Ohio, which manufacturers the Robin "Imperiol" motor generator.

Robin leaves a widow and two sons.

Operated upon earlier this year, Robin had recently returned from a business trip to Mexico. Many of his associates in the motion picture industry, spearheaded by Oscar Neu, president of TESMA, attended the services today.

Among them were Frank E. Cahill, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Ashcraft, Ted Hall, Benny Perc, George Hornstein, Jack Wuhrman, Martin F. Bennett, Dave Joy, Paul Reese, Frank Homeister and Barney Schultz.

Weigh Offers to Buy Steffes Properties

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—Offers for the purchase of the World and Alvin theatre properties of the late Al Steffes, located in the Minneapolis Loop, are being considered by the trustee and a deal may be consummated at an early date, according to reliable sources.

Action of Steffes' widow last week in renouncing the will and accepting a widow's dowery, which under the law gives her one-third of the estate, paved the way for a quick deal to wind up the trusteeship and divide the proceeds among the other 34 heirs.

It is understood that under the terms of Steffes' will, the Alvin property was left to the widow, with a provision the property could not be sold while she lived. The property is under lease to Minnesota Amusement Co., with about two years yet to run. It is currently sub-leased to operators of a burlesque show. The World was left to the heirs, with Al Hutch, a cousin to Steffes, named as administrator and vested with powers to either continue operation of the house or to sell it and divide the proceeds with the heirs under terms contained in the will.

Legion Ratings for 10 Additional Films

Columbia's "The Fighting Frontiersman"; Chapel Films' "The Story of the Pope," and 20th Century-Fox's "13 Rue Madeleine" have been classified A-I by the National Legion of Decency. An A-II rating was given "The Fabulous Suzanne," Republic; "It's a Wonderful Life," RKO Radio; "The Return of Monte Cristo," Columbia; "Sea of Grass," M-G-M, and "Stairway to Heaven," Universal.

United Artists' "Abie's Irish Rose," and Superfilm's "Bridge of Sighs" (Italian) were placed in Class B.

PRC to Release 15 Films in Early '47

With 15 pictures scheduled for national release by March 15, two of which will be distributed in early January and 10 now in various stages of editing, PRC will start the new year in the strongest product position in company history, Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager, announced here yesterday.

Shipped this week for January release were "The Devil on Wheels" and "Wild Country." Motion pictures in the cutting rooms are: "Swamp Angel," "Born to Speed," "The Return of Rin Tin," "Philo Vance Returns," "Philo Vance's Gamble," "Range Behind the Blue," "West to Glory," "Law of the Lash," "Three on a Check" and "Lighthouse." At least four of these will be released nationally during February.

Currently in production are: "All in the Game," "Border Feud" and the third in the Philo Vance Series, as yet untitled. In preparation for production in early 1947 are: "Hollywood Hi," "Girls' Camp," "Matteawan," the fourth and fifth in the Philo Vance series and several Eddie Dean outdoor musical adventures and Al La Rue-Al "Fuzzy" St. John series of action Westerns.

City Plans Appeal On Film's License

New York city corporation counsel John J. Bennett and his aides are preparing to draft an appeal to the State Board of Regents, parent of the motion picture division of the State Education Board, following an announcement by license commissioner Benjamin Fielding that he would take an immediate appeal from the rejection of the city's attempt to have the license of "The Outlaw" revoked. The ruling by the censors, enunciated last Friday by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director, held to a narrow interpretation of the Regents Board statute in declaring that its jurisdiction of a film on the ground of "objectionable advertising," basis of the city's move, was "limited to posters, banners or other similar advertising."

It was also learned yesterday that the decision would in no way affect the status of the Howard Hughes' production in New York city. Withdrawn from scheduled showing in October after Fielding and police commissioner Arthur Wallander indicated they would revoke the licenses of Harry Brandt and Arthur Mayer, operators of the Rialto, Gotham and Republic, if the film were exhibited, "The Outlaw" will not be shown unless the two court suits instituted by United Artists and Hughes to lift the threat of revocation of the exhibitors' licenses are successful, according to Brandt.

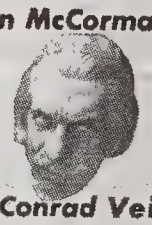
20th Will Reissue 'Les Miserables'

The current reissue of "Les Miserables," produced by Darryl Zanuck in 1935 for the old 20th Century Co., for release through United Artists at that time, has been placed on the 20th Century-Fox release schedule for next month. Fredric March and Charles Laughton star in the film.

CALL 'EM
re-releases...
re-issues...re-presentations
we call 'em Terrific!



WINGS OF THE MORNING
GLORIOUS TECHNICOLOR
Annabella · Henry Fonda · John McCormack



UNDER THE RED ROBE
Annabella · Raymond Massey · Conrad Veidt



FAREWELL AGAIN
Flora Robson · Leslie Banks



SOUTH RIDING
Ann Todd · Glynis Johns



DINNER AT THE RITZ
Annabella · David Niven · Paul Lukas



ACTION FOR SLANDER
Ann Todd · Clive Brook



DARK JOURNEY
Vivien Leigh · Conrad Veidt



GREEN COCKATOO
ORIGINAL RELEASE!
Rene Ray · John Mills

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AND THEY'RE YOURS NOW!
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DEVONSHIRE FILMS COMPANY
185 Devonshire Street, Boston 10, Mass.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CINCINNATI

Considering the Christmas-shopping competition and a heavy first snow of the season, grosses are holding up fairly well. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 24-27:

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) — RKO ALBEE (3,300) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) — RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from Albee. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $10,000)

BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW (Col.) and GUN TOWN (U)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 4 days. Gross: $1,500. (Average: $1,600)

MR. HEX (Mono.) and GALLOPING THUNDER (Col.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c) 3 days. Gross: $1,000. (Average: $1,100)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—RKO GRANDE (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $8,000)

TEMPTATION (U) — KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue) and SUN VALLEY SERENADE (20th-Fox reissue)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $5,000)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $15,000)

THE CHASE (UA) — RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week on a moveover from Palace. Gross: $4,000: $5,000)

BALTIMORE

The week before Christmas has brought its seasonal lull at box offices. Holdovers are not helping the situation. Weekend audiences, however, turned out in good numbers. Weather conditions have been favorable. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 24:

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M) — CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

THEY WERE SISTERS (U) — KEITH'S (2,409) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. Average: $12,000)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) — (1,800) (35c-44c-60c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,750)

THE VERDICT (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days. With stage show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE GREAT MR. HANDEL (English Films)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $3,500)

HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $6,000)

TORONTO

A variety of Christmas entertainment and the last shopping rush before the holiday cut deeply into theatre business. The weather has been milder than for the same period last year. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 25-26:

SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.) and THE UNKNOWN (Col.) — EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $3,200. (Average: $4,700)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) —IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,300. (Average: $14,300)

CROSS MY HEART (Para.) — SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $11,100. (Average: $14,600)

THE PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.) and CUBAN PETE (U)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $8,400. (Average: $11,400)

SO DARK THE NIGHT (Col.) and THE UNKNOWN (Col.)—VICTORIA (1,240) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $4,800. (Average: $6,800)

Holiday Greetings
from
FAVORITE FILMS CORP.
630 9th Ave., New York 19, N. Y.
Moe Kerman, Pres.

Reviews

"The Story of the Pope"

(Italian Centro-Chapel Films)

SECOND best to an actual visit to the Vatican and on-the-scene views of the impressive ceremonies performed therein is this feature documentary, which represents probably the most extensive coverage of the ruler of the spiritual Empire in his day-to-day functions.

An introduction by Francis Cardinal Spellman, narration by the Rt. Rev. Msgr. Fulton J. Sheen and scenes of recent Papal rituals have been added to the film which was first made in 1942 by Centro Cattalico Cinematografico, an Italian company, and then titled "Pastor Angelicus." The original played throughout Europe at that time with marked success. The new version is the property here of Chapel Films, headed by Bernard Brandt.

The title identifies the picture precisely. It takes into account, briefly, the boyhood of Eugene Joseph John Pacelli, with shots of the schools he attended, and follows with a still of the Pope at the time of his ordination to the priesthood. Newsreel material at this point brings into view Pope Pius when he was elevated to Cardinal and then Vatican Secretary of State. In this capacity he is seen at the Eucharistic Congress in Lourdes, France, in 1935, as well as at other functions around the world, including his visit to the United States.

The cameras for the most part are thereafter focused on the Vatican, where Pope Pius is seen giving Benediction to the faithful in huge St. Peter's Square, where obscure soldiers and workers as well as international figures visit to receive his blessings. The Papal Consistory of Cardinals is probably the most impressive of all scenes in the film. Here, as on other occasions in the film, the Sistine Choir lends beautiful choral background.

In its tour of Vatican City, "The Story of the Pope" further depicts the amazing art work of Raphael, the massive statues of saints which are considerably worn with age, and the architectural splendor of this great city within a city.

Monsignor Sheen's narration is an important contribution to the film, offering explanation of the significance of every ceremony on view, telling, where the picture cannot, of the wearying burdens which the Pope carried during the war.

In this instance the reviewer has given a reportorial, rather than a critical, account of a film suitability of which for any specific theatre probably must be determined by the exhibitor himself. The reviewer found the film deeply interesting in many instances and believes it will win many plaudits.

Running time, 65 minutes. General audience classification.

"The Man I Love"

(Warners Brothers) *Hollywood, Dec. 23*

IDA LUPINO is the principal marquee name with which to attract customers to this melodrama about a torch singer (in a sense it is a torch picture) which includes the presentation of the song from which it takes its title and five others in kind. The other five are: "Liza," "Why Was I Born?" "Bill," "Body and Soul" and "If I Could Be with You," and the performance of these famous favorites, mostly by Miss Lupino, furnishes the picture its best moments. Between these renditions it shuttles between four not very closely related stories, most of them adult in content. Other players of name importance are: Robert Alda, Andrea King, Bruce Bennett, Martha Vickers and Alan Hale.

The scene is Long Beach, Cal., where Miss Lupino, a nightclub singer, arrives on Christmas Eve to visit two sisters and a brother, all of whom she finds to be in difficulties of various kinds. In order to help them in various ways she takes employment in a nightclub operated by a character without character, holding him off the while. She also meets up with a former "hot-piano" player whose music she's long been in love with, and conducts an expedient romance with him which, as the picture closes, has promise of building into something permanent. A blonde friend of all hands gets killed while intoxicated in the wrong company, creating a bit of tension near the end of the story, but the torch singer saves this and all other situations.

The picture was produced by Arnold Albert, with Raoul Walsh directing, from a script by Catherine Turney, based on a novel by Maritta Wolff, adapted by Jo Pagano and Miss Turney. It is a sprawling tale, somewhat deliberately sordid as to incident and manifestly intended for adult audiences.

Running time, 97 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

WILLIAM R. WEAVER

ATLANTA

Christmas week theatre-going is helping business. The weather has been cold and fair. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 25:

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c) Gross: $18,000. (Average: $13,000)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) — PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-60c) Gross: $8,400. (Average: $8,200)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—ROXY (2,446) 55c-60c) 4th week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $5,800. (Average: $5,600)

THE KILLERS (U) — CAPITOL (2,446) (55c-60c) 2nd week on moveover from Fox. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $4,200)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics reissue) —LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,000.

N. Y. Grosses

(*Continued from page* 1)

am, which should take only a fair $15,000 for the week. "Cross My Heart," with the Andrews Sisters on the stage at the Paramount, is good for $80,000 in an initial week which ends tonight.

"The Best Years of Our Lives" is still strong at the Astor, with $45,000 anticipated for the fifth week. Dropping off from week to week, but still in the higher income bracket is "The Razor's Edge," at the Roxy, with Rosario and Antonio heading the vaudeville bill. The fifth week, ending tonight, probably will give the house about $85,000; the Roxy also has begun opening at 7:30 A.M. for the school vacation period.

"Undercurrent," with Frankie Carle's orchestra at the Capitol, will run one day short of four weeks to make way for "The Secret Heart," tomorrow. The show probably will take a mediocre $40,000 in its last six days. The third week of "My Darling Clementine" will bring the Rivoli an estimated $22,000 which is not too good.

"Song of the South" is good at the Palace, where $21,000 for the fourth week is slated for the books, while at the Criterion, "Magnificent Doll" drew an unimpressive $8,000, estimated, in the three days ending last night; it will be replaced today by "Temptation."

"The Verdict," with Vincent Lopez on the stage, is on its way to a $35,000 gross, for its final six days, which is about fair, and it will be succeeded Friday by "The Time, the Place, and the Girl." "Humoresque" will open at the Hollywood tomorrow, following "Deception" which, in its final five days of a 10th week, probably will take a relatively unimportant $7,500.

The second week of "Wanted for Murder" at the Victoria is running close to average, with $9,500 expected; it will be followed tomorrow by "The Beast with Five Fingers." "The Overlanders" at the Rialto is headed for a mildly favorable $8,000 in a first week; it will continue.

Balaban Gets 5-Year Contract for Roxy

A new five-year contract to retain A. J. Balaban as executive managing director of the Roxy Theatre, here, was signed yesterday with 20th Century-Fox, giving the company an additional three-year call on his services as consultant after 1951.

Conclusion of the agreement terminated the "up in the air" nature of Balaban's continued service in his capacity after the previous contract expired early this year. The pact was foreshadowed about a month ago by his purchase of a farm in upstate New York, despite Balaban's earlier arrangement to leave for Hollywood to head a new venture for the production of motion pictures, a cooperative enterprise which would amass the talents of six of Hollywood's top producers, writers and directors. The project would limit actual expenditures on pictures to $200,000. Whatever action Balaban will now undertake in that deal, he said yesterday, is undecided until after Jan. 1.

Loew New Year Shows

Special late New Year's Eve shows will be held at 64 Metropolitan New York Loew's Theatres, it was announced by Oscar A. Doob, general theatre executive of Loew's, Inc.

WAC Report

(*Continued from page* 1)

vision. The proportion of the money returned was predicated on the proportions contributed to the committee.

During the four years that the War Activities Committee operated as the industry's service instrument, expenditures totaled $2,111,706, of which $75[illegible]654 represented money spent nationally for various war loan campaigns; $620,908.98 represented expenditures for raw stock for the 16mm. gift-film program for members of the Armed Forces in combat areas; $93,290 represented the cost of producing and distributing for the State Department the film on the United Nations, entitled "Watchtower Over Tomorrow," and the balance of $638,852 covered all other direct expenditures of the organization.

Small Part of Total

The money spent directly by the WAC represented only a very small fraction of the total contribution made by the industry to the war effort through production of films for the OWI, the Armed Services and various war agencies; the distribution and exhibition of 77,387 prints of 177 subjects; 29,913 "Bond Premieres"; 42,661 "Free Movie Days"; theatre collections for various philanthropies totaling $36,874,436; 1,200 pages of advertising, and 20,000 columns of reading space for various drives. In addition, the gift of 43,189 feature prints on 16mm. film and 33,217 prints of short subjects for members of the Armed Services overseas represented a further contribution of more than $40,000,000.

The audit was made by Price Waterhouse.

Services for Clark

(*Continued from page* 1)

Home Service Parlor, Montclair, N. J.

Clark had been in the industry since 1921, when he started his film career as a salesman with Paramount. For the past 12 years he had been associated with 20th Century-Fox. Prior to that he was general manager for Paramount in India, Burma and Ceylon, eventually becoming managing director in Australia for the same company. Clark was a brother of the late John Clark, former vice-president in charge of distribution for 20th Century-Fox.

Surviving are a daughter, Diana Rita of New Zealand; a sister, Mrs. Jane Clark Johnston of Lansdowne, Pa.; a brother, Alexander C. Clark of Cleveland, and a half-brother, Richard M. Clark of Maplewood, N. J.

MGM to Use Device For Audience Poll

Analysis of audience reactions during the screening of a picture through use of the "Cirlin Reactograph," the tests to be conducted prior to completion of a final studio negative, has been announced by Howard Dietz, vice-president of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Recommended by M-G-M's motion picture research bureau after examination of several devices in the field, the "Reactograph," which will be set up at the company's West Coast studios, records a summation of individual and group reactions.

Screenings are followed up by detailed personal interviews to learn the factors involved in determination of the reaction.

Reviews

"Mr. District Attorney"

(*Columbia*)

Hollywood, Dec. 23

WITH the names of Marguerite Chapman, Dennis O'Keefe and Adolphe Menjou for the marquee, the added advertising value of the airshow of the same name, and a taut, convincing screenplay, it is hard to see how this melodrama can miss its modest mark.

Ruthlessly and with consummate skill, Miss Chapman, cast as a young lady with few inhibitions, kills four men who stand in the way of her ambition. That ambition is two-fold: she wants romantic love, and she wants a million dollars. Since she cannot find them both in the same man, she kills off the man with the money, and then suggests to the man with the romantic appeal that there is nothing to stand in the way of their happiness. By this time, however, he has come to the conclusion that marriage with so cold-blooded a murderess would have certain disadvantages. He spurns her offer, and makes it clear that he intends to turn her over to the "D.A.'s" office. Whereupon she attempts to kill him, too. This time her luck fails, and it is she who hurtles eight stories to her doom. Samuel Bischoff produced. Robert B. Sinclair directed, from a script by Ian McLellan Hunter, adapted by Ben Markson, from Sidney Marshall's original story.

Running time, 81 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, not set.

THALIA BELL

"Heldorado"

(*Republic*)

ALTHOUGH some of the acting in Roy Rogers' latest rough-house fiesta is a little below the usual standard in that department, the story and climax are really tops. And, as ever, the boys and girls seem to have a good time.

The handsome Roy, and his horse Trigger, are U. S. rangers out around Boulder Dam, to the disgust of George Gabby Hayes, who is not allowed to tack up posters, on Government property, for the "Annual Heldorado Week." Rogers, of course, agrees to take part in the week's singing and fancy riding, which he does most convincingly. Almost as convincingly he rounds up some thugs who have been passing some "hot" money. Dale Evans, who at least is pretty, hinders the chase well-meaningly, wearing a deputy sheriff's badge as queen of the celebration. Paul Harvey, John Bagni and Steve Darrell, the villains, get caught in the "Annual Herdorado Treasure Hunt," after they kill Barry Mitchell, one of their henchmen. Whenever the plot gets too thick, the Sons of the Pioneers start singing, with Bob Nolan especially good in a number called: "You Ain't Heard Nothin' Till You Hear Him Roar." Edward J. White was associate producer. William Witney directed from a script by Gerald Geraghty and Julian Zimet.

Running time, 70 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 15.

TOM LOY

'Horror' Films Meet Minneapolis Attack

MINNEAPOLIS, Dec. 23.—A campaign to eliminate horror films from the city's screens and radio "thrillers" from the air, with establishment of a "parents' clinic for reviewing objectionable films and broadcasts," is under way here under the direction of the Central Council of Parents and Teachers. The Council's executive board will consider preliminary plans for studying the effects of horror entertainment on children's health at its annual meeting on Jan. 7.

The drive is headed by Hugh E. Flynn, who said all information collected with be submitted to film and radio companies with requests for more wholesome type of entertainment for juveniles.

Goldman Elevated to PRC Exchange Mgr.

Mark Goldman has been named manager of the Cleveland exchange for PRC Pictures by Harry H. Thomas, president and general sales manager of the company.

Goldman has been with the PRC since Oct., 1945, when he joined the company as Boston sales manager. In April of this year he was transferred to the branch managership in Pittsburgh, which post he leaves to assume his new duties immediately.

See $1,560,000 Net For Philco in '46

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 23.—Operating earnings of Philco Corp. in recent months "have increased so substantially" that net income for the year should be "considerably in excess" of 1946 dividend payments, John Ballantyne, president, announces. This would indicate that net income this year will exceed $1,560,000. Philco's dividend disbursements for 1946 amounted to $1 a share on 1,372,143 common shares and $187,500 on the new 100,000 shares of three and three-quarter per cent preferred marketed in July, 1946.

Estimated results for all 1946 are in contrast to the loss suffered in the March quarter because of labor and other difficulties experienced by Philco's suppliers and the company's reconversion expenses. Net income for the September quarter amounted to $1,151,206, or 77 cents a common share. For the first nine months there was a loss of $20,478 after tax credits. Net for all 1945 amounted to $2,377,239, or $1.73 a common share.

Harries to Produce

HARTFORD, Dec. 23.—Harrison Harries, for many years associated with the motion picture industry, has formed Harrison Harries Productions, which will produce in both color and black and white.

Paramount Partners

(*Continued from page* 1)

particularly affected since it has such holdings amounting to close to $125,000,000 in about 1,000 theatres.

The company is now engaged in re-acquiring shares of its own common stock on the open market which would be used instead of actual cash in theatre buying. The company in recent years eliminated all funded debt and preferred shares: A total of 7,000,504 shares of common were outstanding before the company began bringing the stock into the treasury. It is understood that more than 40,000 shares have been taken in to date.

Rodgers Still With Para.

Frank Rodgers will continue in charge of Paramount theatre interests in Florida, in association with Fred H. Kent, according to a statement issued yesterday by Leonard Goldenson which confirmed MOTION PICTURE DAILY's report on Dec. 20 of Paramount's disposition of minority holdings in Florida State Theatres.

Selznick Suit

(*Continued from page* 1)

PICTURE DAILY, Vanguard last Friday filed a $6,000,000 suit in California Superior Court, alleging that Chaplin, Miss Pickford and the Pickford Corp. "maliciously conspired to deprive Selznick's company of a distribution agreement executed in October of 1942." A second suit, for $7,500,000, filed in the Los Angeles Federal District Court at the same time, makes charges against UA in connection with the same distribution agreement.

Vanguard, Chaplin and Miss Pickford each are one-third owners of UA. The suits are the outgrowth of a controversy that resulted in withdrawal of Selznick product from that company and the establishment of the independent Selznick Releasing Organization.

Berger Sues Nine

(*Continued from page* 1)

which Ben Berger is president, charge that the defendants refused to grant the Lyceum in Duluth licenses to show features until after they had been run at competing houses operated by Minnesota Amusement.

As a result, the complaint states, the Lyceum was forced to reduce prices and could not compete with other Loop theatres in Duluth. Losses in revenue since Aug., 1941, when the present management took over the house, allegedly amounted to $1,350,000, compared to a previous period when theatre was operated by Minnesota Amusement, it was contended.

Mono. Payroll Peak

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 23.—Monogram enters 1947 with the largest payroll in its studio history, with a new high of 865 personnel currently employed.

Merry Christmas
TO ALL OUR FRIENDS
IN THE INDUSTRY
EVERYWHERE
J. S. BERKSON - B. H. MILLS
AND STAFF



.... *keep your eye on* U·

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 124 NEW YORK, U.S.A., THURSDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1946 TEN CENTS

FILE COPY DO NOT REMOVE

Newspaper Ad Space Back to 85% of Normal

Regains 35% Over 50% Of Period of Shortages

Newspaper advertising space, which during the height of the newsprint shortage was down to less than half of normal in most sections of the country, is now back to 85 per cent of pre-war quotas and making further slow gains from week to week, a checkup discloses.

The pinch continues most severe among smaller cities and towns, where some papers claim they are not getting a fair deal

(*Continued on page 4*)

2,500 Pledges in For 'Dimes' Drive

More than 2,500 exhibitors in the United States and territories have to date pledged audience collections in their theatres for the March of Dimes drive, Jan. 24-30, according to Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the National

(*Continued on page 4*)

Longer Print Life Seen by SMPE; New Standards Set

Longer life for release prints and quieter operation in theatre booths are among 18 film-industry technological improvements included in as many new standards developed by sub-committes of the Society of Motion Picture Engineers, according to Donald E. Hyndman, who will be succeeded by Loren L. Ryder as SMPE president on Dec. 31.

The new standards, designed for the expanding foreign market as well as domestic operations, have been forwarded to the American Standards

(*Continued on page 4*)

MPA Program Succeeding

Despite scattered casualties in Albany, Cleveland and possibly a few other cities, the Children's Film Library program launched last September through the Motion Picture Association has grown steadily in popularity until it has now reached the point where practically all available prints of the 28 pictures offered by 10 distributors are in demand for special showings each Saturday through the country's 32 exchange

(*Continued on page 4*)

Rank Group Has 80 Ready and Coming

The various British producing companies in the J. Arthur Rank Organization have a total of 80 films either completed or in various stages, according to the Rank office here.

The list includes 10 pictures in current release, 13 ready for release, 15 being cut and edited, 10 in production and 32 in preparation.

Johnston Says Reds Export Communism

SPOKANE, Dec. 25.—"Russia's chief export is Communism," warned Eric A. Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Association, in an address at the annual banquet of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce on his arrival here from New York to spend the holidays.

Johnston portrayed the fears of the British people, as he saw them on his recent visit to London, where the spires, he said, had been "chilled by two cold winds—one from the West carrying the threat that depression in America might involve Britain and the other a blast from the East, where the long, red fingers of Communism are reaching out from Russia as it expands territorially and ideologically.

Film Industry Gets Warning On Its Exports

Congressman Threatens Bill on the Subject

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—Unless the film industry is more careful about the kind of films it sends to overseas markets, attempts will be made to regulate this situation by legislation, according to Rep. Eugene Worley (D., Tex.).

Worley, chairman of the House subcommittee which conducted hearings on the motion picture industry's export situation, threatened to introduce a bill on the subject.

He charged that some nations get the impression "we are all gangsters" from the features we send them. In this connection, Worley pointed particularly to Australia, where he claimed Hollywood should do something to provide a better balance of pictures.

Sarnoff Sees Video In Theatres in 1948

If industrial unrest is ended and the flow of basic components is increased, 1947 holds promise of being America's first major television year, according to David Sarnoff, president of the Radio Corporation of America, in his annual review of developments of radio and television in 1946 and analysis of the prospects for the new year.

A potential market for radio-phonographs and television receivers exists in the seven to 10 million new homes which may be built during the next 10 years, Sarnoff added.

Sarnoff expressed the view that in 1948 electronic color television as developed by Columbia Broadcasting will be practicable for large-scale theatre screens around the country.

Argentina Will Probe Admissions

By NATALIO BRUSKI

Buenos Aires, Dec. 21 (By Airmail). — The Chamber of Deputies has approved a plan for the supervision of admission prices at theatres. A request has been passed to the Secretary of Industry and Commerce to investigate average admissions charged throughout the country. These prices presumably will be used as a basis for maximum admissions to be set.

The office also will investigate reasons given for increased admissions, exploitation methods used by distributors and exhibitors, and other matters. Once the investigation has been made, violators of municipal rulings and other legal dispositions regarding the industry will be punished.

Building Code Report Going to Legislature

Theatres throughout New York State, subject at present to no statewide building code, may become so as the result of studies recently completed by a joint legislative committee, under the chairmanship of Senator-elect William Condon of Yonkers. The group, named to survey the need for such a code, has completed its deliberations and will submit its report soon after the Legislature convenes on Jan. 7 or 8, according to a spokesman for Condon.

Unlike the present building code, enforced by state industrial commissioner Edward Corsi, the new one would be applicable, either on a voluntary or recommendation basis, to the 16 cities which have codes of their own. These include New York, Binghamton, Buffalo and Rochester.

Also envisioned by the committee, as another departure from present practice, is inclusion in the code of compulsory standards regarding the composition and strength of building materials. The code now in existence covers such features as the number of exits and fire escapes but does not extend to materials.

Senator Condon's committee, which has held extensive hearings, includes: Assemblymen Ernest I. Hatfield, Dutchess County; Nathan A. Laskin, Bronx, and Malcolm Wilson, Westchester; also Senators Paul Fino, Bronx, and Edmund P. Radwan, Buffalo, Edwin J. Freeman, White Plains, is committee counsel, while William J. Picard, Albany, serves as architectural consultant.

In this Issue

"Dead Reckoning" and "Alias Mr. Twilight" are reviewed on Page 10; "School for Secrets," "The Lone Wolf in Mexico" and "Murder in Reverse" on Page 11. Key city grosses are given on Pages 9 and 11.

Personal Mention

PAT CASEY, producers' labor representative in Hollywood, has arrived in New York to spend the holidays.

•

LESLIE EMERSON has been named manager of the Kurzon Theatres' Regal in Franklin, N. H., replacing ED O'CONNELL, who left to become manager of the Newington Theatre, Conn.

•

ELMER C. RHODEN, president of Fox Midwest in Kansas City, has been appointed head of a citizens' organization to lead a campaign for a combined city, county and school bond election in the spring.

•

SHIRLEY M. RACKLER, of Quigley Publications' accounting staff, will be married Saturday to MILTON J. WEISS. The couple will honeymoon in Atlantic City.

•

LT. JOE WILLIAMS, who has returned from his assignment with the Army of Occupation in Germany, will soon return to his old post as treasurer of the Fox Theatre, Atlanta.

•

EMIL BOURCART, president of Western Hemisphere Films of New York, French film import and distributing company, is scheduled to arrive here by plane tomorrow from Paris.

•

GODFREY WINN, British author and lecturer, who is under contract to the J. Arthur Rank Organization, has arrived in New York to lecture.

•

SAM GEORGE, former relief manager of the Georgia theatres city circuit, is back at his old past as manager of the Paramount in Atlanta.

•

HELEN ALLEN STARR has resigned from her post as secretary for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, in Atlanta, to join her husband in Germany.

•

PERRY SPENCER, Universal's Atlanta publicist, and his wife are spending the Christmas holiday in Havana, Cuba.

•

TED HAMMER and FRANK SOULE home office representatives of PRC in Atlanta, are in Charlotte.

•

HAL HORNE, Story Productions, has arrived in New York from the Coast.

•

LEO PILLOS, Columbia exploiteer, will leave New York today for Norfolk.

•

TOM GRADY, M-G-M master-booker, is visiting the Atlanta office.

Hart Play to Warners

Jack L. Warner, executive producer of Warner Brothers discloses by cable from Paris that motion picture rights to the new Moss Hart play, "Christopher Blake," have been acquired by his company.

Film Classics Gets 24 Korda Reissues

Film Classics has acquired exclusive U. S. and Canadian distribution rights to 24 films produced by Sir Alexander Korda and formerly released by United Artists.

First to be released under the pact will be "Thief of Bagdad," which has been set for the Victoria Theatre here. Following "Thief" into national release will be "Lydia," "That Hamilton Woman" and "The Return of the Scarlet Pimpernel."

All of the Korda productions will be released with a new line of lobby displays and posters, advertising mats and publicity material through National Screen Exchanges, which will also produce and provide a new trailer for each feature.

Film Classics is in the process of closing negotiations for additional high-budget product, according to a company spokesman.

MPA to Pick Export Viewing Group Soon

Selection by the Motion Picture Association of a committee to "screen" films with a view to recommending appropriate ones for export to the American occupied areas of Germany and Austria, and possibly for export generally, will be made immediately after Jan. 15, according to Gerald M. Mayer, newly appointed director of the MPA's international division.

Mayer plans to return on that date from Hollywood. He is scheduled to leave New York for the Coast tomorrow.

Vining to Represent MPEA in Germany

Robert E. Vining, assistant to president Eric Johnston of the Motion Picture Export Association, will sail for Europe tomorrow on the *S.S. America* to assume his duties as newly-appointed MPEA representative in Germany. Vining, who succeeds Morris Goodman to the post, will confer with Irving A. Maas, MPEA vice-president and general manager, in Paris before proceeding to Berlin.

Services Today for William J. Clark

Funeral services for William J. Clark, 54, short subjects and Movietone News sales manager for 20th Century-Fox, are to be held today at Brown's Home Service Parlor, Montclair, N. J. Clark died Saturday at the Lutheran Memorial Hospital, in Newark.

Columbia Charity Film

One of the first shorts to be produced next year for Columbia by Ralph Staub will dramatize the three major charitable institutions established by and for show business. They are the Motion Picture Country Home in the San Fernando Valley, the actors' home at Saranac Lake, N. Y., and the Variety Club near Dallas.

Henry Heads Orient Area for Paramount

Appointment of F. C. Henry as division manager in Japan, Korea, China, the Philippines, Indo-China, Siam, the Straits Settlements, the East Indies, Burma and India, has been announced by George Weltner, president of Paramount International. A commander in the naval reserve, Henry went to Shanghai as district manager for China, Japan, the Philippines and Indo China, early this year and flew into New York last weekend for home-office conferences.

Henry has been an overseas representative for Paramount for the past 15 years.

Lager and Margolis Head Bookers' Club

The Motion Picture Bookers Club of New York has elected the following:

President, Oscar Lager, Moses Circuit; first vice-president, Harry Margolis, Loew's; second vice-president, Lou Wolff, Brandt Theatres; secretary, Lucille Tannenbaum, Century; financial secretary, Jean Slade, RKO; treasurer, Ted Krassner; trustees, Jack Birnbaum, Randforce, Jack Perley, Paramount; board of directors, Alec Arnswalder, Loew's; Archie Berisch, Warner; Edward Seider, Prudential; George Trilling, Fabian; sergeant-at-arms, Max Fried.

FCC Asks CBS to Show Its Video

WASHINGTON, Dec. 25.—The Federal Communications Commission announces that it had asked the Columbia Broadcasting System to "be prepared" to give a demonstration of its color television equipment in New York the week of Jan. 27.

On that date, the commission said, it would resume hearings on a CBS petition asking the Government to fix standards for commercial color television transmission. The meetings probably will be held in a New York courtroom.

C. Dickenson Heads Mono. London Unit

Monogram has opened new London offices at 122 Wardour Street, to be headquarters for entire European distribution. Occupants will be staffs headed by Clifford George Dickinson, company's representative for the United Kingdom, and William Sartori, representative for Continental Europe.

Springfield Tax Jump

SPRINGFIELD, Mass., Dec. 25. — A two dollar jump in the 1947 tax rate is in the offing for theatre owners here as a result of action by the electorate in voting to cut the work week of firemen from 70 hours to 48. According to city officials, passage of the referendum will mean doubling the fire department personnel, at a cost of $500,000 per year. Each $250,000 spent by the city represents $1 on the tax rate.

Asides and Interludes

By JAMES CUNNINGHAM

A SUIT, unique in theatre circles, was filed the other day in Circuit Court at Louisville by Johnson Musselman of the Rialto Theatre in that city, against James Dover, county police chief, seeking an injunction to restrain county police from entering the theatre by exhibiting their badges, and to restrain the coppers from arresting Musselman or any of his employers for refusing admission without a ticket.

The action grew out of the arrest on Nov. 13 of Musselman and Hugh Owen, Musselman's doorman, on a charge of disorderly conduct, after they refused to admit a county cop who presented his badge, and another arrest on the same charge, last week, when another patrolman was refused admittance for the same reason.

▽

There sure are some sturdy persons in this business. Take for example the very versatile Pearce Parkhurst, who hails from Gloucester, Mass., and who manages the Capitol Theatre at Pawtucket, R. I. He also is a publicist, exploiteer, picture promoter, and whatnot; all of which is set down in bold type on a desk calendar which he has circulated widely. Along with this boldface notation: *"Always Open for All Offers of a Better Position—Pearce Parkhurst."*

▽

Londoners are still trying to learn the point of the recent exhibition, to Scotland Yard police officers, there, of an American FBI motion picture showing the various types of firearms used by the bureau. The last time a Scotland copper is known to use a firearm was in 1911 when police and the military returned the shots of anarchists who were firing from a building in London's Sidney Street.

▽

Hollywood's Erskine Johnson relates Louis Calhern's story about the time Calhern's agent took him to see Darryl Zanuck. "Before long," reported the actor, "I felt like a horse they were bidding for. They talked about my teeth, my ears—even my eyes."

Zanuck remained completely unimpressed. Finally, Calhern's agent got desperate.

"Darryl," he shouted, "I've got it! We'll cut down Calhern's nose and make a romantic lead out of him.

"Listen," retorted Zanuck, "Gutzon Borglum's the only man I'd trust to tackle a nose that size, and he's now busy down in Georgia, carving out Stone Mountain."

▽

Roman Bohnen's characterization of President Truman will not appear in M-G-M's "The Beginning or the End," because — says the White House—it is felt that Bohnen's bearing is not sufficiently erect and military to duplicate the President's!!! And Metro has been "requested" to delete it.

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GRAB "THE BEAST WITH FIVE FINGERS!"

BROADWAY CAUGHT IT QUICK . . . WARNERS' WORLD PREMIERE YESTERDAY AT THE VICTORIA!

Newspaper Ad Space

(*Continued from page* 1)

in the allocation of paper supplies. In the big cities, however, nearly all publications have lifted restrictions.

A helpful factor in making more space available to local motion picture theatres recently has been the delay of many national advertisers in approving their campaign appropriations because of the business uncertainty caused by strikes and other disturbances in the industrial outlook. With this factor now being cleared up gradually, and more national advertising being placed, competition for ad space again is getting keen, but it is partly offset by increasing supplies of paper.

Advertising agencies handling a large volume of national business do not look for normal space availability, however, until well into next year.

Cleveland Newspapers Raise Advertising Rates

CLEVELAND, Dec. 25.—Advertising rates on all three Cleveland dailies will go up on Feb. 1, according to a letter sent to all advertisers. The boost ranges from two and one-half cents to three and one-half cents. Newspapers involved are the *Plain Dealer,* a morning paper, and the *Press* and *News,* both evening papers.

Three on Memphis Film Row Switch

MEMPHIS, Dec. 25. — Joe Simon, manager of the Warner Theatre, here, has quit to become city manager of Ritz and Peabody theatres.

Loyd Miller, Columbia salesman, has transferred from the company's Florida territory to the Memphis exchange.

Ed Sneed, formerly with Paramount and back from five years' Army service, has joined Monogram as booker.

Cliff Daniel Named Head of Variety

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 25.—Cliff Daniel, manager of Station WCAE, has been named chief barker of the local Variety Club for 1947. Other officers are: Sam Fineberg, first assistant chief barker; Bert Stearn, second assistant; Ben Steerman, treasurer; George Eby, secretary. Directors are: Ben Amdur, Pete Dana, Bill Finkel, Sam Speranza, Tom Troy and John Walsh.

Para. Opens Branch

BUFFALO, Dec. 25. — With more than 200 upstate exhibitors as guests, Paramount Pictures formally opened its modernized branch offices on Franklin St. Hosts for the occasion were Albert M. Kane of Boston, district manager, and Mannie A. Brown, branch manager. Constructed originally for the Attica Film Corp. 20 years ago, the building has been completely redesigned.

Siegel Buys 'Truth'

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25.—David Siegel, president of the newly-formed Triumph Productions, has purchased "Stranger Than Truth," Vera Caspary story, for its first picture. He said a major company, not yet named, will distribute films he will produce. Herman Millakowsky is vice-president.

Production Code Aide Is Urged for France

By CHARLES L. FRANKE

The acceptability in the U. S. of many French films, showings of which here are frequently jeopardized by dialogue allegedly offensive to American taste, could be more satisfactorily assured if the Motion Picture Association were to assign a Production Code representative to France to work with French producers in an advisory capacity. This is the recommendation of Leo Cohen, international motion picture distributor with headquarters in New York.

Cohen's suggestion as it pertains to the French, resembles the suggestion which Motion Picture Association president Eric Johnston has made in connection with British production. Currently the British industry is weighing the Johnston recommendation.

A former French producer himself, who joined the industry in 1918 to make films for Pathe Freres, Cohen came to this country in 1940 to set up an international distribution office. At present, he said, he has agents in virtually every European and South American country, and distributes American, French, Italian, Spanish and other product in all. In the U. S. he distributes mainly French productions, one of his latest imports being "Paris Frills."

Cohen complains that there is an unwarrantedly small number of theatres in the U. S. that show French films, and reports that this lack of so-called "art" houses leaves the importer of French films with a large backlog of French product. He said ne is endeavoring to persuade small exhibitors to devote a number of days a week to showing French films, and added that those exhibitors who have "condescended" to do so report that attendances have been surprisingly large. Cohen said that when theatre building barriers are lifted here he intends to build a number of "showcases." Meanwhile, he said, he finds his only recourse is to persuade "small" exhibitors to show his product, since films such as "The Welldigger's Daughter" and "Open City" tend to monopolize Broadway "art" outlets for such long periods.

2,500 'Dimes' Pledges

(*Continued from page* 1)

Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

To date, exhibitors in Washington, Rhode Island and Hawaii are the first to pledge 100 per cent of their theatres.

The publicity staff for the drive, under the direction of Charles Reed Jones, has been supplemented this week by field men loaned by several companies. Among them are Arnold Van Leer, Paramount in Boston; Frank La Falce, Warners, in Washington; Ed Fisher, Loew's, Cleveland; Jimmie Gillespie, Dallas.

Jensen, expressing gratification with the response from exhibitors, stated that the present total of 2,500 theatres is an increase of more than 20 per cent over the number of theatres pledged to make collections at this time last year.

Coast AFRA Unit Vote Strike Power

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25. — The local membership of the American Federation of Radio Artists has voted authority to the AFRA national board to call a strike, if necessary, to effect conclusion of current net-work negotiations.

Natco Names Schasseur

CHICAGO, Dec. 25. — Natco, Inc., manufacturers of Natco 16mm. sound projectors, has appointed Bellows Schasseur and Co., Inc., New York, as Central and South American sales representatives. Robert Schasseur, president, is at present on a trip through many of those countries for the purpose of surveying the market and contacting Natco distributors.

Kumin Leaves Warners

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25. — Irving Kumin, talent executive for Warners, has resigned. He said he would announce his future plans later.

Print Life

(*Continued from page* 1)

Association for submission to the International Organization for Standardization. The current 18 are in addition to 26 standards forwarded earlier this year.

Prominent on the list is a standard for the cutting and perforating of negative raw stock for 35mm., which was a joint project of the SMPE and the Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. A similar study on color printing is under way.

Other standards on the new list include: 16mm. silent camera aperture, 16mm. silent projector, 16mm. sound camera aperture, 16mm. sound projector aperture, 8mm. silent camera aperture, 8mm. silent projector aperture, American recommended practice for motion picture film sensitometry, American recommended practice for motion picture film photographic density, 35mm. projection reels, 16mm. projection reels, 8mm. silent projection reels, American recommended practice for 16mm. sound film (film splices, negative and positive), American recommended practice for 16mm. silent film (film splices, negative and positive), 16m. projector sprockets, 8mm. 8-tooth projector sprockets, American recommended practice for motion picture engineering nomenclature, 35mm. 16-tooth projector sprockets.

Video for Latins

Television broadcast service for Latin America is being considered by leaders of the radio broadcasting industry in Mexico, Cuba, Puerto Rico, Brazil, Argentina, and Chile as a sequel to RCA's first demonstration of modern television "south of the border," it was reported here at the week end by Meade Brunet, managing director of RCA's international division.

MPA Program

(*Continued from page* 1)

areas, according to an MPA spokesman.

Encouraged by the new success of the program, parent-teachers associations and other groups now are reviewing additional films with a view to recommending them for addition to the series by Columbia, M-G-M, Paramount, Monogram, Repu[illegible] RKO-Radio, Universal, Warn[illegible] 20th Century-Fox and United Artists.

In the few instances of theatres' abandoning the venture, insufficient advance planning is seen by the MPA as the most probable cause, while another factor seems to be the unpopularity of morning shows among the children in some cities. Several wavering programs have been redeemed by shifting the starting hour to early afternoon. Occasionally, too, it has been found, a house not properly situated for special juvenile bills has had to give up the effort. Thus, from Albany comes word that the downtown Grand discontinued the shows after four weeks, while they are doing well at Warners' Madison and Delaware in the neighborhoods.

MPA's effort to facilitate the program by having the films booked from a single exchange in each of the key cities has bogged down because of complications, but the association has been successful in steering the Children's Library bookings away from the bounds of product splits normally existing between theatres and distributors. Likewise, normal clearances have been dropped.

M-G-M's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" and Warners' "The Prince and the Pauper" have proven the most popular offerings to date, followed closely by "Young Tom Edison," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch" and "Rebecca of Sunnybrook Farm." "Huckleberry Finn" recently was used to launch the series at the Surf Theatre in Chicago and proved a hit.

Admission prices charged for the pictures vary from 10 cents to 35 cents. While the distributors, of course, cannot set the prices, they are pointing out to exhibitors that this is a public-service undertaking and that, therefore, large revenues should not be primary consideration.

Those in charge of the program for the MPA note with especial pleasure a thorough exploitation job being done by the RKO Theatres in New York prior to launching the series in six houses on Dec. 28.

British Film in 'Book'

A large section in the "Book of Knowledge," which is circulated among children, will be devoted to British films. Increasing prominence of British pictures here, ascribed in large measure to J. Arthur Rank, was explained as the reason for inclusion of the new section in the encyclopedia. Ken Bates represented the Rank organization in making arrangements with the publishers.

Okla. Variety Elects

OKLAHOMA CITY, Dec. 25.—Variety Tent No. 22 has named Horace Falls, Oklahoma City, chief barker of the state Variety, succeeding Ralph Talbot, Tulsa, who has received the Variety Achievement Award. C. H. Weaver and Ed Kidwell of this city were named first and second assistant barkers, respectively.

* "I can resist everything but Temptation"



open here...and see!

* Oscar Wilde

"Temptation"



50,000,000 movie goers

~~You~~ can't resist it!

PRINTED IN U.S.A.

Estimates of Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

LOS ANGELES

"Blue Skies" did phenomenal business at the Paramount duo during the last week before Christmas, while business generally was slow elsewhere. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 25:

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—BELMONT (1,600) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $8,900)
TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—CHINESE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $19,000)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—EGYPTIAN (1,60) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gros: $7,500. (Average: $14,000)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—EL REY (861) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $7,700)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—FOX-WILSHIRE (2,300) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $12,700)
THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—GUILD (965) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $5,700. (Average: $8,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—HILLSTREET (2,700) (50c-60c-80c) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average, for 7 days: $23,700)
THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—IRIS (708) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,700. (Average: $11,000)
TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOEW'S STATE (2,500) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $26,200)
THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—LOS ANGELES (2,096) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $24,600)
TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—LOYOLA (1,265) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $10,000)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Beverly Hills) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,100)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Downtown) (900) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $15,000)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hawaii) (1,000) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,000)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—MUSIC HALL (Hollywood) (490) (65c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $5,800)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio) and SUNSET PASS (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (2,210) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $16,000)
THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—PANTAGES (2,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 6 days, 7th week. Gross: $9,500. (Average, for 7 days: $23,100)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Downtown) (3,595) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $42,000. (Average: $24,100)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (Hollywood) (1,407) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $25,000. (Average: $15,400)
THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—RITZ (1,376) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,300)
THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—STUDIO (880) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)
THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and SHADOW OF A WOMAN (WB)—UNITED ARTISTS (2,100) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,100)
TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (1,716) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $12,500)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—VOGUE (800) (50c-60c-85c-$1.00) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $8,000)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Downtown) (3,400) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average, for 7 days: $21,600)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Hollywood) (3,000) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,000. (Average, for 7 days: $16,100)
NEVER SAY COODBYE (WB)—WARNER (Wiltern) (2,300) (50c-60c-80c-$1.00) 5 days, 2nd week. Gross: $6,200. (Average, for 7 days: $15,700)

CHICAGO

"The Best Years of Our Lives," running on almost a 24-hour basis, amazed industry observers by breaking the house record during what is usually one of the dullest weeks of the year. Other grosses, generally, were off. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 24-25:

THE BIG SLEEP (WB)—APOLLO (1,200) (65c-95c) 10th week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—CHICAGO (3,900) (65c-95c) 2nd week. On stage: Cab Calloway. Gross: $49,000. (Average: $60,000)
HENRY V (UA)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) twice daily, 20th week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c) 8th week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,000)
NOCTURNE (RKO GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c) 4th week. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $18,000)
EARL CARROLL SKETCHBOOK (Rep.)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Raymond Scott and Dorothy Donegan. Gross: $35,000. (Average: $45,000)
SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $23,000. (Average: $24,000)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c) 2nd week. Gross: $16,000. (Average: $20,000)
DECEPTION (WB)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c) 7th week. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $29,000)
THREE WISE FOOLS (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c) 3rd week. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $25,000)
BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c-$1.40). Gross: $39,000. (Average: $20,000)

PHILADELPHIA

Last minute Christmas shopping proved to be the usual drain on box-office business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 24-26:

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—ALDINE (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $14,000)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—ARCADIA (900) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $7,250)
THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—BOYD (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $15,500. (Average: $22,800)
CRIME DOCTOR'S MANHUNT (Col.)—EARLE (3,000) (60c-70c-80c-95c-99c) 6 days, with vaudeville starring Dr. Neff. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $22,800)
THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue)—FOX (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $28,000)
THE DARK MIRROR (International)—GOLDMAN (1,400) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $26,000)
SISTER KENNY (RKO Radio)—KEITH'S (2,200) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 2nd run. Gross: $3,500. (Average: $6,500)
THE KILLERS (U)—MASTBAUM (4,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $28,300)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—STANLEY (3,000) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $24,900)
KINGS ROW (WB reissue)—STANTON (1,700) (50c-60c-74c-80c-85c-94c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $11,200)

BOSTON

Christmas week business continued to drop below average under the added pressure of heavy rain and a cold wave. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 25:

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—BOSTON (2,900) (50c-$1.10). Stage show. Johnny "Scat" Davis and orchestra, Peggy Mann. Gross: $24,000. (Average: $27,400)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—FENWAY (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,900)
SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO-Radio) and THE DARK HORSE (U)—MEMORIAL (2,900) (40c-80c) 5 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average for 7 days: $25,000)
THE VERDICT (WB) and THE PLAINSMAN AND THE LADY (Rep.)—METROPOLITAN (4,736) (40c-60c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $25,000)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—ORPHEUM (3,200) (40c-80c). Gross: $20,000. (Average: $23,500)
BLUE SKIES (Para.)—PARAMOUNT (1,700) (40c-80c). Gross: $13,000. (Average: $15,100)
THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA) and SECRET OF THE WHISTLER (Col.)—STATE (2,900) (35c-80c). Gross: $12,000. (Average: $16,900)

KANSAS CITY

Attendance has been small during a week of many competing Christmas activities. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 25-27:

THE WIFE OF MONTE CRISTO (PRC)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)
THE WIFE OF MONTE CRISTO (PRC)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $1,400. (Average: $1,750)
GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and THE CRIME DOCTOR'S MANHUNT (Col.)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $15,000)
OF HUMAN BONDAGE (WB)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $11,000)
KINGS ROW (WB reissue) and WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (WB reissue)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average: $10,000)
HOME IN OKLAHOMA (Rep.) and DECOY (Mono.)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) 7 days. Stage show. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $9,000)
THE WIFE OF MONTE CRISTO (PRC)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)

MINNEAPOLIS

Theatre business ran as expected during the week before Christmas—generally below average. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 25:

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $7,500)
MY PAL TRIGGER (Rep.)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $2,700. (Average: $3,400)
TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $6,000)
THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $11,500. (Average: $11,500)
NO LEAVE, NO LOVE (M-G-M)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $18,000)
THE THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $8,000)
THE CHASE (UA)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $13,500)
YOUNG IN HEART (Film Classics)—WORLD (350) (50c-90c) 7 days. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $2,500)

CLEVELAND

With three reissues and three holdovers, downtown first-runs hit a new low, even for the week before Christmas. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 24-25:

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—LOEW'S OHIO (1,268) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 4th week. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,000)
BOOMTOWN (M-G-M reissue)—LOEW'S STATE (3,300) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $23,800)
STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—LOEW'S STILLMAN (1,900) (50c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $11,000)
THRILL OF BRAZIL (Col.)—RKO ALLEN (3,000) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $12,000)
THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—RKO PALACE (3,300) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $21,400)
KING'S ROW (WB reissue)—WARNERS' HIPPODROME (3,500) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days. Gross: $12,500. (Average: $22,600)
NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—WARNERS' LAKE (714) (55c-70c-75c) 7 days,

PITTSBURGH

The usual pre-Christmas slump was rather heavily in evidence at downtown first-runs. A few unexpected, last-minute booking changes helped mess things up. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 24:

THAT BRENNAN GIRL (Rep.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,500. (Average: $9,700)
THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 4 days. Gross: $3,100. (Average for 7 days: $11,000)
TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average for 7 days: $25,000)
UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 5 days, 3rd week on moveover from Penn. Gross: $2,100. (Average for 7 days: $3,500)
MARGIE (20th-Fox)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 4th week on moveover from Harris. Gross: $3,700. (Average: $3,200)
LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $25,000)
NOCTURNE (RKO Radio)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $8,000)

OMAHA

Business is continuing at a low ebb here. The weather has been fair and mild. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 24-27:

SHE WOLF OF LONDON (UA) and THE SPIDER WOMAN STRIKES BACK (U)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $7,900. (Average: $8,600)
YOUNG WIDOW (UA) and DEADLINE FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $8,100. (Average: $9,400)
MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,000)
LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and STEP BY STEP (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $6,200. (Average: $6,800)

DENVER

Christmas shopping punched a hole in film grosses. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 24:

I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU (Rep.) and MY DOG SHEP (Screen Guild)—ALADDIN (1,400) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week

(*Continued on page* 11)

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmack's NEW Prevue Trailer Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.

Paramount Weighs FCC Video Notice

Paul Raibourn, director of television for Paramount, reports that the company received official notice from the Federal Communication Commission to the effect that the FCC forbids any one ompany from owning or controlling more than five video outlets, sent in conjunction with the commission's announcement that it has awarded Paramount its second commercial television grant in Los Angeles. Raibourn said the company will "study carefully" the FCC notice.

MOTION PICTURE DAILY reported from Washington that the FCC indicated that Paramount must pare down its holdings in the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories, Inc., and Interstate Circuit of Dallas, or forfeit some of its pending applications for television stations. Raibourn said he did not see eye to eye with this "interpretation" of the FCC notice, since the word "control" as used by the commission may have various degrees of meanings.

Paramount owns 50 per cent of Interstate Circuit, an exhibitor company which is bidding for a television outlet in Dallas, and all of the Class B stock of DuMont. DuMont has two video stations in New York and Washington, and has applications pending for Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Boston.

FCC has said Paramount's 50 per cent holding in Interstate constituted control since the picture company could veto any directorship vote. Commission took same position on the picture outfit's ownership of all Class B stock in DuMont. Although Paramount has never voted this stock, it has not waived its right to exercise this option and still maintains a veto right.

Pool Video Report On Congress Jan. 3

National Broadcasting, Columbia Broadcasting and the Allen B. DuMont Laboratories will work together in bringing to television audiences in New York, Philadelphia and Washington coverage of the 80th Congress in session Jan. 3. All three telecasters will contribute facilities and personnel in producing a pool pickup which will be transmitted over the Bell Systems coaxial cable.

The telecast will be seen in New York over WNBT (NBC), WCBS-TB (CBS), and WABD (DuMont); in Philadelphia over WFTZ (Philco); and in Washington over WTTG (DuMont), and on specially installed television receivers in NBC's Washington radio station, WRC. The time is set at 12 Noon, EST.

Show 'Pilgrim'

Tradeshowing of "The Shocking Pilgrim" has been set for tomorrow in all exchange centers by William J. Kupper, general sales manager of 20th Century-Fox.

THERE'S ONLY ONE
Lord Tarleton
MIAMI BEACH
OCEAN FRONT • 40th to 41st Sts.
Reservations Invited • Walter Jacobs

Reviews

"Dead Reckoning"

(Columbia)

COLUMBIA'S sales organization has reason to view the new year with no small measure of confidence, for, tucked into 1947's schedule it has a piece of merchandise, "Dead Reckoning," that should be about as easy to sell as Christmas cards at Christmastime. It's a Humphrey Bogart-Lizabeth Scott starrer, a thriller-chiller grooved for top grosses—and bound to get them. Oliver H. P. Garrett and Steve Fisher delivered to director John Cromwell a screenplay so unqualifiedly keyed to the Bogart technique that producer Sidney Biddell obviously had no recourse but to borrow the man (and a suitable leading lady) from Warners.

Rocket-paced, taut, suspenseful and slick, the story might well have been devised by a James M. Cain or a Dashiell Hammett, for brutality and romance have a way of fitting into the scheme of things, too. As it is, the original is credited to Biddell and Gerald Adams, and they well qualify for a place beside the others of the school of tough, hard-boiled fiction.

Bogart plays a discharged Army paratroop captain, whose buddy (William Prince) "takes a powder" while they are both en route to Washington to be decorated for their outstanding combat records. Amazed at this conduct, Bogart is impelled to probe Prince's past, discovers that the lad had been implicated in a murder and had enlisted in the Army under a false name. Bogart is determined that his friend shall not be deprived of the Army honors due him, his civilian past notwithstanding, and, convinced the youngster was framed as a murderer, sets out to find the real killer. His investigation leads him straight to the underworld of Prince's home city in the South, and into a maze of complications and cross-complications—and to love and a couple of sound beatings. Miss Scott, an erstwhile cabaret singer and the murdered man's wife, who had testified against Prince, and with whom Prince had been in love, ultimately melts Bogart's armored heart, bones him up on doings surrounding the murder, and in the end dies for her treachery to Bogart's cause.

All the happenings, replete with coincidences and not infrequently far-fetched, amount to just so much hokum, and one or two points in the proceedings are not quite resolved in the end. But the whole piece stands as solid entertainment for the escapist—the average filmgoer, that is.

Morris Carnovsky, as the principal menace; Marvin Miller, as a sadistic underworld character; Charles Cane, a detective, and James Bell, as a priest to whom Bogart confides his story, all contribute sound performances, as do lesser lights in the cast. But it is Bogart's picture, and no exhibitor will cry over that.

Running time, 100 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

"Alias Mr. Twilight"

AN entertaining, pleasantly-told story about the "confidence" racket, which introduces human values into what would otherwise be a pedestrian plot, "Alias Mr. Twilight," which places Lloyd Corrigan in the role of a devoted grandfather and crook, is good fare for the family. "Gi-Gi" Perreau, as the six-year-old granddaughter, is a lovable girl who performs gracefully before the camera, and Michael Duane, as the detective who discovers Corrigan's illegal activities, and Trudy Marshall, the attractive nurse who takes care of the little girl, turn in competent performances.

Working with Alan Bridge, Corrigan appears as a respectable business man at a jewelry shop, in one instance, as the possessor of a worthless stone which Bridge has ordered. Corrigan is "persuaded" to sell the stone for a fantastically high price, whereupon the partners then skip town. It all goes along smoothly until Rosalind Ivan, a greedy, blackmailing cousin, demands that Corrigan pay her to keep quiet. In order to protect his granddaughter, Corrigan stages an elaborate theft of counterfeit money, arranges to palm it off on his cousin, who is arrested, and then surrenders to Duane, after assuring himself that the child will be taken care of. John Haggett produced and John Sturges directed. The screenplay was written by Brenda Weisberg, from a story by Arthur E. Orloff, with additional dialogue by Malcolm Stuart Boylan.

Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Dec. 24.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Time, Place" Screenings

Warner Brothers claims a new all-time record in special New Year's Eve midnight performances of a motion picture to be made next week with the Technicolor musical, "The Time, the Place and the Girl," which is set for approximately 125 such showings.

Del Ruth Seeks Two

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 12.—Roy Del Ruth is negotiating for loan-outs on Don DeFore, under contract to Hal Wallis, and Alice Faye, 20th Century-Fox contractee, who he wants for the leads in "Mr. Gideon," next Del Ruth production for Allied Artists release.

Tax Bill Killed

BALTIMORE, Dec. 22. — A bill that would increase theatre admission taxes here was killed during a meeting of the City Council. It had been introduced as one of several sources for added revenue. Theatre managers had previously put up a strong protest.

Swedish Film Here

American distribution rights to the Swedish film, "Torment," which at the recent International Film Festival at Cannes was awarded the "Grand Prix du Cinema 1946," have been acquired by Oxford Films, Inc. The Svensk Filmindustri production has been shown in London under the title "Frenzy."

Newsreel Parade

A 10-YEAR news summary, and a symposium of 1946 are presented in current reels by Movietone and News of the Day, respectively. The other three companies serve up general current news, including items from abroad, sports and novelty features. Complete contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 34—Spectacular news films of 10 years.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 232 — 1946 symposium.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 35 — The Navy pays off. UNRRA speeds new roads for China. "Suddenly it's Spring" —hat fashions. Paris' "egg auto." A town survives by jet plane. Canada ski school.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 37—People of Paris demand more meat. Navy ships haul locomotives. Kids learn cooking in Sweden. Gay student parade in Paris. UNRRA repairs China's roads. Browns win AAC football title.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 566 — Modern roads for China. News from Berlin. Italian war prisoners liberated. Abbottt and Costello get Army award. Mining by air. Winter wonderland.

New Arrest in 'Hot' 16mm. Print Probe

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 25.—The nationwide drive of the Federal Bureau of Investigation on "hot" 16mm feature prints has reached the Coast, with the crack-down on a merchant seaman, resulting in the seizure of nine feature releases of seven major companies.

Theodore Alven Gilman, merchant seaman, has been arrested by FBI agents on a charge of violating the Federal Copyright Law. Gilman allegedly had completed the sale of a 16mm Technicolor film, "Meet Me in St. Louis," a Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer feature release, at the time he was taken into custody. Gilman had other 16mm. feature prints in his possession, it is alleged.

Gilman has been arraigned before U. S. Commissioner A. M. Bradley at Santa Ana and remanded to Orange County jail in lieu of $500 bond.

This is the first arrest in the West Coast clean-up. The drive started in the East with the arrest of 13 persons in New York by FBI agents last April.

Gammon to Ettinger Co.

Roland Gammon, of *Life* magazine, has joined Margaret Ettinger and Co., public relations firm of Hollywood and New York, in the capacity of Eastern office head, succeeding Jo Mallett. Miss Mallett, who established the New York office last March, has left for Paris.

Warners Signs Baer

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25.—Richard Baer, who staged the modern version of Shakespeare's "Macbeth," now being presented at the El Patio Theatre, here, has been signed by Warners as a dialogue director and dramatic coach.

Mono. Panama Manager

Luis R. Lee has been appointed manager in Panama of Monogram Pictures of Panama, Inc., by Norton V. Ritchey, president of Monogram International, here.

Key Grosses

(*Continued from page 9*)

each at Denver, Esquire, Webber. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.) — DENHAM (1,750) (35c-70c) 5 days, 4th week. Gross: $7,000. (Average for 7 days: $11,500)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.)—DENVER $2,525) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Esquire, Webber. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $15,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.) — ESQUIRE (748) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Denver, Webber. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,500)

BOYS' RANCH (M-G-M) and TWO SMART PEOPLE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (2,600) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $8,000. (Average: $15,500)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox) and WANTED FOR MURDER (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (2,200) (35c-74c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $8,000)

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB) and THE FRENCH KEY (Rep.) — RIALTO (878) (35c-74c) 7 days, after week each at Denver, Esquire, Webber, Aladdin. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $4,000)

NOBODY LIVES FOREVER (WB) and WIFE WANTED (Mono.) — WEBBER (750) (35c-74c) 7 days, day-date with Denver, Esquire. Gross: $2,000. (Average: $3,000)

ST. LOUIS

Although the pre-Christmas slump has been felt here, "Two Years Before the Mast" is doing good business at the St. Louis, and "Blue Skies" still is going strong in its fourth week at the Ambassador. Estimated receipts for the week ended Dec. 24:

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—AMBASSADOR (3,154) (50c-60c-75c) 4th week. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $18,000)

ALLEGHENY UPRISING (RKO Radio reissue) and THE PHANTOM THIEF Col.)—FOX (5,038) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $18,000. (Average: $20,000)

THE STRANGE WOMAN (UA)—LOEW'S ORPHEUM (1,900) (50c-60c-75c) 5 days. Gross: $7,500. (Average, for 7 days: $9,000)

GALLANT JOURNEY (Col.) and BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW (Col.)—LOEW'S STATE (1,900) (50c-60c-75c) 5 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average, for 7 days: $20,000)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and SEA DEVILS (RKO Radio reissue)—MISSOURI (3,514) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $12,500. (Average: $12,500)

TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST (Para.)—ST. LOUIS (4,000) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $10,000. (Average: $6,000)

MAKE MINE MUSIC (RKO Radio) and THE TIME OF THEIR LIVES (U)—SHUBERT (1,900) (50c-60c-75c). Gross: $3,500. (Average: $7,500)

Mexican Producers Seek Bank as Aid

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 25.—Producers who recently requested the Mexican government to aid the motion picture industry by creating a state-controlled bank here for financial support, have succeeded in getting their petition before the Senate. Offering to contribute capital to the proposed bank, the producers have keyed their arguments to gaining fiancial assistance in order to enable them to produce for home and foreign consumption.

Several of the producers who urged the action expect the Senate to approve the plan before the end of this year, clearing the way for establishment of the bank early in 1947.

Chicago Reissues Drop

CHICAGO, Dec. 25. — The January list of feature releases for Chicago reveals a falling off from December's high percentage of reissues from 48 to 33 per cent. Fifteen of next month's 46 features are available to subsequent-run exhibitors as re-issues.

Reviews

"School for Secrets"

(*Two Cities-GFD—British*)

London

IN search of those widened audience horizons of which MPA's Eric Johnston preaches, Two Cities' Filippo del Giudice here submits another of those "unusual" exhibits. Being deficient of the othodox ration of love interest, bobbysoxers may not go in a big way for the piece. But persons who normally do not frequent motion picture theatres will flock to it, once they hear of the film's manifold merits.

The picture tells in quasi-documentary fashion the tale of the invention and development of radar, Britain's greatest scientific contribution towards the winning of the war and for the safe landings of all aircraft in peace. But it's documentary with a difference. It's gay, adventurous, witty. It has, in short, pretty well all it takes for the intelligent film-goer.

Before the shooting started, but when every informed person knew that it was inevitable, Whitehall got very worried about the possibility of night bombings, in particular how the presence of hostile aircraft in the skies over Britain might be detected. Accordingly, a choice gathering of "Boffins"—Foyal Air Force slang for scientists—was sequestered in a country town and ordered to get on with the job. "School for Secrets" shows how they did not only that but also arrived at a means of pinpoint-bombing in darkness. Nor were the Boffins content with theorizing. They went on commando raids and parachute expeditions just to see for themselves how their gadget worked. The story of their achievement makes an exhilarating picture, woven with wit and distinction by 24-year old author-director Peter Ustinov, who chose not only his story but his actors with commendable grace. Ralph Richardson, Raymond Huntley, John Laurie are the head Boffins. Their work is a delight. There are also pleasant acting submissions performed by Richard Attenborough and Marjorie Rhodes; the latter being Britain's character woman No. 1. A film to be seen and savoured.

Running time, 108 minutes. Adult audience classification. Release date, not set.

PETER BURNUP

"The Lone Wolf in Mexico"

(*Columbia*)

WHILE offering little striking in the way of either plot or characterization, "The Lone Wolf in Mexico" follows the series in providing a relaxing hour's entertainment in which the innocent "Lone Wolf" is just one step ahead of the police in attempting to vindicate himself. This time, Gerald Mohr, slick and affable, aided by his handy-man and valet, the squinting, mugging Eric Blore, break down a jewel-smuggling ring which operates under cover of a gambling casino. It takes two murders, and also some safe-cracking which is invested with a veneer of legality since it is for a noble cause, before Mohr tracks down the culprit.

The illegal business stems from a "fixed" roulette wheel which places wealthy patrons in debt to John Gallaudet. They place their jewels as security and the crooks replace the stones with colored glass, valuable stones across the border. Others in the cast are: Jacqueline De Wit, Sheila Ryan, Bernard Nedell and Winifred Harris.

Running time, 69 minutes. General audience classification. Release date, Jan. 16.

IRVING KAPLAN

"Murder in Reverse"

(*Four Continents—British*)

A NOVEL plot twist, suggested by a "loophole" in the British penal law, puts "Murder in Reverse" in a class apart from run-of-the-mine murder melodramas. Produced by Louis H. Jackson at National Studios, Elstree, England, and imported by Four Continents Films for showing in the U. S., this film has for its setting the Limehouse sector of London. There love and hate, violence and murder intertwine to weave the ironic, tragic story of stevedore Tom Masterick whose wife's unfaithfulness impels him, in the agony of realization, to seek out his rival, a fellow dock-worker, for a fight to the death. A fierce barroom struggle is climaxed with the husband, souvenir sabre in hand, chasing his wife's lover through dark, twisted streets to the docks of the Thames.

Later, after the lover's disappearance is investigated by the police and the sabre is recovered from the waters, Masterick is tried and sentenced to 15 years in prison for murder. However, he is convinced all along that his rival escaped alive, and upon being released from prison searches for the man, ultimately finds him, and then, ceremoniously, in the presence of the jurist who sentenced him and "the greatest array of legal talent in England" (at a party in the jurist's home), shoots to death the man for whose "murder" he had previously 'paid." Thereupon the film ends, and the question is posed: Can the man be made to pay *twice* the penalty for *one* murder?

William Hartnell, "the British Jean Gabin," turns in a moving, emotional performance as Masterick; John Slater is appropriately obnoxious as the blackguard wife-stealer, and Chili Boucher, the wife, is convincingly selfish, hardhearted, embittered. Brefni O'Rourke plays a newspaper editor who, as the screen employs flashback technique, recites the early phases of Masterick's story to one of his reporters, Jimmy Hanley. Hanley shares love interest with Dinah Sheridan, Masterick's daughter, whom the editor has adopted. Montgomery Tully, who directed, wrote the screenplay from a story by "Seamark." This one is a thriller, and the impact of its surprise ending should register strongly with audiences.

Running time, 80 minutes. Adult audience classification.

CHARLES L. FRANKE

Holiday Lull Sets in at Coast Studios

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 25.—With the arrival of the holiday season, production activity at Hollywood studios lagged as eight films were completed, and only three reached cameras. The shooting index stood at 49; the production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Riders of the Lone Star."
Started: "The Corpse Came C. O. D.," with George Brent, Joan Blondell, Adele Jergens, Jim Bannon.
Shooting: "Bulldog Drummond at Bay" (Venture); "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman); "Three Were Thoroughbreds" (Cavalier); "For the Love of Rusty," "The Lady from Shanghai."

Independent

Shooting: "Women in the Night" (Southern California Films).

M-G-M

Finished: "Undercover Maisie," "Romance of Rosy Ridge."
Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "Song of Love," "The Birds and the Bees," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep."

Monogram

Shooting: "Violence" (B. and B.); "High Conquest," "Black Gold."

Paramount

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl," "Saigon," "I Walk Alone" (Wallis) (formerly "Deadlock").

PRC

Started: "Border Feud," with Al La Rue and Al St. John; "Philo Vance No. 3," with Will Wright, Leon Belasco, Terry Austin.
Shooting: "The Payoff."

RKO Radio

Finished: "Seven Keys to Baldpate."
Shooting: "The Fugitive" (Argosy); "Flight," "Out of the Past," "Magic Town" (Riskin).

Republic

Finished: "Gallant Man," "Wyoming," "Nelson Eddy Production."
Shooting: "Bells of San Angelo."

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," "Moss Rose," "Captain from Castile," "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights," "It's Only Human."

United Artists

Shooting: "Heaven Only Knows" (Nebenzal); "Copacabana" (Beacon); "Christmas Eve" (Bogeaus); "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg); "The Other Love" (Enterprise)

Universal-International

Shooting: "Ivy" (Interwood); "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "The Egg and I."

Warners

Finished: "My Wild Irish Rose."
Shooting: "The Unfaithful," "Dark Passage," "Deep Valley," "The Woman in White," "Night Unto Night."

MOTION PICTURE DAILY'S BOOKING CHART

WEEK OF	COLUMBIA	M-G-M	MONO.	PARA.	PRC	REPUBLIC	RKO RADIO	20TH-FOX	U. A.	UNIV.-INT'L	WARNERS
Nov. 30	BETTY CO-ED Jean Porter William Mason D—61 mins. (824) (Rev. 11/28/46)		THE TRAP Sydney Toler Mantan Moreland	TWO YEARS BEFORE THE MAST Alan Ladd D—98 mins. (Rev. 8/23/46)			NOCTURNE George Raft Lynn Bari D—87 mins. (Rev. 10/16/46)				
Dec. 7			MR. HEX Leo Gorcey Huntz Hall D		WILD WEST (Color) Eddie Dean Al LaRue O—73 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)		GENIUS AT WORK Wally Brown Alan Carney C—61 mins. (Rev. 8/1/46)			(Dec. Releases) SWELL GUY Sonny Tufts Ann Blyth D—87 mins. (Rev. 12/5/46)	(Reissues) KING'S ROW (Rev. 12/23/41) WILD BILL HICKOK RIDES (Rev. 12/24/41)
Dec. 14	BOSTON BLACKIE AND THE LAW Chester Morris Trudy Marshall D—69 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	(Dec. Releases) LADY IN THE LAKE Robt. Motgomery Audrey Totter D—105 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)	(Re-issue) SILVER STALLION David Sharpe Janet Waldo D—56 min.		LIGHTHOUSE John Litel June Lang	(Dec. 15 Release) FABULOUS SUZANNE Barbara Britton Rudy Valee D—71 mins. (604)	CHILD OF DIVORCE Sharyn Moffett Regis Toomey D—62 mins. (Rev. 10/21/46)	(Dec. Releases) THE RAZOR'S EDGE Tyrone Power Gene Tierney Anne Baxter Clifton Webb D—146 min. (647) (Rev. 11/20/46)	(Comet Prod.) SUSIE STEPS OUT Cleatus Caldwell David Bruce C—65 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)	TEMPTATION Merle Oberon George Brent D—98 mins. (Rev. 12/16/46))	
Dec. 21	ALIAS MR. TWILIGHT Michael Duane The Fighting Frontiersman D—61 min. (863) (Rev. 11/18/46)	SECRET HEART Claudette Colbert Walter Pidgeon D—97 mins. (Rev. 11/29/46)	SWEETHEART OF SIGMA CHI Elyse Knox Phil Regan M—75 mins. (Rev. 11/27/46)			(Dec. 22 Release) THE PILGRIM LADY Lynne Roerts Warren Douglas	CRIMINAL COURT Tom Conway Martha O'Driscoll D—63 mins. (Rev. 8/9/46)			I'LL BE YOURS Deanna Durbin Tom Drake William Bendix Adolphe Menjou	
Dec. 28	SINGIN' IN THE CORN Judy Canova C—64 min. (Rev. 11/25/46)		SONG OF THE SIERRAS Jimmy Wakely 'Lasses' White O—681	BLUE SKIES Bing Crosby Fred Astaire M—107 min. (Rev. 9/26/46)		(Dec. 23 Releases) STAGECOACH TO DENVER Allan Lane Bobby Blake THAT BRENNAN GIRL James Dunn Mona Freeman D—95 min. (Rev. 11/18/46)	DEADLIER THAN THE MALE Claire Trevor Lawrence Tierney	DANGEROUS MILLIONS Kent Taylor Dona Drake D—69 min. (648) (Rev. 12/2/46)	(Crosby) ABIE'S IRISH ROSE Michael Chekhov Joanna Dru D—96 mins. (Rev. 11/25/46)		THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (Color) M—105 min. (610) (Rev. 12/10/46)
Jan. 4	(Dec. Release) RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO Louis Hayward Barbara Britton (Rev. 11/27/46)		GINGER Frank Albertson Barbara Reed				(Disney Special) SONG OF THE SOUTH (Color) 95 mins. (Rev. 10/24/46)				
Jan. 11	BLONDIE'S BIG MOMENT Penny Singleton Arthur Lake C—69 mins. (Rev. 12/20/46)		CISCO AND THE ANGEL Gilbert Roland O						(Sturges) SIN OF HAROLD DIDDLEBOCK Harold Lloyd		THE MAN I LOVE Ida Lupino Robert Alda D—96 mins. (611) (Rev. 12/24/46)
Jan. 18						ANGEL AND THE BADMAN John Wayne Irene Rich					
Jan. 25			VACATION DAYS Freddie Stewart June Preisser			THE PILGRIM LADY Adela Mara Warren Douglas			PRIVATE AFFAIRS OF BEL AMI George Sanders Angela Lansbury		HUMORESQUE Joan Crawford John Garfield D—125 mins. (612) (Rev. 12/23/46)
Feb. 1						CALENDAR GIRL Jane Frazee William Marshall					
Feb. 8											

Dates Are Based on National Release Schedules and Are Subject to Change. Letters Denote the Following: (D) Dram (M) Musical. (C) Comedy. (O) Outdoor Action. Production Numbers Are in Parentheses. (Rev.) Motion Picture Daily *Review Da*

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 125 NEW YORK, U.S.A., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . in Today's News

NEIL AGNEW has resigned as a director of United Artists to devote his entire efforts as president of Selznick Releasing Organization, it was announced yesterday by Daniel T. O'Shea, president of Vanguard Films.

Henry M. Marx of the New York law firm of Paine, Kramer and Marx, has been nominated to replace Agnew on the board of United Artists representing Vanguard. Agnew was one of three Vanguard directors on the UA board, the other two being Philip Siff and Milton Kramer, who continues with Marx.

Vanguard will retain its one-third ownership in United Artists, the company said.

Tyree Dillard, Jr., Resigns Legal Post at Loew's, Inc.

Tyree Dillard, Jr., legal adviser to William F. Rodgers, Loew's vice-president and general sales manager, on distribution matters and a member of Rodgers' executive sales cabinet, has resigned, effective Jan. 3.

Dillard became associated with the industry in 1933 as counsel for the NRA film code. Subsequently, he was general counsel for the Motion Picture Industry Code Authority up to the demise of the NRA in 1935. In the same year, following a European trip, he joined M-G-M. He served in the Navy for three years during the war, returning to M-G-M about a year ago.

Chadwick Re-elected President of IMPPA

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—I. E. Chadwick has been re-elected president of the Independent Motion Picture Producers Association, and Edward Finney has been returned to his post as secretary-treasurer. Steve Broidy, Harry H. Thomas and John Jones were elected vice-presidents.

Nasser Succeeds Harvey In ATA Western Post

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 26.—George Nasser, head of Nasser Brothers Theatres and president of the California Theatres Association, has been elected West Coast regional vice-president of American Theatres Association, succeeding Rotus Harvey, president of the Independent Theatre Owners Association, who resigned the ATA office recently.

Powers to Represent PRC in Oregon Area

PORTLAND, Ore., Dec. 26.—Producers Releasing Corp. has named Mike Powers its sales representative in the Portland territory.

First Selznick Sales Meeting Next Week

Home office executives and heads of the five divisions of the new Selznick Releasing Organization will hold their first sales meeting, here, the latter part of next week, according to Milton Kusell, domestic general sales manager. Indications are that a physical distribution deal, now in the final stages of negotiation, will be set prior to the session, as well as the appointment of a Southern division manager, who will have headquarters in Dallas. Division managers already named, and expected to be present at the meeting, are: Samuel Horowitz, Midwestern; Thomas

(*Continued on page 5*)

Irish Refuse to Buy Newsreels of U. S.

DUBLIN, Dec. 22 (By Airmail).—During the war the general shortage of raw stock and censorship difficulties caused by Eire's neutrality resulted in U. S. and other outside newsreels being withdrawn from the Irish market. As a result, there is not the slightest demand from the public or exhibitors for the type of newsreel previously supplied by some of the major companies.

For some reason, however, the Eire government's Department of Industry and Commerce recently approached

(*Continued on page 5*)

Ask Davis Firm to Handle UA Defense

United Artists has invited the law firm of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland and Kiendl to act as counsel for defense of the company in the $7,500,000 damage suit filed by David O. Selznick's Vanguard Films last Friday in Federal District Court in Los Angeles, according to Theodore Kiendl, a partner in the firm. The invitation has been taken under consideration, Kiendl said. Vanguard alleges that UA mishandled Selznick's productions and then broke its contract for distributing them.

Meanwhile, the Davis firm is proceeding with an investigation on behalf of UA to determine whether, in the opinion of counsel, Selznick is guilty of breaching his contract with the company.

SAG Again Essays Hollywood Peace

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Screen Actors Guild, which sponsored an attempt to establish permanent arbitration machinery to prevent future jurisdictional disputes in Hollywood, again is leading labor groups in an attempt to effect settlement of the studio strike. The SAG board is arranging a meet-

(*Continued on page 5*)

N. Y. Legislature Getting 2 Competing Building Codes

The New York State Legislature, which convenes during the second week in January, may be asked to decide between two competing state building code proposals, both of which would have marked effect on new theatre construction in the future.

Working independently of Senator William Condon's joint legislative committee on a statewide code, activities of which were reported yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, the State Labor Department's Board of Standards and Appeals soon will advertise hearings on the code the department began drawing up more than two years ago, according to John Coggeshall, industrial code referee.

One main difference between the two proposals is that the Condon code, if one develops out of the studies the Senator's group has made, would apply, either on a mandatory or recommendation basis, to all New York cities, including those which have codes and enforcement agencies of their own, whereas the Labor Department's code would be inoperative in the latter cities. Moreover, the legislative committee's plan includes specification of building materials, which the other plan, in general, does not.

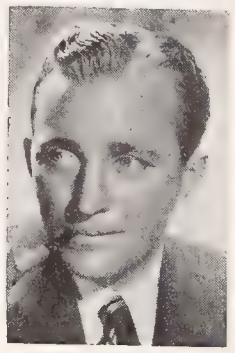
The Labor Department's code calls for a fireproof proscenium wall in theatres which run stage shows and would require all theatres to have lighting of specified wattage, projection booths of at least eight by 10 feet, closed stairways above the second

(*Continued on page 5*)

Crosby Is Top Money Star For 3rd Year

Ingrid Bergman Second In 'Herald-Fame' Poll

For the third consecutive year, Bing Crosby has been chosen by the nation's exhibitors as the champion money-making film star of 1946, according to a tabulation of results in the 15th annual poll conducted by *Motion Picture Herald* and *Fame*, and published in the *Herald* today. Both independent and circuit operators agreed on the choice, marking Crosby's seventh appearance among the top 10 in the balloting.



Bing Crosby

Second place in the polls of both

(*Continued on page 5*)

Foundation Group In Meeting Here

A meeting of a temporary sub-committee of the steering committee for the Motion Picture Foundation, consisting of Harry Brandt, Si Fabian and Leonard Goldenson, was held here yesterday.

The steering committee, of which

(*Continued on page 5*)

RCA Develops New Projection Lamp

CAMDEN, Dec. 26.—A new one-kilowatt projection arc lamp, designed for high-intensity operation in theatres seating up to 800, is in production at Radio Corp. of America's

(*Continued on page 5*)

In This Issue

"Man's Hope" is reviewed on Page 6.

Personal Mention

BOB HOPE will be honored for his war work by Phi Delta Epsilon, national medical fraternity, at its New York convention, December 29.

•

LEONARD GRUENBERG, captain of the RKO exchanges' 10th year drive; HARRY GITTLESON, Eastern sales supervisor, and J. H. MACINTYRE, West Coast sales manager, have been conferring in San Francisco.

•

NIKITAS DIPSON and his daughter LELA, of Batavia, N. Y., are visiting MRS. DIPSON'S mother in Athens, Greece.

•

HENRY MORGAN and his wife, in private life MR. and MRS. HARRY BRATSBURG, became the parents of twins December 23.

•

BYRON MAUCK, personnel director for Malco Theatres, Memphis, and MRS. MAUCK are the parents of a girl.

•

EDITH HEAD, chief designer for Paramount, is scheduled to arrive in New York Jan. 9 from the Coast.

•

JACKIE COOGAN and ANN MCCORMACK, night club entertainer, were married in Hollywood yesterday.

•

GEORGE AMY, associate producer for Michael Curtiz, has returned to the Warner studios from New York.

•

PHIL LONGDON, 20th Century-Fox district manager at Dallas, has been visiting the Memphis exchange.

•

DAVE FLEXER, owner of the Ritz and Peabody theatres, Memphis, and MRS. FLEXER are in New York.

•

CHING ALLEN, UA district manager at Kansas City, visited Memphis en route to Florida.

•

RUBY TRAMMELL, with Universal in Memphis, became the bride of LOWELL HARREN this week.

•

SAM SOBOL, PRC manager at San Francisco, has left there for Dallas.

•

MILTON SPERLING will leave Hollywood December 31 for New York.

•

TOM D'ANDREA, Warner player, is in Chicago from the Coast.

•

FRANCOIS VILLIERS has arrived in Hollywood from France.

•

'Best Years' Cited

"This is easily the best picture of the year," is the commentary designated for Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" by Susan Lee, motion picture editor of the New York Subways Advertising Co., on the "Picture of the Month" car cards which, Lynn Farnol of the Goldwyn office, here, points out, will be placed in every subway car in New York's three systems.

Insider's Outlook

By RED KANN

HERB YATES' ambitions for Trucolor have been set back by the inability to get necessary equipment. He now calculates, hopefully, that the required machinery will reach the Coast and be installed in about six months. Thereafter, the ambitions on schedule may begin to go places.

Yates declares Trucolor, as it now stands, may boast of two-and-a-half basic colors, with the vital, remaining half in the objective of three in sight. The process, he adds, employs no dyes but draws tints and hues from the emulsion, which means the raw stock is a special job manufactured by Eastman Kodak from Trucolor patents.

Since printing is not dependent upon dyes, negative-to-print procedure is described as agile enough to hop the Technicolor method and to equal the speed with which black-and-white rushes through the laboratory.

Trucolor is being developed primarily for Republic, but other producing companies and units will be licensed.

■

Yates, indefatigable traveler between both Coasts, is well satisfied with the rate of progress Republic is chalking up in production. He prefers to be in North Hollywood when the heavy budgeteers are under way, says the smaller attractions are so well mechanized from blueprint to completion that they no longer offer any weighty problems.

Seven figures for top pictures are neither accidents nor rarities these days, moreover. Nor is the constant drive to attract better known personalities showing any signs of abatement. Yates is well aware of the competition, knows the fundamental as to "names" is as characteristic of this business today as it ever was.

"It's been a gradual and never easy development with us. A few years ago, we couldn't get people like Frank Borzage, Nelson Eddy, Don Ameche and Ilona Massey to drive by the studio. Now they work there."

■ ■

Several distributors appear to have read into the changing Paramount-Florida State Theatres situation elements which are not in it. Here are the facts:

Under a five-year management-operation contract, expiring on Dec. 31, Paramount agreed to dispose of its minority interest in certain houses in some of the smaller towns if that contract was not renewed. The existing agreement, *per se*, has not. B. B. Garner and Marion Talley are withdrawing from Florida State to set up shop of their own. Paramount's minority share in the above definition is being sold to them.

A new contract, beginning Jan. 1, has been made with Frank Rogers and Fred Kent, the former continuing as president and the latter as attorney and Rogers' associate in management. Under its conditions, they will operate Florida State, which thereafter will be comprised of Paramount's 100 per cent owned houses.

To conclude that Paramount is pulling out of Florida exhibition, therefore, is to conclude too much.

■ ■

Paul Nathanson's half of the Odeon Circuit [in Canada] was acquired by J. Arthur Rank, holder of the other half, many months before the deal hit anybody's printed page.

Not long after papers were signed, Nathanson had a change of mind and decided he wanted to retain what he already had sold. The answer, provided there is one, rests with Rank, who probably will hold on to what he has already bought.

■ ■

Aside from their personal commitment on bonds figuring in the Fanchon and Marco first-run situation in St. Louis, the Skourases are reported interested in re-entering the city where they captured initial prominence through sentimental attractions and reasons. The key houses, of course, would be the Ambassador, Missouri and Fox. Via the St. Louis Amusement Co., there also would be about two dozen neighborhood theatres.

■ ■

On a Note of Self-Praise: "Universal in the general theatre field and, eventually, a theatre operating company to handle its affairs suggests the man to head the activity will be John J. O'Connor."—*Insider's Outlook*, August 22.

O'CONNOR TO HEAD UNIVERSAL CIRCUIT: Headline in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, Dec. 4.

■ ■

"The trouble about SRO [for Selznick Releasing Organization] is that Selznick will insist that we live up to the initials," sighs one of its executives.

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AND 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN
KATHARINE HEPBURN
ROBERT TAYLOR
Robt. MITCHUM
M-G-M's
'UNDERCURRENT'
IN PERSON
JOHNNY MORGAN
Radio's Newest Comic
EXTRA!
Song Styles by
YVETTE
Plus Others

Betty Hutton
Sonny Tufts
in "Cross My Heart"
A Paramount Picture
in Person! THE ANDREWS SISTERS
"ES PAUL & HIS TRIO
Extra! TONY PASTOR And Band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Tender...brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances
ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

JAMES MASON
MARGARET LOCKWOOD
PATRICIA ROC
in "The Wicked Lady"
WINTER GARDEN B'WAY AT 50TH
DOORS OPEN 9:00 A. M. TO 3:00 A. M.

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of
W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Blameless?

Shameless?

Nameless?

THE *Shocking* MISS PILGRIM

IN TECHNICOLOR

(SHOCKING? SHE'S SENSATIONAL!).....

It's GRABLE GERSHWIN and GREAT.....



BETTY GRABLE
DICK HAYMES

THE Shocking MISS PILGRIM

IN TECHNICOLOR

with Anne Revere · Allyn Joslyn · Gene Lockhart

Elizabeth Patterson · Elisabeth Risdon · Arthur Shields · Charles Kemper · Roy Roberts

Written for the Screen and Directed by GEORGE SEATON · Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

From a Story by Ernest and Frederica Maas · Music by George Gershwin and Lyrics by Ira Gershwin · "But Not In Boston" "For You, For Me, For Evermore" · "Sweet Packard" · "Tour of the Town" · "Welcome Song" · "Stand Up and Fight" "Changing My Tune" · "Aren't You Kind of Glad We Did?" · "One, Two, Three" · "Waltzing Is Better Sitting Down" "Waltz Me No Waltzes" · Dances Staged by Hermes Pan · Costumes Designed by Orry Kelly

All the Sensational Boxoffice Hits are Made by 20th Century-Fox

1st Selznick Meeting

(*Continued from page* 1)

Duane, New England; John Howard, Pacific Coast.

A successor to Sidney G. Alexander, former SRO Eastern director of advertising and publicity, will be named following the arrival of Paul MacNamara, advertising, publicity and exploitation chief, in New York from the Coast, over the weekend of Jan. 4-5, according to Kusell.

Neil F. Agnew, SRO president, has been busy completing plans to set the new company since arriving here from Hollywood early this week.

The present Selznick offices, at 400 Madison Ave. and 18 E. 48th St., will be large enough to meet the expanding company's needs for the time being, Kusell said, indicating, however, that the organization will move to larger headquarters, preferably under one roof, when the Madison Avenue lease expires, next October.

Although a date for the New York opening of Selznick's "Duel in the Sun" has not yet been set, the film probably will open at the Astor Theatre, Kusell said, adding that there is a possibility that the present tenant of the Astor, Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives," will move to another house as the result of an agreement between the producers. The Astor, which is leased to both Goldwyn and Selznick and used for their bookings on a rotating basis, was the subject of litigation recently when both of them sought the house for their latest pictures.

Foundation Group

(*Continued from page* 1)

Barney Balaban is chairman, was designated at the meeting in New Orleans on Dec. 4 to organize the Foundation in accordance with general plans agreed upon. The steering committee consists of the coordinating committee and the chairman of the committees on scope, finance, organization and promotion and public relations. The reports of these committees are now being digested and prepared in final form to be sent to all those who attended the New Orleans meeting.

The sub-committee, aided by industry lawyers, has been preparing the necessary papers for the formal incorporation of the Foundation, which will provide aid for the sick and destitute from all branches of the industry. It is proposed that the Foundation be incorporated in the District of Columbia because of its national character.

It is hoped that the preliminary plans will be completed by the first of the new year.

Building Codes

(*Continued from page* 1)

floor if they are built of wood, wireglass for windows located within five feet of unenclosed fire escapes, aisles to serve exits in sidewalls, a 36-inch space between the stage and first row of seats, plus limits of 15 seats in each central-block row and eight seats in wall-side rows.

Theatremen who were members of the advisory committee on the Labor Department code included: Henry Anderson, Paramount; Louis Lazar, Schine Circuit; Theodore Jung representing Harry Moskowitz of Loew's, and Martin Tracey, Century Circuit.

Crosby on Top

(*Continued from page* 1)

groups went to Ingrid Bergman, a newcomer to the top 10. Van Johnson, who was second last year in the combined vote, dropped to third, followed by Gary Cooper, Bob Hope, Humphrey Bogart, Greer Garson, Margaret O'Brien, Betty Grable and Roy Rogers, in that order.

Cooper captured the No. 3 spot in the independent exhibitors' vote, followed in order by Johnson, Hope, Wallace Beery, Miss O'Brien, Rogers, Miss Grable and Bogart. Johnson was third choice of the circuit operators, followed by Hope, Cooper, Bogart, Miss Garson, Ray Milland, Bette Davis and Cary Grant.

Appearing for the eighth time among the top 10, Cooper is exceeded in that respect only by Clark Gable, who has registered on 12 occasions. Hope, who rose from seventh to fifth place in the 1946 balloting, holds the poll championship for top-10 repeats by a comedian, with five appearances.

Eleventh place in the combined vote went to Beery, followed in order by Milland, Gable, Alan Ladd, Miss Davis, Rita Hayworth, Grant, Cornel Wilde, Claudette Colbert and Gene Tierney (tied), Abbott and Costello, Spencer Tracy, Olivia de Havilland, Gregory Peck, Errol Flynn and Judy Garland. Appearing among the first 25 in the poll of independents, although not in the circuit poll, were John Wayne, Betty Hutton and Barbara Stanwyck.

The first *Herald-Fame* poll, in 1932, was won by Marie Dressler, who repeated the next year. Will Rogers was the 1934 champion. Shirley Temple took the lead in 1935 and held it through 1938. Mickey Rooney was the winner in 1939, 1940 and 1941; Abbott and Costello, 1942, and Miss Grable, 1943, whereupon Crosby's championship tenure began.

Bergman, Crosby and 'Bells' Top Rural Poll

The nation's rural theatre-goers have chosen Ingrid Bergman and Bing Crosby as their favorite stars for 1946 and "The Bells of St. Mary's" as the best picture of the year in the fourth annual poll conducted by *Country Gentleman.*

Canada-US Polls in Close Agreement

Canadian exhibitors agree with their U. S. neighbors in nine of 10 choices for the top money-making stars of 1946, according to the 15th annual poll conducted by *Motion Picture Herald* and *Fame.* The leaders, in order, on the Dominion list were: Bing Crosby Ingrid Bergman, Van Johnson, Bob Hope, Greer Garson, Margaret O'Brien, Betty Grable, Humphrey Bogart, Alan Ladd and Gary Cooper.

Similar near-agreement was registered in the poll of money-making Western stars, the Canadians placing them in this order: Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Bill Elliott, "Gabby" Hayes, Smiley Burnette and Charles Starrett (tied), Johnny Mack Brown, Sunset Carson, Don (Red) Barry, Bob Steele and Jimmy Wakely (tied), and Andy Clyde.

Rogers Holds Place As Western Champ

Roy Rogers, who placed 10th in the combined voting of independent and circuit exhibitors on the money-making film stars of 1946, as conducted by *Motion Picture Herald* and *Fame*, again is the champion among the Western stars—for the fourth consecutive year.

Following Rogers in the combined vote on the cowboy heroes were: Bill Elliott, Gene Autry, "Gabby" Hayes, Smiley Burnette, Charles Starrett, Johnny Mack Brown, Sunset Carson, "Fuzzy" Knight and Eddie Dean, in the order named. Bob Steele and Buster Crabbe appeared among the top 10 as chosen by the circuit operators, although they were not on the independents' select list.

RCA Lamp

(*Continued from page* 1)

Brenkert plant in Detroit, according to J. R. Little, manager of the RCA theatre equipment section, here.

Little states that the Brenkert Radarc Lamp, as it is called, is not a modification of a low intensity type arc lamp, but "was especially designed for high-intensity operation in the one-kilowatt power range."

SAG Again

(*Continued from page* 1)

ing with the Los Angeles Inter-Faith Council, which last week proposed that union antagonists and the studios submit all issues to external arbitration, and will submit a report to membership in mail referendum, CSU has signified willingness to accept the Council's proposal. IATSE has neither rebuffed nor welcomed the organization's offer, and producers have matter under advisement.

Irish Refuse

(*Continued from page* 1)

exhibitors to ascertain what they thought of the present situation. The latter intimated that, with the present import duties levied on newsreels, the censorship fees and the peculiar pitfalls of a contract system which will have to cater mostly to late-run houses, it is not an attractive proposition to import newsreels at the present. There the matter rests now unless the department intends to readjust conditions of importation—which is hardly likely in view of the fact that imported newsreels deal with news from a non-Irish standpoint and devote only small amounts of footage to purely Irish events.

Jack de Waal Recovers

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 26.—Jack de Waal has resumed his activities as home office representative at the RKO Radio exchange, following an operation. Charles Zagrans is local branch manager for RKO.

Services on Coast For W. C. Fields

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—Funeral services for W. C. Fields (Claude William Dukinfield), 67, film, stage and radio comedian, who died at Las Encinas Sanitarium, Pasadena, yesterday, will be conducted at Forest Lawn Cemetery, here. The date has yet to be announced. Fields, who entered the sanitarium in Oct., 1945, had been in a critical condition for several months.

Born Jan. 29, 1879, in Philadelphia, Fields began his theatrical career as a juggler. He became a master of pantomine and mimicry, and traveled throughout Europe, South Africa and even to the South Seas with a vaudeville company, before joining Florenz Ziegfeld productions in New York in the early part of the century. Later he played in the "George White Scandals of 1922," the 1938 "Vanities" and a number of other musical comedies, and entered motion pictures in 1925 in D. W. Griffith's "Sally of the Sawdust," produced in the East. Following this with several other silent pictures made in New York, he came here in 1932 to continue a successful film career.

Some of his most important pictures were: "It's the Old Army Game," "Million Dollar Legs," "If I had a Million," "Alice in Wonderland," "Mrs. Wiggs of the Cabbage Patch," "David Copperfield," "You Can't Cheat an Honest Man," "Big Broadcast of 1938," "My Little Chickadee," and many others.

Survivors include his widow, Harriet, and a son, W. C. Fields, Jr.

Michaels New Head Of Buffalo Variety

BUFFALO, Dec. 26.—Dewey Michaels has been elected chief barker of the Variety Club, here, by the new board of directors.

Other new officers are: William D. Dipson, first assistant chief barker; George H. Mackenna, second assistant; Harry L. Berkson, dough guy; W. E. J. Martin, property master. Other members of the board, all of whom will take office Jan. 1, are: Albert Becker, Jack Chinell, Andy Gibson, Myron Gross; Richard Walsh and Murray Whiteman. Installation ceremonies are scheduled for Saturday, Jan. 11, at a dinner-dance in the Hotel Lafayette.

'Razor's' Yule Dates

Rivalling the record-breaking business at its Roxy Theatre opening in New York, Darryl F. Zanuck's "The Razor's Edge," opened Christmas Day in 26 key cities throughout the country, according to wires received at the 20th Century-Fox home office yesterday. Of the 26 cities, 10 reported new holiday or opening records.

REEVES
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Short Subjects

"Nature's Atom Bomb"
(*Universal*)

The Answer Man, replying to several interesting questions put to him by his vast unseen audience, supplements his commentaries with visualized answers to such questions as: Were the recent atomic bomb explosions the biggest the world has ever known? what are the chances of marrying a blonde? how many periods are there in a bottle of ink? Running time, 10 minutes.

"Queens of the Court"
(*Paramount*)

The glamour and thrills of championship tennis, with scenes of the nation's top-ranking women players, are shown in this Grantland Rice "Sportlight." Among those displaying their agility are: Pauline Betz, Doris Hart, Pat Todd, Margaret Osborne and others, along with Jinx Falkenburg, Sarah Palfrey Cooke and Ted Husing. Running time, 10 minutes.

"The Skolsky Party"
(*Columbia*)

Sidney Skolsky, the Hollywood columnist and producer of "The Jolson Story," is shown as host at a party at Schwab's drug store, the Schwabadero, to celebrate the opening of his picture. Shown in their off-moments are such film stars as William Powell, John Garfield, Sylvia Sidney, Jack Haley, Jeff Donnell, Alan Ladd and other notables. Running time, 9½ minutes.

"So You Think You're a Nervous Wreck"
(*Warner Brothers*)

Joe, a "white-collar" worker, is hounded by fears and phobias, with "boss fear" his most deeply-rooted psychic disturbance. One day he snaps, and is convinced that he is neurotic. Joe sees himself, in a dream, besting his boss and establishing his own super-deluxe office. Running time, 10 minutes.

"Pluto's Housewarming"
(*Walt Disney-RKO Radio*)

Pluto, with bones and belongings, is all set to move into his new home when he discovers a turtle has already taken possession. After succeeding in ousting the turtle, he finds Butch the bulldog wants to be a tenant. It all results in a merry whirligig for home-loving Pluto. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Mighty Mouse and the Hep Cat"
(*20th Century-Fox*)

In this "Terrytoon" short, the cats are after the mice again. Confronted with repeated failure in luring the mice, the cats decide that one of their band should be turned loose on a hot clarinet. This ruse succeeds and the mice all troop into the clutches of the cats. But Mighty Mouse comes to the rescue and all is serene until the next adventure. In Technicolor. Running time, seven minutes.

"Thrills of Music"
(*Columbia*)

Les Elgart, his "singing trumpet" and his orchestra, are featured in this musical potpourri, starting off with a jump version of "Mabel, Mabel" with vocalists Howard Duffy, Jo Jean Rogers and Terry Parker. Other numbers included are "Either It's Love or It Isn't" and "Liza Jane". Running time, 10 minutes.

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Review

"Man's Hope"
(*Continental-Lopert*)

SHORN clean of any complexity in its plot, "Man's Hope," written, directed and produced by Andre Malraux, from his novel about the Spanish Civil War, is unpretentious and haunting in its poetic simplicity. Filmed in Barcelona in 1938, while the city was under bombardment, and smuggled out of Spain after Franco's accession, the picture, which dramatizes two incidents in the conflict, mounts up to a terrific wallop which tells something about the Spanish fight in particular and about all wars in general. Malraux does not here hew to any political "line," and only a few offhand remarks in the Spanish dialogue refer to the fact that there were any political issues involved in the fight, apart from the same generalities in which the recent global conflict was framed.

Malraux is fundamentally an artist sensitive to moods and to people, and this responsiveness is reflected in the dirge-like procession at the climax of the film, when several thousands of villagers snake their way down a mountain after rescuing a bomber crew. The camera catches the silent fears and heroism, the countless individual heroisms symbolized in the faces of peasants, of young and old. Three actors are listed in the cast, Majuto, Nicolas Rodriguez and Jose Lado, supported by members of the International Brigade and Spanish peasants, but there are no uniquely outstanding performances, for they are all superlatively human. Darius Milhaud composed the stirring music which supplements the picture, and the English titles are terse, cryptic and effective.

Running time, 80 minutes. General audience classification. Release date not set.

IRVING KAPLAN

Authors League in New License Move

The Authors League of America, faced with a storm of protest over alleged dictatorial features of the plan for an American Authors Authority, as put forward by James M. Cain of the Screen Writers Guild, has suggested through a special committee the establishment of a literary licensing system which would embody some of the features of the Cain proposal and rule out others.

"The charter of the league," according to a committee statement, "permits the establishment within its own structure of a licensing system which, among other virtues, would preclude the possibility of any editorial control of the writers' works or dictatorship by individuals."

The new system, the statement said, would be analogous to the minimum basic agreement of the Dramatists Guild. The Cain plan included, prominently, the leasing of literary rights to film companies in preference to selling them.

The committee, appointed by Elmer Rice, who recently resigned as president of the Authors League, is comprised of Christopher La Farge, president of the Authors Guild; Richard Rodgers, president of the Dramatists Guild; Peter Lyon, vice-president of the Radio Writers Guild, and Marc Connelley, Eastern representative of the Screen Writers Guild.

Variety Clubs are on International Basis

R. J. O'Donnell, national chief barker of the Variety Clubs, discloses that the name of the organization has been changed, officially, from Variety Clubs of America to Variety Clubs, International. This change, which was discussed at length during the last national convention in New York, last May, was made necessary by reason of the expansion of the clubs into foreign countries.

Last year the first Canadian Tent was chartered in Toronto, with J. J. Fitzgibbons as chief barker. This fall the Mexico City tent was organized, with Luis Montes as chief barker, and presentation of its charter and induction of its barkers will take place in Mexico City on Jan. 16, 1947. Further foreign expansion will take place during the coming year when tents are expected to be chartered in London, Paris and Australia. Cuba, also, is expected to apply for a charter before the spring.

Voting on the change in name has been going on for the past month and practically all of the tents have already sent in their favorable votes, making it official. Title change of the national charter has also been effected. All foreign tents with charters granted will be represented at the next annual convention, to be held at the Ambassador Hotel, Los Angeles, in May.

Alexander's 2nd Bonus

COLORADO SPRINGS, Dec. 26.—A year-end bonus of $75.000 has been paid by the Alexander Film Co., here, to its home office staff. This is the second bonus for the employes this year, a bonus of $50,000 having been given last June.

New Warner Shorts

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 26.—A new series of musical one-reelers titled "Memories from Melody Lane," designed for audience participation at the finish, will be produced by Gordon Hollingshead for Warners in 1947.

Each subject will feature American folk music.

Virginia MPTA to Convene Feb. 1-3

WASHINGTON, Dec. 26.—A mid-winter convention of the Virginia Motion Picture Theatre Association will be held at the Shoreham Hotel, here, Feb. 1-3, Sam Roth, chairman of the convention committee, announces. Actual VMPTA convention proceedings will not get underway until Sunday, Feb. 2, but hotel accommodations will be made available Saturday.

Roth and his co-chairmen, Wade Pearson and Harold Wood, have already completed preliminary arrangements for the memorable convention. The last mid-winter convention was held in Washington in 1939. Registration will begin at the Shoreham Hotel on Saturday, February 1, with a cocktail party on Sunday evening. A business meeting is scheduled for Monday morning, followed by a luncheon, with the main dinner-dance planned for Monday evening. The committee will endeavor to have a well-known Hollywood celebrity as guest-of-honor at the dinner-dance.

Arthur, Wehrenberg Lead Daylight Fight

ST. LOUIS, Dec. 26.—James H. Arthur, president of Fanchon and Marco, and Fred Wehrenberg, president of the MPTOA, are joint chairmen of a theatre committee to circulate petitions to obtain signatures necessary to placing the issue of daylight-saving time on a local ballot. Both told the press here that exhibitors desire the public to decide the issue, which has been hotly debated in aldermanic chambers and in the papers for weeks, saying, "and we'll abide by that decision."

Joseph Dipesa Honored

BOSTON, Dec. 26.—Joseph A. Dipesa, Loew's publicity director, has been presented with a loyalty emblem for more than 35 years service with Loew's Theatres. The award was made at a banquet at the Parker House, with Oscar A. Doob, general theatre executive, and Charles E. Kurtzman, Northeastern division manager, making the presentation. Denis W. Delaney, U. S. Collector of Internal Revenue, and other city officials attended.

India Film Here

"Shakuntala," said to be the first India-produced film ever to be shown in this country, will be released in January by Mayer and Burstyn. Dewan Sharar, who wrote the screenplay from the original by Kalidasas, is now here and is completing work on English titles. "Shakuntala" was produced and directed by V. Shantaram, whose wife, Jayashree plays the title role.

Natco Names Yankie

CHICAGO, Dec. 26.—Russell Yankie, until recently Southern sales manager for Young America Films, has been named Southern district manager for Natco, Inc., sound equipment manufacturer, with headquarters at St. Petersburg, Fla.

Columbia's 'Twilight'

"Alias Mr. Twilight," which was reviewed yesterday in MOTION PICTURE DAILY, is a Columbia picture; credit to the distributor was inadvertently omitted.

They say it'll run Forever!

"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN", the Command Performance picture, is as timeless as the urge of the love in a woman's heart.

In choosing the Park Avenue Theatre for the American premiere of this extraordinary motion picture, Universal-International feels it is serving both the picture and the audience in the best possible manner.

"STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN," being an unusual motion picture, must be shown under the finest auspices.

The reserved seat policy in the Park Avenue Theatre, which is not only New York's most modern theatre but one of the world's finest, enables the theatre-going public to enjoy this picture in the best environment.

This American premiere is more than the inauguration of a road-show policy. It is also a signal to the world that "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" represents a new era in motion picture entertainment.

Knowing people both in and out of the trade are finding themselves involuntarily saying, "It'll probably run forever."





If you want to do right by a great motion picture, and if you want to serve best your patronage, then you too will be thinking about the best way to present "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN." We think you will agree that it deserves the most careful type of exhibition.



Departing from the coventional standards and emerging as a distinctive story which introduces new color and camera technique, "STAIRWAY TO HEAVEN" may be justly characterized as "a different motion picture." ✶ Although the story has the same motivating elements as most screen romances, it becomes unique because of its treatment as well as its revolutionary use of color. It is a romance in the sense that there are people in it who seek romance, but these are not the usual types found in love stories on the screen. It is evocative of all the fine things that can be achieved by the magic and creative elements that are the motion picture. It is the motion picture of tomorrow with the appeal of today. Emotionally, it takes you up to heaven, yet it is down to earth in its universal appeal.

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PRESIDENT

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RAZORS EDGE OPENED TODAY BREAKING EVERY PREVIOUS CHRISTMAS DAY RECORD BY TREMENDOUS AMOUNT . NEVER SUCH CROWDS . NEVER SUCH STANDING ROOM. NEVER SUCH PRAISE BY PRESS AND PUBLIC. ON THE BASIS OF THIS OPENING AN ALL TIME RECORD FOR THE WEEK IS ASSURED BEST REGARDS.=

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444 WEST 56TH ST NYK.=

RAZOR'S EDGE HAS WON AN ALL TIME PLACE IN THE HEARTS OF WICHITA THEATRE PATRONS. ENTHUSIASM FOR THE PICTURE EXCEEDS ANYTHING WE HAVE SEEN IN YEARS. GROSS OF FIRST DAY IS ABSOLUTELY SENSATIONAL EXCEEDING THE FANTASTIC GROSSES WE REACHED DURING WAR DAYS WHEN THIS WAS A BOOM TOWN BUILDING FLEETS OF B-29S. MY PERSONAL CONGRATULATIONS TO YOU AND DARRYL ZANUCK FOR THIS GREAT CONTRIBUTION TO AMERICA'S AMUSEMENT SEEKERS AND THE NATIONAL BOXOFFICE.=

HOWARD JAMEYSON

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

THE WORLD'S CHAMPION BOXOFFICE GROSSER!

. . . and the same sensational boxoffice grosses in **LOS ANGELES, OMAHA, MILWAUKEE, KANSAS CITY, ST. LOUIS, CHICAGO, SALT LAKE CITY, CLEVELAND, SAN FRANCISCO, STOCKTON, ATLANTIC CITY, PORTLAND, SPRINGFIELD, HUTCHINSON, SEATTLE, SPOKANE, DAYTON, SALINA, OKLAHOMA CITY, DETROIT and BALTIMORE!**

20
CENTURY-FO

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 126 NEW YORK, U. S. A., MONDAY, DECEMBER 30, 1946 TEN CENTS

Names . . . *in Today's News*

CHARLES L. GLETT, who recently resigned as vice-president and general manager of the David O. Selznick organization, will join Story Productions in a similar capacity, it was announced here Friday by Armand S. Deutsch and Hal Horne, Story Production heads. Glett will assume his new duties immediately. He formerly was a vice-president and general manager of Western Electric's Eastern Service Studios, and General Service Studios, and the talent agency headed by the late Myron Selznick. In addition, he headed his own company in independent production and also produced for RKO. During the war he was a major in the Signal Corps.



Charles L. Glett

Jay Eisenberg Succeeds Dillard at Loew's, Inc.

Jay Eisenberg, assistant to Leopold Friedman in Loew's theatre department, has been appointed legal adviser to William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager, following the resignation of Tyree Dillard, Jr., effective Jan. 3.

At the same time, Pincus Sober, who has been specializing on legal phases of the company's labor relations, will become assistant to Eisenberg, succeeding Herbert Nusbaum, who resigned recently to join Monogram's legal department on the Coast.

Weitman Will Sponsor B'nai B'rith Campaign

Robert M. Weitman, managing director of the New York Paramount Theatre, has been appointed sponsoring chairman of the seventh annual fund raising campaign of Cinema Lodge, B'nai B'rith, Jack H. Levin, Cinema president announces. A goal of $25,000 has been set.

Silverstone Appoints Ugast Cuban Manager

Edward Ugast, formerly with United Artists and Paramount in the foreign field, has been named 20th Century-Fox International's manager in Cuba by Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-International. He replaces Herbert White, who will return to the home office for a new assignment.

Warners' Net $19,424,000 All-Time High

Doubles Previous Year's Profit of $9,901,000

Approximately doubling the previous year's operating results, and establishing an all-time record, Warner Brothers and subsidiary companies had a net profit of $19,424,000, equal to $2.62 a share, in the year ended Aug. 31, 1946, it is announced by Harry M. Warner, president. This compares with $9,901,000, or $1.33 a share, after giving effect to the recent two-for-one common stock splitup, reported for the preceding year.



Harry M. Warner

(*Continued on page 3*)

Paramount Releases Are Set to April

Paramount, which in recent months has established a new low in the number of films slated for release, has now set its 1946-47 release schedule through April, Charles M. Reagan,

(*Continued on page 3*)

WB's Assets Top Liabilities 2-to-1

As of Aug. 31, 1946, total current and working assets of Warner Brothers held a near two-to-one ratio over liabilities according to the company's annual report issued Friday. Current and working assets were listed at $70,489,838, against liabilities of $32,754,535. These figures compare with $64,504,744 in assets as of Aug. 31, 1945, against $26,227,188 in liabilities on the same date.

The company's total fixed assets, less reserves for depreciation and amortization, amounted to $100,516,097 as of Aug. 31, 1946, compared to $100,641,643 on Aug. 31, 1945.

Monogram's $8,000,000

Monogram's 1947 production, expanded through the creation of Allied Artists for making the higher-budgeted pictures, will be financed by approximately $8,000,000 in bank loans, an increase of $2,000,000 over those obtained for the current year, according to George D. Burrows, executive vice-president and treasurer, who has been here from Hollywood for the past several weeks completing arrangements with Guaranty Trust Co. and the Bank of Manhattan. Several banks on the Coast also will participate in the financing, Burrows said.

Newsreel Price Rise Kept Equal to Raw Stock Boost

Rental prices for newsreels, which remained virtually unchanged throughout the war, out of deference to what is described as the reels' value in carrying Government messages to the public, now are being adjusted upward, according to a distributor spokesman, who indicates that the rise, on the average, approximately parallels the boost of about 15 per cent in raw stock costs which went into effect last August.

An effort to obtain a substantially greater increase, to offset other mounting costs over and above those of raw stock, has been largely abandoned because of exhibitor resistance, it is indicated.

In some instances, however, theatres are understood to have agreed to pay as high as 25 per cent more for newsreels, recognizing that their past rental rates have been disproportionately low. But these rises are said to have been offset by the situation at other houses, where the volume was found not to warrant any adjustment. In general, it is believed by the distributors that a more equitable spread of costs is being obtained.

Another factor entering into the revised newsreel price scheme is that of timeliness, with first-run theatres standing a greater percentage of the boost than do those which play the films second-run.

SRO Begins Operations in 10 Key Cities

Scanlon to Head Board; Wide Expansion Planned

The Selznick Releasing Organization, formed on Dec. 11 following David O. Selznick's withdrawal from United Artists' distribution, already has its own sales offices operating in 10 cities, the company announced at the weekend. The offices, fitting numerically into the SRO master-exchange plan reported in MOTION PICTURE DAILY on Dec. 13, are located in New York, Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco, Atlanta, Seattle, Kansas City, Cleveland, Boston.

E. L. Scanlon, it was also announced, will be chairman of the board and treasurer of the company, which had first listed Daniel T. O'Shea, Vanguard

(*Continued on page 3*)

Skouras Gives 10 Contracts

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 29.—In a policy innovation which is believed to set a precedent, at least for its size in this industry, Charles Skouras, president of National Theatres, will have given 10 of National's executive department heads seven-year contracts by New Year's, at which time the pacts will become effective.

The 10 are: George Bowser, Richard Spier, Cullen Espy, W. H. Lollier, M. A. Lundgren, George Topper, O.

(*Continued on page 3*)

Producers Agree to Council Proposals

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29.—Replying to the Los Angeles Inter-Faith Council's proposals for settling the studio strike by arbitration, producers said in letter: "We repeatedly have proposed exactly the remedy you now propose, namely, that arbitration be established to settle these jurisdictional disputes without work stoppage, and that provision for such arbitration be put on contractual basis.

"You must realize, however, that settlement of jurisdictional disputes is

(*Continued on page 3*)

Personal Mention

HERBERT J. YATES, Republic president, has left New York for Hollywood.

•

DR. C. E. K. MEES, Eastman vice-president in charge of research and development, has written a book titled "The Path of Science," just published by John Wiley and Sons, New York.

•

GLEN ALLVINE, in charge of public information for the Motion Picture Association in New York, is in Kansas City, Kan., visiting his father, who is ill.

•

RAY JOHNSON, special representative for Southern Automatic Candy in Alabama, and MRS. JOHNSON are the parents of a boy, GREGORY STRICKLAND.

•

NORMAN AYERS, southern division sales manager for Warners, is returning today to New York from Washington.

•

WALTER GOULD, foreign sales manager for United Artists, is due back in New York from the Coast Jan. 3.

•

BEN KALMENSON, Warner's' vice-president and general sales manager, has left New York for the Coast.

•

ROBERT J. O'DONNELL, Interstate Circuit general manager, is in New York from Dallas.

•

ABE MONTAGUE, Columbia general sales manager, will be back at the home office today from Boston.

•

C. J. LATTA, WB zone manager for the Albany area, was a weekend visitor in New York.

•

DAN MICHALOVE, head of National Theatres, is expected back in town Jan. 6 from Florida.

•

HENRY L. NACE, president of Paramount Nace Theatres, Phoenix, is visiting in New York.

•

GEORGE SAMPSON, RKO salesman in Detroit, is recovering from two operations.

•

NEIL HALLMAN, chief barker of the Albany Variety Club, is in Miami Beach.

•

SAMUEL GOLDWYN is scheduled to arrive here January 1 from England.

•

JANIS PAIGE, Warners player, has left New York for the Coast.

•

HARRY KURNITZ, U-I contract writer, is here from the Coast.

•

FRANK ROSENBERG has left Hollywood for New York.

Name Arthur Tober

Arthur Tober has been named supervisor of Columbia Recording Corporation's newly-created department of transcription order service and production.

Tradewise . . .

By SHERWIN KANE

THE subject of retaliatory legislative action by the United States against the motion pictures of nations which restrict or regulate motion picture imports at home was raised in a recent hearing in Washington of the sub-committee on foreign trade and shipping of the House Special Post-War Committee on Economic Policy.

The suggestion found those representatives of the American industry who were present unanimously opposed to retaliatory action of any kind. Representatives of the State Department who were present were less positive concerning their views but quite probably that was due more to the absence of a voice which could speak for the Department with authority than it was to any lack of opinion on the subject. The State Department is and for many years has been committed to a policy of reciprocal trade agreements which remove as many artificial barriers as possible to trade between nations.

Endorsement of a policy of legislative retaliation is not in keeping with the State Department's established policy on international trade. However, it is in keeping with the traditional protecive ariff thinking of he Republican Party, the party which will control Federal law-making for several years to come. Therefore, the subject is very much alive and likely to remain so whether or not the industry wishes it otherwise.

•

While the official position of the industry is in support of the elimination everywhere of artificial barriers to motion picture commerce, members of the industry are by no means unanimous on that stand. As witness, the Darryl F. Zanuck message to the Washington sub-committee, which declared in part: "Now is the proper time for Congress to openly support us as other foreign governments are openly supporting their own products and discrediting ours."

Surely, there is something to be said for the viewpoint expressed by Zanuck and shared by so many within the industry, even though that something is as prosaic as the subject of fair-play or as chauvinistic as not being forever and for all the international suckers.

Winning support for the advocates here of retaliatory legislation are those abroad who, as Adolph Zukor recently put it, blame Hollywood for their own shortcomings.

The flame is fanned, too, by those abroad who charge the American industry with a conspiracy to keep their films from American screens, whose charges must of necessity be shouted over the barrier of quota laws and other restrictive legislation written specifically to bar some American films from the screens of their own countries.

If in spite of all that is done with and for the all too little product suitable for this market which is sent here from abroad, the American industry still is to be charged with conspiracy to keep it from the theatres, then why not resort to restrictive legislation, as other nations do?

The law will be much more effective than the alleged conspiracy and, as in the countries which perpetuate such laws, the industry will be relieved by statute of the empty but slanderous charges which are so often made against it. No longer could the industry be accused of attempting to achieve by conspiracy the result that industries in other lands achieve by laws.

• •

Bosley Crowther, film editor of the New York *Times,* observed recently that he found it "significant" that no film trade paper has seen fit to comment on the critical remarks which Alexander Korda emitted recently on the freedom of American films, in content, as well as in international commerce, which remarks pleased Crowther, who published them, no end.

If there is any significance in the trade press silence on the subject it is probably only that the trade writers have known Korda longer and better than has Crowther and, therefore, are understandably less stirred by his pronouncements. For example, it has not been too long since Korda was a part owner of United Artists for one to forget that he did not think then as he says he thinks now or, if he did, he didn't say it then.

Of course, a man as well as a woman has a right to a change of mind, and we assume no one would want to deprive Korda of that right. But there's the rub. Next time around he may be back on this side, in which case all the brittle words said now will be mighty foolish looking when you run across them by accident in the file copies.

• •

A splendid, happy New Year to you all!

Newsreel Parade

A VARIETY of items are spotlighted in current newsreels, including the Pope's recent public appearance in Rome, a new Navy rocket test, a new set of quadruplets, winter sports, a New Year message from President Truman, television in Russia, and Elliott Roosevelt's return here from that country. Full contents follow:

MOVIETONE NEWS, No. 35—Baruch wins out in atomic committee vote. U. S. Navy tests new rocket weapons. Huge throng cheers Pope as he hits anti-clericism. Quadruplets born to veteran and British war bride. Sports: basketball, ski-jumping. Young Chinese piano composer.

NEWS OF THE DAY, No. 233—Science films cosmic rays. Rome rallies to the suport of the Pope and Church. Elliott Roosevelt home. Quads bring housing problem. Chinese composer, aged eight. Winter sports. Newest 1947 hairdos.

PARAMOUNT NEWS, No. 36—Britain sees plane crash miracle. Elliott Roosevelt returns from Russia. Pope assails foes of Church. New Navy rocket. Quads born to British war bride. The New Year: Truman loks for secure peace in 1947.

RKO PATHE NEWS, No. 38—Truman sees hope for peace. Field Marshal Montgomery visits Austria. Russia shows television. Doll museum recalls past. Veterans draw lots for 86 farms.

UNIVERSAL NEWSREEL, No. 567—Pope Pius receives tribute. A "quad" of Quads. Personalities in the news: Truman home on Christmas, Field Marshal Smuts. Navy's new ordnance test station. Italian students celebrate. "AB," the original bowl game, football comedy game.

Cohn to Preside at Jan. 8 Stamp Meet

Nat Cohn of Columbia, president of the new Cinema Stamp Collectors, here, will preside at the organization's first full-scale meeting on Jan. 8 in the theatre of the New York Museum of Science and Industry, Rockefeller Center, Harry Lindquist, editor-publisher of *Stamps Magazine,* will be guest speaker, and other highlights of the occasion will include stamp "swapping," the weighing of future plans, and inspection of displays to be entered in the International Exposition next May.

Republic Names Neal To Caribbean Post

Jack R. Neal has been appointed Caribbean supervisor for Republic International after having served two years as manager of the company's branch in Puerto Rico. Formerly with Warner Brothers in several Western exchanges, Neal was also branch manager for Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Panama and Venezuela.

Levin Joins Mayer

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Edwin Levin, formerly with Field Publications in New York, has been appointed general manager of Howard G. Mayer and Associates, public relations counsel, of Chicago and Los Angeles. His headquarters are in Chicago, where he previously worked as publicist for Balaban and Katz.

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AAA in Clearance Award; Two Filed

An award eliminating clearance, made by the New Orleans tribunal, and two new cases seeking prohibition or reduction of clearance filed with the Boston tribunal were announced here by the American Arbitration Association.

J[illegible]h McCloskey, Jr., arbitrator, in [illegible]ward declared that Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th Century-Fox and Warner Brothers, four of the five defendants named by the Strand Theatre, Oil City, La., agreed to prohibit the establishment of any clearance between theatres in Shreveport and the Strand in licenses, entered into. Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, in its answer, maintained that the case against it should be dismissed since its contracts with the complainants do not contain any provision exacting clearance. Since there was no proof submitted that M-G-M did not require clearance, McCloskey declared, "it would not be proper to dismiss outright the proceedings on this phase of the complaint as to this company."

The complainant agreed, furthermore, to dismissal of its request that pictures be made available to them not later than 10 days after national release, the arbitrator said.

In the clearance cases filed in Boston the Gull Theatre of Winthrop, Me., a first-run in that city, alleged that the 30-day clearance to which it is subject in favor of the Colonial and Capital in Augusta is unreasonable. The complaint names M-G-M, 20th-Fox, Paramount, RKO Radio and Warners, and seeks abolition or reduction of clearance to one day or to a period viewed as reasonable to the board.

The Anchor Theatre of Kennebunk, Me., also names all five companies as defendants in its petition for elimination or reduction of clearance, naming the Central and City theatres, Biddleford, and the Strand, Empire, State and Civic, all first-run, in Portland. The Biddleford theatres are subject to seven-day clearance after the Portland houses, placing the complainant subject directly to the former and indirectly to the latter.

Drive-In Test Hearing

PITTSFIELD, MASS., Dec. 29. — The zoning board of appeals will hold a public hearing shortly on a petition of Harry Lazarus to operate a drive-in theatre here, Berkshire County's first. Decision rests with the board, since the area sought is zoned "residence B," which prohibits commercial amusements.

Authorize 4 FM Stations

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—The Federal Communications Commission has authorized operation of new frequency modulation (FM) radio stations by: Haverhill (Mass.) Gazette Co.; Hudson Valley Broadcasting Co., Inc., Albany; Copper City Broadcasting Corp., Rome, N. Y., and Troy (N.Y.) Record Co.

Chakeres Gets Another

SPRINGFIELD, O., Dec. 29.—Chakeres Theatres, operating a number of houses throughout Ohio and nearby areas, has acquired the Frances Theatre at Mechanicburg, O., from Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Robertson, of Osborn, O., effective Jan. 1.

Warners' Net

(*Continued from page* 1)

Gross income for the year amounted to $158,613,000, an increase of $16,822,000 over the previous year. Provisions for Federal taxes were $18,500,000, against $16,700,000 the year before.

Payments on funded debt during the year amounted to $16,242,000, thereby reducing total of funded and other long-term debt as of Aug. 31 to $28,010,000. Inventories were increased to $47,104,000, a rise of $3,916,000 over the previous year.

In his message to stockholders accompanying the financial report, Warner said in part:

"Both attendance and box-office receipts of your company's theatres increased during the year as compared with the preceding year. While attendance since Aug. 31 has been approximately the same as compared with last year, box-office receipts have been larger than during the same period one year ago.

"Receipts from film rentals arising from the showing of Warner pictures in the United States continue to show increases," he added, "notwithstanding a decrease in film rentals in England during recent months, total foreign film rentals continue larger than during the corresponding period last year."

Warner also revealed that there are now 29,300 Warner stockholders, compared with 24,200 one year ago.

Producers Agree

(*Continued from page* 1)

not a matter between employers and employees but is a matter among unions. Unions have sought and are still seeking such agreement. It is the hope of producers that this effort will succeed, but we believe you must agree it cannot possibly succeed except by continued direct negotiations among the unions, without interference by employers."

CSU has expressed approval of the Council's proposals; IATSE has been non-committal.

National IRE Meet Here March 3-7

The annual national convention of the Institute of Radio Engineers will be held March 3-7 at the Hotel Commodore, New York, with a radio engineering show and exhibition being held at the same time at the 34th Street Armory.

'The Best Laid Plans . . .'

MEXICO CITY, Dec. 29. — A new first-run theatre, the Cine Cosmos, seating 5,000, that was to have been inaugurated on New Year's Day, was destroyed by a night fire with a loss which the owners, Jesus and Adolfo Grovas, estimate at $600,000. Four workmen were cleared of suspicion of sabotage. The police said the fire, which took 12 hours to extinguish, was caused by a short circuit.

MGM Office Closed

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—M-G-M's Chicago talent department has been closed and the office, in the Fine Arts Building, concluded its lease. Maurice Golden, head of the department for the past four years, has moved to Los Angeles.

Paramount Releases

(*Continued from page* 1)

vice-president in charge of distribution, announced at the weekend.

Listed are eight productions in addition to "Two Years Before the Mast,'" and the Irving Berlin Technicolor musical, "Blue Skies," the first two productions on the new season's schedule. The former went into general release on Nov. 22, with the latter released nationally on Friday.

The eight are: "Cross My Heart," produced by Harry Tugend, directed by John Berry, for release Jan. 10; Hal Wallis' "The Perfect Marriage," directed by Lewis Allen, Jan. 24; "Ladies' Man," produced by Daniel Dare, directed by William Russell, Feb. 7; "California," in Technicolor, produced by Seton I. Miller, directed by John Farrow, Feb. 21; "Easy Come, Easy Go," produced by Kenneth Macgowan, directed by John Farrow, March 7; "Suddenly It's Spring," produced by Claude Binyon, directed by Mitchell Leisen, March 21.

Also, Hope Enterprises' "My Favorite Brunette," produced by Danny Dare, directed by Elliott Nugent, April 4, and "The Imperfect Lady," produced by Karl Tunberg, directed by Lewis Allen, April 25.

SRO Operations

(*Continued from page* 1)

Films' president, as board chairman. Other board members will be Selznick, O'Shea, Neil Agnew, SRO president, and Richard Greenlee.

Leonard R. Case has been named assistant treasurer and assistant secretary, while Robert H. Dann and Greenlee also will be assistant secretaries.

The 10 operating offices, which an SRO spokesman said have been opened "independently of any other company," are now being used as headquarters for sales of Selznick's "Duel in the Sun." Full staffing of them is expected to be completed within two weeks.

Selznick plans to open many more offices in the U. S., Europe, South America and the Near and Far East.

Complete 'Road' Plans

Leo Hurwitz, vice-president of Freedom Road Films, Inc., and Joseph Gould, executive director, will return to New York from Hollywood this week following a three-week trip to line up a production staff for "Freedom Road." The shooting date, originally set for April, has been postponed until May to allow Paul Robeson, who will star in the film, to complete his current nationwide concert tour. The production, based on Howard Fast's book, "Freedom Road," will be made in the East. Hurwitz will direct.

Warner Camera Club

A camera club, to bring together amateur photographers and put on periodical exhibits, has been formed by the Warner Club at the Warner Bros. home office. First exhibit is being planned for late in January, with prizes to be awarded for the best entries.

Tradeshowing of 'Life'

RKO Radio will hold trade showing of Liberty Films' "It's a Wonderful Life" on Tuesday, January 7, in exchange cities.

Newsmen to Attend Premiere on Train

Some 50 newspapermen from New York, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Norfolk, Richmond, Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis, St. Louis, Chicago, Detroit, Toledo and Cleveland will leave Washington for Cincinnati on Jan. 6 on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad's crack train, *The George Washington,* and en route—on the train—will attend the world premiere of Mark Hellinger's Universal-International release, "Swell Guy."

The event, it is said, will mark the first professional exhibition of a motion picture aboard a passenger train. Thereafter, under a one-year contract between Universal and the C. and O., "Swell Guy" and other "U" films, will be given continuous screenings on the regular sections of the *George Washington,* operating in both directions between Newport News and Cincinnati. The road will use specially-adapted dining car units, each seating 50 persons, for its motion picture service until spring, when it plans to bring out a new train, to be called *The Chessie,* which will have specially-built cars to take care of the "theatres-on-wheels."

At present pictures will be booked for two-week periods. Two 16mm. projectors, operated by regular union projectionists, will be used.

Universal has programmed a dinner and entertainment in Cincinnati on Tuesday for the newsmen guests.

Skouras Contracts

(*Continued from page* 1)

A. Collins, Andrew Krappman, William Lyris and R. H. McCullough.

The innovation, it was explained, is to protect the circuit against the laws of key manpower and, also, to reward principals responsible for the successful operation of National Theatres.

Clear Taplinger of Contempt Charges

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29. — Federal Judge Ben Harrison, hearing the Cohn-Vidor Case, dismissed contempt charges against Robert Taplinger, who had been cited for ignoring a summons when testimony showed Taplinger had been improperly served. Harrison indicated the decision on Vidor's suit for release from his Columbia contract will be handed down next week.

NSS Expands in K.C.

KANSAS CITY, Dec. 29. — Henry Kohn, supervisor of branch operations for National Screen Service, is conferring here with Louis Patz, district manager, on plans for remodeling of the building which NSS will occupy for all of its local branch and some district operations.

'Best Years' Record

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" broke all house records at the Essaness' Woods theatre here in its first seven days, grossing $44,800. The picture is running at a $1.40 top.

Jackson Park to Allied

CHICAGO, Dec. 29.—Jack Kirsch reports that the Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, has re-joined both the Allied Theatres of Illinois and the Allied booking department, effective Jan. 1.



WREATHED IN SMILES!

M-G-M is Heaven in 1947.
Stay merry with Leo all year long.
Just a few of his BIG ONES on next page →


CLARK GABLE


GREER GARSON


SPENCER TRACY


JUDY GARLAND


VAN JOHNSON


KATHARINE HEPBURN


WALTER PIDGEON


LANA TURNER


WILLIAM POWELL


MICKEY ROONEY


FRANK SINATRA


KATHRYN GRAYSON


JUNE ALLYSON


ROBERT TAYLOR


GREGORY PECK


MARGARET O'BRIEN

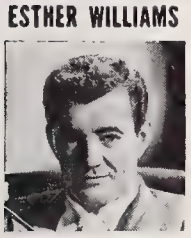

IRENE DUNNE


GENE KELLY


ROBERT MONTGOMERY


ESTHER WILLIAMS


MYRNA LOY


ROBERT WALKER


LUCILLE BALL

HAPPY M-G-M NEW YEAR!

★

"THE YEARLING"
(*Technicolor*)
Gregory Peck, Jane Wyman
Claude Jarman, Jr.

"TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY"
(*Technicolor*) *Stars Alphabetically*
June Allyson — Lucille Bremer
Judy Garland — Kathryn Grayson
Van Heflin — Lena Horne
Van Johnson — Angela Lansbury
Tony Martin — Virginia O'Brien
Dinah Shore — Frank Sinatra
Robert Walker

"THE SECRET HEART"
Claudette Colbert — Walter Pidgeon
June Allyson

"LADY IN THE LAKE"
Robert Montgomery

"THE SHOW-OFF"
Red Skelton

"THE SEA OF GRASS"
Spencer Tracy — Katharine Hepburn
Melvyn Douglas — Robert Walker

"THE MIGHTY McGURK"
Wallace Beery

"A WOMAN OF MY OWN"
Greer Garson

"LOVE LAUGHS AT ANDY HARDY"
Mickey Rooney — Lewis Stone

"THE BEGINNING OR THE END"
Brian Donlevy — Robert Walker

"SUMMER HOLIDAY"
(*Technicolor*)
Mickey Rooney — Gloria De Haven
Walter Huston — Frank Morgan
"Butch" Jenkins

"THIS TIME FOR KEEPS"
(*Technicolor*)
Esther Williams — Lauritz Melchior
Jimmy Durante — Johnnie Johnston
Xavier Cugat

"THE UNFINISHED DANCE"
(*Technicolor*)
Margaret O'Brien

"HIGH BARBAREE"
Van Johnson — June Allyson

"FIESTA"
(*Technicolor*)
Esther Williams — Akim Tamiroff
Ricardo Montalban — Cyd Charisse

"IT HAPPENED IN BROOKLYN"
Frank Sinatra — Kathryn Grayson
Jimmy Durante

"TENTH AVENUE ANGEL"
Margaret O'Brien

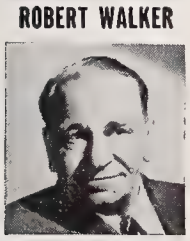
"TO KISS AND TO KEEP"
Gene Kelly

"GREEN DOLPHIN STREET"
Lana Turner — Van Heflin
Donna Reed — Richard Hart

"A LOVE STORY"
Katharine Hepburn — Paul Henreid
Robert Walker

YEAR IN YEAR OUT—TBOCFMGM

(The Big Ones Come From M-G-M!)


WALLACE BEERY


ANN SOTHERN


RED SKELTON


BRIAN DONLEVY


LIONEL BARRYMORE


GEORGE MURPHY


LASSIE

Hollywood

By THALIA BELL

Hollywood, Dec. 29

RKO RADIO has arranged to borrow Ann Sothern from M-G-M to co-star with Alexander Knox in "Indian Summer," a sentimental comedy by Boris Ingster, who will also direct. . . . Warners has acquired two story properties: "Silver River," by Stephen Longstreet, which Owen Crump is slated to produce, and "Strange Desire," a psychological melodrama by Curt Siodmak.

•

The first production to go before cameras at Monogram in 1947 will be "Tragic Symphony," a dramatization of the life of Tschaikowsky. Barney Glazer and Nat W. Finston will produce the picture, which will be released by Allied Artists. . . . "Brute Force" will be Mark Hellinger's third production for Universal-International release. Burt Lancaster is set for a stellar role, and Jules Dassin has been engaged to direct.

•

For the first time in his long screen career, Adolphe Menjou will appear in an M-G-M picture. He has been signed for a top role in "The Hucksters," film version of Frederick Wakeman's novel in which Clark Gable will star. . . . Alan Marston has been engaged for an important part in the current 20th Century-Fox production, "Forever Amber". . . . Radio announcer Ken Niles will have a choice dramatic role in RKO Radio's "Out of the Past."

•

Jesse Lasky is forming a stock company of players and, instead of giving them screen tests, he will sign each of them for minor roles in his productions, the first of which will be "Intermission," scheduled for RKO Radio release. . . . The first Eagle-Lion production, "It's a Joke, Son!" will have its world premiere in Austin, Tex., in connection with the inauguration of Governor-elect Beauford H. Jester.

•

Jennifer Jones and Joseph Cotten, two of the stars of "Duel in the Sun," will have stellar spots in David O. Selznick's next production, "Portrait of Jenny," based on the novel by Robert Nathan. David Hempstead will produce, and William Dieterle will direct. . . . Four lavish musical sequences, all of them stressing the tango, will be featured in Edward Small's production of "The Life of Rudolph Valentino."

•

Joan Harrison's first production assignment for U-I upon her return from England will be "Knave of Diamonds," based on a mystery novel by Percy Marks. . . . Enterprise has concluded negotiations with Miklos Rozsa, Academy-award winning composer, to compose and conduct the musical score for "The Other Love," David Lewis production now shooting under the direction of Andre de Toth. . . . Marie Windsor has been assigned an important role in M-G-M's "Song of the Thin Man," which will co-star William Powell and Myrna Loy.

•

Richard Wallace has been engaged to direct RKO Radio's forthcoming Technicolor feature, "Tycoon," which stars John Wayne, with Sir Cedric Hardwicke and Anthony Quinn. . . . Grant Mitchell has been assigned a top featured role in Columbia's "The Corpse Came C.O.D.," Sam Bischoff's film version of Jimmy Starr's novel.

Mr. Exhibitor: Investigate Filmack's NEW Prevue Trailer Service before signing any trailer contracts. Write, wire or phone Filmack 1327 S. Wabash, Chicago 5, Ill. and receive full details.

Lippert Purchases 8 Leverette Houses

Portland, Ore., Dec. 29.—In one of the largest circuit transfers effected in this area in the post-war period, Walter Leverette, pioneer circuit operator of Medford, Ore., has sold his eight Southern Oregon theatres to Robert Lippert, also an independent circuit operator, of San Francisco. Four of the houses are located at Medford.

Sees US-Foreign Aid As Boon for Films

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29.—Basing his observations on his experience in handling British and American talent, Adrian Scott, RKO Radio producer, has voiced his endorsement of greater cooperation between the U. S. and foreign nations for their mutual benefit. Scott, who has returned here from a London filming assignment, said he came back convinced that his American crew learned a lot about the British film industry, "and I am sure this was reciprocal with the English studio craftsmen."

He also asserted that the combination of British and American stars would enhance the popularity of the actors in both countries and benefit the picture.

India Gets Its First 16mm. Film via MGM

First commercial exhibition of a 16mm. feature in India was put on a month ago by Akbar Hussein, exhibitor of Santa Cruz, near Bombay, before a sell-out audience, it was reported here by Seymour Mayer, 16mm. sales chief, and Orton Hicks, head of Loew's International 16mm. department. The picture, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Strike Up the Band," was shown in an improvised open-air theatre on the terrace of a boy's school.

As a result of the success of the pioneer showing, it was reported, Hussein is now giving regular weekly exhibitions with M-G-M product.

Film for 'Pathfinder'

Don MacLaughlin has completed a short, "Where Profit Lies," at Pathe Studio, here, for Pathfinder Magazine.

Phil Reisman Sales Drive to Run Year

The 1947 Phil Reisman "Four Seasons" sales drive of 1947 began Saturday. The drive will extend until Jan. 3, 1948.

Reisman, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of foreign operations, said that the extended drive is being held in order to equalize the differences between "best seasons" throughout the world. He added that there would be quarterly prizes offered at the end of each season and that major prizes will go to countries with the best records at the end of the year. Robert K. Hawkinson, assistant foreign manager, has been named drive committee chairman. Four members of the home office staff will serve as drive supervisors. Leading off is Ned Clarke, Latin-American division manager, followed by Bev Lion, United Kingdom, Near Eastern and Australasian manager; Jack Kennedy, Far Eastern, and Fred Gronich, assistant to Hawkinson.

TBA Annual Meet to Honor Lee de Forest

The Television Broadcasters Association at its annual luncheon-meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, here, on Jan. 7, will honor Dr. Lee de Forest with a scroll commemorating the 40th anniversary of his invention of the "Audion," which is said to have "opened the doorway to radio broadcasting."

At a business session in the morning three new directors will be elected, to succeed those whose terms expire. A re-organization meeting of directors will take place in the afternoon.

'Digest' Series on Goldwyn Film Title

First of a series of six articles entitled "The Best Years of Our Lives," inspired by the Samuel Goldwyn production of the same title, appears in the January issue of *Readers' Digest*. Well-known authorities are authors of the individual articles in the series which, it is estimated, will reach more than 60,000,000 readers through the *Digest's* circulation during the next six months.

Another Navy Series

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Edward L. Gershmon, vice-president and business manager of United Productions of America, is here from Hollywood and has delivered to the Navy its latest picture, "Emergency Landings," the ninth in a series produced by UPA for the flight safety section of the Bureau of Aeronautics.

While in Washington, Gershman will complete contract arrangements for another series of flight safety films which are scheduled for immediate production.

New King Bros. Site

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 29.—New offices are being prepared for King Brothers at Monogram studios, and the producers, previously operating from a Hollywood Boulevard location, will move their entire organization to the lot on Feb. 1. Production will begin shortly thereafter on "Low Company," first of their 1946-47 productions for Monogram Allied Artists.

Charge Vandalism in 3 Bronx Theatres

An outbreak of damage and vandalism inflicted at three theatres operated by Combined Bronx Amusements has been reported by Julius Gulkis, president of the Morris Park Amusement Co., owner of the Park Theatre in the Bronx, who said that many seats and the screen have been damaged. Combined Bronx Theatres, which operates five Bronx houses and one in New York City, has been the object of a picket line thrown by the Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild.

Asserting that the arrest and indictment of Ted Alpert, whom he characterizes as "former manager of Park," stem from "violence at the Park . . . immediately following an alleged strike of theatre managers," Gulkis said that police have arrested five other persons, including three minors, in connection with the damage.

I. Phillip Sipser, attorney for the union, charged that the arrest of Alpert "was prompted by Gulkis in order to break the strike," and added that "during the past eight weeks of picketing, it is interesting to note, there have been no outbreaks."

Richmond Owners Bow to Taxation

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 29.—Despite protests of theatre owners and members of labor unions, an ordinance levying a 10 per cent tax on all admissions to all forms of amusements will take effect Jan. 1.

As originally drawn, the ordinance exempted sports and other events presented by students of public schools, but this provision was removed before its final adoption. The effect of the ordinance will be to raise the price of admission to a theatre a maximum of four cents.

Rule on Percentage Coast Case Jan. 13

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 29. — Federal Judge Pierson Hall will rule here Jan. 13, on a motion asking for a bill of particulars in the suit brought last September by Paramount, 20th Century-Fox and M-G-M charging falsification of box-office reports on percentage films by William E. Cox's Forum Theatre, Barstow.

The motion was filed by Ezra E. Stern, attorney for Cox.

'Five Fingers' Tradeshow

National tradeshowing of "The Beast with Five Fingers" has been set by Warner Brothers for Monday, January 20.

HOLIDAY GREETINGS
BEST WISHES
for a
HAPPY NEW YEAR
from
PRESS BOOKS PHOTO-OFFSET
COLORCHROME CORP.
ART SERVICE
2 BROADWAY NEW YORK 4
WHITEHALL 4-5131-2-3-4-5

...and now CHICAGO acclaims it THE FIRST!

"'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES' IS THE BEST PICTURE OF THE YEAR."
— Sam Lesner, CHICAGO DAILY NEWS

"'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES' IS EASILY THE BEST PHOTOPLAY WE HAVE SEEN ALL YEAR."
— Henry Murdock, CHICAGO SUN

"'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES' UNDOUBTEDLY IS THE BEST ALL-ROUND ENTERTAINMENT OF THE YEAR." — Mae Tinee, CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"'THE BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES' IS ONE OF THE SCREEN'S FINEST ACHIEVEMENTS."
— Doris Arden, CHICAGO TIMES

FLASH! WEEK BEFORE CHRISTMAS AT WOODS THEATRE BREAKS ALL-TIME HOUSE RECORD!

Distributed by RKO RADIO PICTURES

FULL SPEED AHEAD...

but TIME OUT TO WISH U I FUL A BOUNT FUL New Year!

SIR CEDRIC HARDWICKE
SAM WOOD
ROSALIND IVAN
HERBERT MARSHALL
PATRIC KNOWLES
RICHARD NEY
JOAN FONTAINE
CHARLES BARTON
NAT PENDLETON
TOM BROWN
JOAN FULTON
LOU COSTELLO
BUD ABBOTT
ROBERT SIODMAK
EDDIE ALBERT
ELLA RAINES
ROBERT HUTTON
PHYLLIS CALVERT
FRED FINKLEHOFFE
CHESTER ERSKINE
BETTY Mac DONALD
RICHARD LONG
LOUISE ALLBRITTON
PERCY KILBRIDE
MARJORIE MAIN
CLAUDETTE COLBERT
FRED MacMURRAY

IVY
IVY
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME
BUCK PRIVATES COME HOME
TIME out of MIND
TIME out of MIND
The EGG and I
The EGG and I

UNIVERSAL INTERNATIONAL

*4 BIG ONES IN PRODUCTION - And Headed Your Way!

FIRST IN FILM NEWS

MOTION PICTURE DAILY

Accurate Concise and Impartial

VOL. 60. NO. 127 NEW YORK, U. S. A., TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31, 1946 TEN CENTS

$155,204,250 Drop in Film Stock Values

Losses Occur Despite New Record Earnings

For the first time since 1939 the market value of motion picture shares listed on the New York Stock Exchange dropped during 1946.

The decline brought the total listed value of the film issues down $155,204,250, to $1,002,312,000, compared with the record valuation of $1,157,516,250 at the end of 1945.

It came against a backdrop of generally favorable news for the industry and reflected mainly the trend in the general market in which such "blue

(*Continued on page* 5)

Dividends in 1946 Quarter Double '45

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Film company stock dividend payments for the August-September-October period of 1946 amounted to $12,231,000, or about double the amount paid during the same period of 1945, it was disclosed here today. The 1945 period produced $6,068,000 in dividend payments.

Oct., 1946, dividends climbed to one

(*Continued on page* 5)

Flexer to Build Up National Circuit

MEMPHIS, Dec. 30.—Dave Flexer, veteran Memphis theatre man, has purchased the entire Haberfeld and Flexer Theatre Co., and has plans for a nationwide circuit of theatres with headquarters in Memphis.

Flexer also discloses that he recently purchased theatres in Waverly,

(*Continued on page* 6)

No Paper Tomorrow

***Motion Picture Daily* will not be published tomorrow, New Year's Day and a legal holiday.**

Business Soars at N. Y. First-runs; 4 New Records Set

A number of New York first-runs are functioning very prosperously in this holiday period, particularly the Music Hall, Hollywood, Strand and Roxy, all of which are rolling up new record grosses for the week. Only in one situation, the Gotham, is business poor.

Increased admission scales in some cases are responsible for the fact that current grosses exceed those of last year; the number of ticket buyers in the main is about the same.

The majority of houses have extra early morning shows and will operate almost around the clock today.

"Till the Clouds Roll By," and the traditional holiday stage presentation figure to bring the Music Hall an amazing new high of $173,000 for the week, based on business up to yesterday. The theatre took in $94,500 Thursday through Sunday. This is the fourth week for the show.

The Roxy management claims a stupendous business is being chalked up by "The Razor's Edge," plus a stage show topped by Rosario and Antonio. It is said the attraction

(*Continued on page* 5)

See RKO Decision On Schary Shortly

Hollywood, Dec. 30.—Negotiations for Dore Schary to take charge of RKO Radio production were nearing a conclusion at the studio here today. Indications tonight were that a final decision will be reached momentarily. N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, who is conducting the negotiations with the Selznick producer, is expected to announce the outcome shortly.

Goldman Asks For 8 Millions

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 30.—William Goldman, local independent exhibitor, today filed a supplemental damage suit against Warners and other distributors asking additional damages of $8,600,000 for his Erlanger Theatre. The new suit covers the time between Dec., 1942, when an original action was filed, until today.

Goldman claims that during that

(*Continued on page* 6)

"Duel in the Sun"

[***Selznick Releasing Organization***]

Hollywood, Dec. 30

DAVID O. SELZNICK'S "Duel in the Sun" is an attraction quite as remarkable in most respects as the trade and the public have been conditioned by the producer's past works and present publicity to expect it to be. It is a great deal more so in one important respect which has received scant attention heretofore but figures to incur plenty hereafter. That would be its emphasis on the sex theme.

"Duel in the Sun" is, as anticipated, a very big picture, star-studded as an exploitation man's dream and scenically as beautiful as the Western outdoors itself. Also, and not so well anticipated, it is very, very hot stuff.

For any of these reasons, and most certainly the last, by recent precedent, "Duel in the Sun" is sure to set in motion a wave of written and spoken comment of the kind and dimensions that always has rolled up lush grosses and, doubtless, always will.

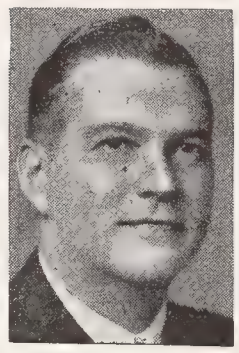
Producer Selznick is not the first to undertake a mating of Western melodrama with the sex theme. Howard Hughes pioneered that trail with "The Outlaw." But Selznick is the first to do it on the $6,000,000

(*Continued on page* 12)

Happy New Year

Para. Testing New Division Selling Plan

The operation of two of Paramount's four sales divisions, the Mid-Eastern and Western, are being transferred to the field, effective immediately, Charles M. Reagan, vice-president in charge of distribution, announced here yesterday.



Charles M. Reagan

The move, which is in line with new selling procedures which the industry is certain will be incorporated in the final decree which is expected at any time from the New

(*Continued on page* 5)

Blasts Hopes of Cut In Admission Taxes

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—Representative Harold Knutson said here today that reduction of admission and other types of "luxury" taxes will be "the last on the docket." The Congressman is slated to become chairman of

(*Continued on page* 6)

High Court Getting Schine Case Again

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—The Schine Circuit will appeal for a re-hearing of its case by the U. S. Supreme Court which had the matter under consideration and then refused to review the

(*Continued on page* 6)

In This Issue

"The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" is reviewed on page 11; key city grosses are given on pages 11 and 12. Milestones in 'Headlines of the Year,' as they appeared in *Motion Picture Daily*, start on page 8.

Personal Mention

THOMAS J. CONNORS, vice-president in charge of sales for 20th Century-Fox, returned to New York from the Coast yesterday.

•

GEORGE D. BURROWS, Monogram vice-president and treasurer, will leave here today for Chicago. He plans to revisit New York and then take a trip South before returning to his Hollywood headquarters.

•

WILLIAM C. GEHRING, Central sales manager of 20th Century-Fox, has entered the Millard Fillimore Hospital, Buffalo, for treatment, and is expected to remain there a week.

•

MR. and MRS. ARTHUR DENT, here from London, will leave today for Hollywood, returning here about Jan. 16 and will embark for London about two weeks later.

•

CLAUDE JEROME SCHLANGER, son of TED SCHLANGER, Philadelphia zone manager for Warner Theatres, and GLADYS MADELINE TURNER of Kansas City are newlyweds.

•

WILLIAM MISKELL, district manager of Tri-States Theatres, Omaha, has been cited by the Omaha Safety Council for "distinguished service to safety."

•

MRS. BERNECE COOGAN, assistant manager of the Stanley Theatre, Baltimore, is a patient at Bon Secours Hospital.

•

PETER ROSIAN, Universal district manager in Cincinnati, and MRS. ROSIAN are spending the holidays in Cleveland.

•

THOMAS ALQUIST, assistant manager of the Princess Theatre, Hartford, and MRS. ALQUIST are the parents of a girl.

•

MARY ANN BARTUSEK has succeeded NONA LEWIS as manager of the Grand Theatre, Grand Island, Neb.

•

SGT. HENRY PRICHFORD, formerly with the Fox, Paramount and Roxy Theatres, Atlanta, is visiting that city from Scott Field, Ill.

•

MILTON SPERLING, president of United States Pictures, will leave Hollywood today for New York.

•

AL SHUMAN, general manager of Hartford Theatres, Hartford, is back at his desk after a trip South.

•

WILLIAM RICHARDSON and N. E. SAVINI of Astor Pictures have returned to Atlanta from Florida.

•

MAX WEINBERG, M-G-M short subjects publicist, has gone to the Coast from New York.

•

DAVID HODGDON, owner of the Princess Theatre, Wakefield, Mass., and MRS. HODGON are the parents of a boy.

Patrons Stampede at Mistaken Cry of Fire

Atlanta, Dec. 30.—Shouts of "fire!" when some one discovered a smoking cigarette in one of the sand-filled ash stands in the balcony of the Capitol Theatre, here, sent patrons stampeding for exits. No one was injured and the performance continued without interruption. Tom Reed is the theatre's general manager.

The incident subsequently was the subject of an editorial warning on fire hazards and dangers from overcrowded theatres, written by Paul Jones, *Atlanta Constitution* amusements editor.

Withhold Findings On Trust Probe

WASHINGTON, Dec. 30.—During the past 50 years of anti-trust prosecutions handled by the Government there "has been a failure to curb concentrations of economic power," the House Small Businessmen's sub-committee studying monopoly reported today. A general study was conducted by the committee on film industry anti-trust violations. Hearings were scheduled, and later called off. William Bennett, committee investigator, made a general study of this industry's trust problems, but made no report on them.

Rep. Estes Kefauver of Tennessee flatly asserted that Justice Department action against film companies in the industry is "causing great damage and confusion for the independent exhibitor and producer."

Two More Circuits Pledge for 'Dimes'

Two more circuits have been added to the growing list that will collect for the March of Dimes at every performance, Jan. 24-31, according to an announcement made yesterday by Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis.

William J. Blatt of Blatt Brothers theatres, has advised Jensen that all 21 Blatt theatres in Pennsylvania and New York would participate, and F. D. Nessel of the Midstate Amusement Corp. pledged similar cooperation from his company's eight theatres in Washington.

Rosenfeld Named To Goldwyn Post

Isidor Rosenfeld has been engaged by Samuel Goldwyn Productions as special sales representative for the Northern half of the South American territory. He will make his headquarters in Mexico City and will supervise sales and distribution of all Goldwyn productions in that division of RKO-Radio's foreign department, which is headed by Phil Reisman.

NYC Seeks Regents' Review on 'Outlaw'

An appeal to the New York State Board of Regents, parent group of the motion picture (censorship) division of the State Education Dept., for review of the recent rejection of efforts by New York City officials to have "The Outlaw" banned in the State has been filed in Albany, it was revealed here yesterday by Benjamin Fielding, city license commissioner.

Terming the appeal "unprecedented in the history" of the state division, Fielding said that the brief filed with the Regents board covered several pages, including a copy of the opinion handed down by Dr. Ward C. Bowen, in which the motion picture division held that the advertising matter, submitted by the city officials in substantiation of their contentions that exploitation of the Howard Hughes production has been "obscene and immoral," was beyond the jurisdiction of the state board. The City Corporation Counsel's office also submitted a request for transfer to the Board of Regents of all exhibits in Dr. Bowen's possession.

Fielding Objects to Moves By Acting Director Bowen

ALBANY, Dec. 30.—Benjamin Fielding, commissioner of licenses for New York City, called the action of Dr. Ward C. Bowen, acting director of the motion picture division of the Board of Regents, in denying his application for revocation of "The Outlaw" license, "unreasonable, capricious and contrary to law." Fielding asked the Board to reverse Bowen's actions and to revoke the license issued to United Artists and Howard Hughes, and to hold such hearing as may be necessary to receive the additional testimony to support his petition.

Companies Set Early Closings for Today

A marked drop in business activity is in store for film company home offices here today, New Year's Eve and hence nearly all have planned to close earlier than usual. As of yesterday Columbia, M-G-M, Republic, 20th Century-Fox and RKO Radio had definitely decided to close shop at one P.M., while Paramount and Monogram had scheduled four o'clock closings.

Although official word on early closings today had not been handed down as of yesterday in the other home offices, it is expected they will follow suit in greater or lesser degrees.

Film Advertising Artwork at Museum

Art in motion picture advertising will be the theme of a new exhibition opening at the Metropolitan Museum of Art here on Jan. 7, at which time, through the cooperation of 20th Century-Fox, the works of John Falter, Dean Cornwell, Robert Benney and Douglas Crockwell will be shown. The central motif of the paintings are based on the 20th-Fox film, "The Late George Apley."

NEW YORK THEATRES

RADIO CITY MUSIC HALL
Rockefeller Center
'TILL THE CLOUDS ROLL BY'
With 13 BIG STARS
in Technicolor - An M-G-M Picture
GREAT CHRISTMAS STAGE SHOW

RKO PALACE B'WAY AT 47 ST.
WALT DISNEY'S SONG OF THE SOUTH IN TECHNICOLOR

Darryl F. Zanuck presents JOHN FORD'S MY DARLING CLEMENTINE
20th CENTURY-FOX
NOW! RIVOLI B'way at 49th St. Doors Open 9:30 A. M.

LOEW'S STATE B'WAY & 45
ON SCREEN: KATHARINE HEPBURN, ROBERT TAYLOR, Robt. MITCHUM, M-G-M's 'UNDERCURRENT'
IN PERSON: JOHNNY MORGAN, Radio's Newest Comic
EXTRA! Song Styles by YVETTE
Plus Others

Betty Hutton, Sonny Tufts in "Cross My Heart"
A Paramount Picture
in Person! THE ANDREWS SISTERS, LES PAUL & HIS TRIO, Extra! TONY PASTOR And Band
PARAMOUNT TIMES SQUARE
MIDNIGHT FEATURE NIGHTLY

"Tender...brimming with human warmth" —WALTER WINCHELL
"The BEST Years of Our Lives"
Continuous Performances ASTOR B'WAY and 45th ST.

JAMES MASON, MARGARET LOCKWOOD, PATRICIA ROC in "The Wicked Lady"
WINTER GARDEN B'WAY AT 50TH
DOORS OPEN 9:00 A. M. TO 3:00 A. M.

Darryl F. Zanuck's production of W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM'S
The Razor's Edge
20th Century-Fox
and Great Stage Revue!
ROXY 7th Ave. & 50th St.

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Wouldn't?

Couldn't?

Shouldn't?

THE Shocking MISS PILGRIM

IN TECHNICOLOR

(SHOCKING? SHE'S SENSATIONAL!)

It's GRABLE GERSHWIN and GREAT.....



BETTY GRABLE
DICK HAYMES

THE Shocking MISS PILGRIM

IN TECHNICOLOR

with Anne Revere · Allyn Joslyn · Gene Lockhart

Elizabeth Patterson · Elisabeth Risdon · Arthur Shields · Charles Kemper · Roy Roberts

Written for the Screen and Directed by GEORGE SEATON · Produced by WILLIAM PERLBERG

From a Story by Ernest and Frederica Maas · Music by George Gershwin and Lyrics by Ira Gershwin · "But Not In Boston" "For You, For Me, For Evermore" · "Sweet Packard" · "Tour of the Town" · "Welcome Song" · "Stand Up and Fight" "Changing My Tune" · "Aren't You Kind of Glad We Did?" · "One, Two, Three" · "Waltzing Is Better Sitting Down" "Waltz Me No Waltzes" · Dances Staged by Hermes Pan · Costumes Designed by Orry Kelly

All the Sensational Boxoffice Hits are Made by 20 Century-Fox

Business Soars

(*Continued from page* 1)

drew $126,700 in the first five days of the sixth week. An estimated $190,000 is given for the entire week, which includes extra early morning shows and an additional New Year's Eve program tonight.

"Humoresque," which opened Christmas Day at the Hollywood, has grossed an estimated $39,500 in the first five days and is headed for a new record for the house, at $58,000.

"The Time, the Place and the Girl," Vaughn Monroe's orchestra, is responsible for record business at the Strand, where a tremendous new high of $98,000 is anticipated for the week ending tonight.

The first week, ending tonight, of "Stairway to Heaven," at Universal's Park Avenue Theatre, is also bringing in handsome returns. A total of $24,000 is looked for, a very tidy sum, since the house seats only 583 and offers only three shows on weekdays and four on weekends and holidays; the scale runs to $2.40 top.

"The Secret Heart" and Tommy Dorsey's orchestra at the Capitol probably will gross a very substantial $103,000. At the Paramount, "Cross My Heart" and the Andrews Sisters will conclude a second week tonight with a $110,000 gross; this is strong business. At the Astor, "The Best Years of Our Lives" continues to be a top money-maker, with $58,000 in view for the sixth week ending tomorrow night; this is a gain of $13,000 over the previous week.

"It's a Wonderful Life" at the Globe is good but not exceptionally so with an estimated $40,000 for a second week; this about equals the first week's take. At the Gotham, "Abie's Irish Rose" is having difficulties at the box-office, with only $8,700 seen for the second week.

The fourth week of "My Darling Clementine" at the Rivoli is doing fair enough, at $27,000. The first week of "Temptation" at the Criterion is a moderate one, estimated at $25,000.

"The Beast with Five Fingers" is fairly strong at the Victoria, where the first week's total should reach $21,000. "Song of the South" at the Palace is going at a good clip, with $42,000 anticipated for the fifth week. "The Wicked Lady" is providing the Winter Garden with a good profit; the second's week gross is estimated at $35,000. The second week of "The Overlanders" will give the Rialto in the neighborhood of $8,000, enough to hold the film for another week.

'Edge' Outgrosses 'Heaven' In Various 1st-Run Houses

"The Razor's Edge" has outgrossed "Leave Her to Heaven" in a number of first-run engagements around the country according to 20th Century-Fox. The report covers the first four days of the runs, as follows:

State Lake Theatre, Chicago: "Edge," $30,700, "Heaven," $29,800. Fox, Detroit: "Edge," $43,400, "Heaven," $33,700. Oriental, Portland, Ore.: "Edge," $7,200, "Heaven," $4,300; Fox, Philadelphia: "Edge," $26,292, "Heaven," $26,292. Warfield, San Francisco: "Edge," $27,600, "Heaven" $26,200; New Theatre, Baltimore: "Edge," $13,400; "Heaven," $11,000; Missouri Theatre, St. Louis: "Edge," $17,300, "Heaven," $10,000.

French Film Nets Record Gross at Brandt Houses

"Les Miserables," the 200-minute French film, will hit an unprecedented gross of $24,500 by tonight, the end of its first week's run at the Apollo Theatre here, according to Martin Levine, general manager of Brandt Theatres. Asserting that the amount is more than that registered by any previous record-holder there, Levine added that the picture will have played to approximately 90,000 patrons by Wednesday morning.

At the Atlantic Playhouse, Brooklyn, where the film is also being shown, similar records were reported by Levine to have been shattered. The film will have rung up about $6,000 by tonight, almost three times the previous top grosser for the house, he said.

And Now Comes a Beauty Competition for Hens!!

CHICAGO, Dec. 30.—Something new in beauty contests was disclosed today, when Clyde C. Edmonds, president of the Poultry and Egg National Board, announced that a nationwide search for "the most beautiful hen in America" wil be launched beginning Jan. 1, the selection to be made from among the flocks of more than 5,000,000 poultry producers of the nation. The winner will be crowned "Miss Slick Chick of 1947", at the premiere of the Universal film, "The Egg And I", currently in production at Universal-International Studios, starring Claudette Colbert and Fred MacMurray.

The search will be led by a special "Egg And I National Committee," headed by Glenn H. Campbell of Cleveland, board secretary, as chairman. The committee will work directly with state leaders, the search to be conducted through March 10. Regional entries are to be submitted in the form of close-up photographs of the hen posed with its owner, and sent to the Poultry and Egg National Board headquarters, Chicago, Illinois.

"Judges will not concern themselves with regular, customary judging rules," Campbell stated, "but will adjudge the contest hens entirely on the basis of charm, personality, and sex appeal." Coquettishness of eyes, contour of figure, and sweep of tail will help.

A "Slick Chick" winner will be selected from each of five regions.

The hens whose pictures win regional contests and their owners, will be brought as guests to the city, as yet unnamed, which will feature the premiere of "The Egg And I." Here the final selection of the national beauty will be held.

Preliminary plans for the preliminary plans for the premiere now call tentatively for New York, in which event the final judging will take place at the Waldorf-Astoria, one room of which will be especially transformed into a hen palace for the occasion. Five "Slick Chicks" will be awarded specially conceived fur-lined nests, and owners and hens will be guests of Miss Colbert and MacMurray at the premiere.

The hen selected as "Miss Slick Chick of 1947," in the final judging, will be presented a gold award in the shape of an egg, and her owner will be awarded a cash prize of $500.

'Miss Slick Chick'



1946 Dividends

(*Continued from page* 1)

of the highest figures in history, reaching $3,427,000, compared to $1,660,000 for the same month in 1945, primary reason for the increase being a $2,000,000 dividend payment made by Warners. Sept., 1946, dividends jumped due to payments made to stockholders by Columbia, 20th Century-Fox and Paramount.

Small of the CPA Reports Progress

Washington, Dec. 30. — By October, 1946, American industrial production recovered 20 of the 38 points it dropped in the two months after "VJ-Day" and the nation's economy absorbed all but 900,000 of the twenty million demobilized war workers and the ten and a half million servicemen and women released by the services during the year, Civilian Production Administrator John D. Small says.

Film Stocks Drop

(*Continued from page* 1)

chip" stocks as American Telephone, duPont and Allied Chemical tumbled as much as 50 points from their highs of the year.

Stocks in general fell off mainly because of disappointment over the delay in reconversion caused by a wave of strikes during the year. As the new year starts there is a more confident tone in Wall Street which expects the new Congress to take drastic measures against future work stoppages and relieve corporations further of some of their tax burdens. Elimination of practically all Government controls over industry is another factor viewed favorably in the financial community.

Record earnings and dividend payments were chalked up by the film industry during the year and the outlook for 1947 was considered generally favorable despite frequent mention of rising production costs and increased foreign competition.

The market action of the film shares was paradoxical in that some of the leading money-makers showed the widest losses, including Paramount, which dipped to a net loss for the year of some 23 points at a time when its earnings for 1946 were being estimated to about triple 1945's.

Warners was another heavy loser, dropping to a low for the year of 16¾, compared with its 1945 high of 35¾, and closing around 18 for a net loss of about 15 points. RKO was well supported and kept its decline in a fractional range.

A five-year comparison of the highs and lows of film company stocks and bonds on the New York Stock Exchange and New York Curb market appears elsewhere on this page.

Paramount Plan

(*Continued from page* 1)

York Federal Court which heard final arguments last fall in the Government anti-trust suit against the industry, was described by Reagan as "a further step in the development of an over-all plan to maintain the closest possible connection with our accounts."

Reagan said the changes are "on an experimental basis" and, if successful, they "will be expanded and made permanent."

Under the plan, Earle Sweigert, Mid-Eastern division sales manager, will work from divisional headquarters in Philadelphia, and George Smith, Western division sales manager, will make Los Angeles his headquarters. The Eastern and Southern division under Hugh Owen, and the Central division under James Donahue, will continue to operate through the home office.

As part of the plan, the 10 branches comprising the Western division will be divided into two, instead of the present three districts, Reagan said. Hugh Braly, formerly in charge of the Denver district, has been transferred to the West Coast district, succeeding Del Goodman, resigned. The West Coast district will include Denver and Salt Lake City as well as Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Portland.

The second Western district, in charge of Ralph Libeau, will have added to it the Omaha branch, formerly in the Denver district. The Kansas City, St. Louis and Des Moines branches complete Libeau's district.

Branches in the Eastern division, under Sweigert, are: Detroit, Cleveland, Cincinnati, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and Washington.

"Rapidly changing conditions in our industry have increased the importance of maintaining the closest contact possible between our customers and ourselves," Reagan said in making the announcement.

"Within the past year, we organized a fourth division in the development of this plan. With single-picture selling to individual accounts, we believe we can further improve our operation, to the benefit of both our customers and ourselves, by having our division managers operate in the field, so they will be able to maintain close contact with rapidly-changing conditions and make on-the-spot decisions. We are making these changes on an experimental basis and if we find that this plan increases the efficiency of our operation, we will make it permanent."

MOTION PICTURE STOCKS IN 1946

High and Low in Stock and Curb Trading for Five Year Period

New York Stock Exchange

Stock and Dividend	1946 Sales	1946 High	1946 Low	1946 Close*	1946 Net Change	1945 High	1945 Low	1944 High	1944 Low	1943 High	1943 Low	1942 High	1942 Low
Columbia Pictures (1a)	231,500	36¾	20⅞	21	— 7	28	26	23	16¼	19¼	9	11¼	
Columbia pfd. (4¼)	15,200	106¼	78¾	80	+27	53	47½	49⅝	39⅛	41	30½	35	24
Eastman pfd. (6)	885,000	263	200½	223	— 3½	229	170	178	157	170	•146½	151½	108
Eastman pfd. (6b)	2,760	209	190	191	— 1½	200	185	195	175	184	173	180	170
Gen. Precision (1)	133,600	40½	21½	23¾	—10⅜	36¼	22⅝	23¾	18⅞	24½	13⅝	14¾	10¾
Loew's (1½)	907,500	41	25¼	26	— 8⅛	37½	25⅛	81¼	58	64½	42¼	46¾	37
Paramount (2b)	1,109,000	39⅝	27¾	32⅞	—22⅝	57¼	27½	30	23⅜	30	15½	17½	11¾
RKO (1.20)	2,854,700	28⅛	15⅛	15⅝	— ¾	18⅜	7⅞	10⅜	7⅞	10⅛	3½	3⅞	2
20th Cent.-Fox (3b)	1,341,700	63⅞	37⅛	38⅜	— 3⅞	45⅜	26½	28⅝	21⅛	24¾	12⅞	16	7⅛
20th Cent. pfd. (2½)	140,300	79	46⅛	49	— 2⅝	56	34⅛	35½	28¾	34½	25	26¾	19¼
20th Cent. pr. pfd. (4½)	6,600	106½	102½	102½	— 2	106½	102	106½	100	101	99	unlisted	
Universal Pictures (2)	289,900	49⅞	24¼	27	—17½	48½	23¾	unlisted					
Universal pfd. (4¼)	13,820	101	77¼	86	not listed 1945	unlisted							
Warner Bros. (1½)	847,300	23¾	16¾	17⅞	—14⅞	35¾	32¾	15	11½	15¾	7⅞	8½	4¼

*As of Dec. 28; a: plus stock div.; b: including extras.

New York Curb Exchange

Stock and Dividend	1946 Sales	1946 High	1946 Low	1946 Close*	1946 Net Change	1945 High	1945 Low	1944 High	1944 Low	1943 High	1943 Low	1942 High	1942 Low
Monogram Pictures	299,400	10½	4¼	4½	— 4⅜	9½	3	4½	2⅞	4	⅞	1⅛	½
RKO opt. war.	2,255,100	13	5	5¼	— 2⅛	8⅞	1⅛	1⅞	1	2⅛	7/32	⅜	1/16
Sentry Safety	113,800	5¼	1½	1⅝	— 2½	4⅞	11/16	1⅛	⅜	⅝	3/16	5/16	⅛
Technicolor (½a)	255,100	29	14	14⅞	—12⅛	30	19½	24⅞	12½	15½	6⅝	8⅞	6⅜
Trans-Lux (.10a)	211,000	9⅝	3¾	4	— 2⅞	8	4	37⅜	18⅛	4⅜	1⅝	1¾	½

* As of Dec. 28; a: so far this year.

Comparison of Valuation of Stock Issues—1945-1946

Stock	Approx. No. Shares Outstanding	Close 1945	Valuation	Close 1946*	Valuation	Net Change	
Columbia Pictures	370,000	28	$10,360,000	21	$ 7,770,000	— 7	— $2,590,000
Columbia pfd.	75,000	53	3,975,000	80	6,000,000	+27	+ 2,025,000
Eastman Kodak	2,500,000	226½	566,250,000	223	557,500,000	— 3½	— 8,750,000
Eastman pfd.	62,000	192½	11,935,000	191	11,842,000	— 1½	— 93,000,000
Gen. Precision	590,000	34⅛	20,133,750	23¾	14,012,500	—10⅜	— 6,121,250
Loew's	1,700,000	34⅛	58,012,500	26	44,200,000	— 8⅛	— 13,812,500
Paramount	2,500,000	55½	138,750,000	32⅞	82,187,500	—22⅝	— 56,562,500
RKO	2,800,000	16⅜	45,850,000	15⅝	43,750,000	— ¾	— 2,100,000
20th Cent.-Fox	1,800,000	41¼	74,250,000	38⅜	69,075,000	— 3⅞	— 5,175,000
20th Cent. pfd.	900,000	51⅝	46,850,000	49	44,100,000	— 2⅝	— 2,750,000
20th Cent. pr. pfd.	500,000	104½	52,250,000	102½	51,250,000	— 2	— 1,000,000
Universal Pictures	100,000	44½	4,450,000	27	2,700,000	—17½	— 1,750,000
Warner Bros.	3,800,000	32¾	124,450,000	17⅞	67,925,000	—14⅞	— 56,525,000
			$1,157,516,250		$1,002,312,000		—$155,204,250

*As of December 28.

Schine Case

(Continued from page 1)

case on the grounds of "technical error" in the manner of appealing.

Because the denial to review the case resulted from an "appeal error" the law allows that a new appeal may be taken.



Flexer Circuit

(Continued from page 1)

Linden and Watertown, Tenn., which will be added to the circuit. The new name will be Flexer Theatres, Inc. There will be no changes in the management of the various groups of theatres.

Flexer purchased the interest of his partner, Bernard Haberfeld, and said he will buy property in downtown Memphis for a home office for his new enterprise. All present theatres in the circuit will be remodeled before he makes a nationwide tour to select major cities in which he will establish theatres.

Haberfeld and Flexer operate the Ritz and Peabody theatres in Memphis, the Varsity and Strand at Amory, Miss., the Towers Theatre at Sardis, Miss., and the Ritz and Royal at New Albany, Miss.

Goldman Seeks

(Continued from page 1)

period he suffered loss amounting to $2,800,000. Under Federal anti-trust laws he is asking triple damages. The original suit resulted in a decree last week awarding Goldman $375,000 in damages, plus $60,000 lawyer's fees.

Goldman had originally asked for $1,375,000. The $8,600,000 asked by Goldman is believed to be the greatest amount asked in an anti-trust suit in the film industry's history. Defendants in the suit are the same: Loew's, Paramount, RKO Radio, 20th-Fox, Columbia, Warner Brothers, Warner Brothers Circuit Management, Vitagraph, Stanley Co. of America, Universal and United Artists.

'Black Gold' Premiere

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—Plans have been completed for the world premiere of "Black Gold," Monogram's Kentucky Derby story now in production, at Louisville, on the eve of the 1947 running of the race classic.

Blasts Hopes of Cut

(Continued from page 1)

the powerful House Ways and Means Committee.

Knutson flatly asserted that personal income taxes must be reduced first. "In terms of priority, luxury excise taxes will be the last to be cut," he added. He expressed the belief that the 20 per cent wartime admissions tax "doesn't keep people from the theatre." Knutson concluded that if a "patron doesn't have the extra dime, he shouldn't attend a theatre anyway."

The Minnesota lawmaker emphasized, however, that the Republican leadership wants to reduce taxes "as soon as the budget can stand it."

Happy New Year
TO ALL OUR FRIENDS
IN THE INDUSTRY
EVERYWHERE
J. S. BERKSON - B. H. MILLS
AND STAFF

For Cryin' Out Loud!

CONFIDENTIALLY, fellas . . .

I'm probably the Only baby ever to win a prize, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD . . . BUT . . . that's because my TIMING'S good . . . and my DELIVERY is "on the beam".

You see . . . *instead* of WAKING THE NEIGHBORS . . . in the middle of the night . . . I direct my EYE-OPENING BEDLAM . . . to entertainment-seeking-patrons . . . who *WANT* to know what the *SHOUTING'S ABOUT* . . . and are pretty sure to drop in . . . to SEE and HEAR what set me off!

I guess I've been heard from coast to coast . . . from border to border . . . and they still encourage me to keep up the DIN . . . because . . . instead of keeping Exhibitors AWAKE at night . . . I put them to sleep with *Happy Box Office Smiles* on their faces . . .

They know that as long as I'm CRYIN' OUT LOUD . . . their patrons will keep on coming back . . . and you'll admit . . . a fellow's got to be in pretty fine voice to do this job . . . which MUST be the reason they call me The PRIZE Baby!



NATIONAL Screen SERVICE
PRIZE BABY OF THE INDUSTRY

Record Net Profits Are Reported in '46

Film Business Keeps Pace As Costs Rise

THE year 1946, in which the industry virtually completed its transition from a wartime basis and geared its machinery to the new problems of the peacetime era, is summarized herewith in selected headlines from the pages of MOTION PICTURE DAILY.

Happenings in the film world during the past 12 months have been highlighted by developments in connection with the industry anti-trust suit, especially following mid-June, when the New York Federal District Court handed down a decision calling for competitive bidding on pictures and partial divorcement of exhibition from distribution. The year also has been marked by continued phenomenal net incomes for all branches of the business and by labor negotiations leading to sharp salary increases as the cost of living rose. Threatened strikes of home office and exchange employes were averted, but a jurisdictional dispute again has resulted in a prolonged walkout on the Coast. And the industry was temporarily disrupted by railroad, steamboat and coal strikes.

Many company realignments occurred during 1946, outstanding of which were the consolidation of Universal and International with J. Arthur Rank's British interests and the establishment of the Selznick Releasing Organization following a dispute between the owners of United Artists. Notable progress was made toward reestablishing foreign markets, despite the restrictions set up by many nations. To handle sales in countries where state monopolies exist, the Motion Picture Export Association was formed and has concluded a number of important deals.

Following are the significant news headlines of the year:

January

Jan. 2—Schine circuit to appeal to U. S. Supreme Court from Buffalo Federal District Court's dissolution order. J. J. Unger named United Artists' general sales manager. New York critics choose "The Lost Weekend" as best film of 1945.

Jan. 3—Five consenting companies defend industry arbitration system in brief filed with New York Federal District Court. Jack William Votion named European representative of RKO Radio. RKO calls in preferred stock for redemption Feb. 2. Ben Goetz succeeds Sir Alexander Korda as managing director of M-G-M London films. Federal Trade Commission announces formation of Motion Picture Export Association.

Jan. 4—Eagle-Lion Films changes name to J. Arthur Rank Organization. Emanuel Silverstone joins 20th-Fox as foreign department home office representative. Fred Schwartz elected president of Motion Picture Associates, New York. Bing Crosby wins *Fame's* 1945 poll of British exhibitors.

Jan. 7—Robert Riskin Productions signs to release through RKO Radio.

Jan. 8—Ted R. Gamble honored by industry for services as National War Finance Director.

Jan. 9—United Artists names Jack Goldhar Eastern sales manager; Maury Orr, Western sales manager.

Jan. 11—Warner's Bugs Bunny named best short subject of 1945 in *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* poll. Bing Crosby and Greer Garson found most popular players of 1945 in Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research poll. Republic buys Washington franchise from Jake Flax.

Jan. 14.—Warner net jumps 40 per cent to $9,901,000 for year ended Aug. 31, 1945. David Lipton named executive coordinator of advertising-promotion for Universal. Paramount sets up $8,000,000 employes' benefit plan.

Jan. 16—George Randall named Selznick-Vanguard advertising manager. Industry anti-trust suit oral arguments open in New York Federal District Court. Robert H. O'Brien elected secretary of Paramount.

Jan. 17—Spyros P. Skouras accepts industry chairmanship of "American Brotherhood Week" for National Conference of Christians and Jews. Cinema Chapter of American Veterans Committee organized in New York. William Hebert rejoins Samuel Goldwyn as advertising-publicity director. Universal registers 60,000 new shares of 4½ per cent preferred stock with Securities and Exchange Commission.

Jan. 18—Oral arguments ended in industry anti-trust case. Motion Picture Association buys office building in Washington.

Jan. 22—Benjamin H. Serkowich named director of advertising-publicity-exploitation for Columbia. President Truman estimates admission tax yield will drop by $45,000,000 in next 18 months.

Jan. 23—Seymour Mayer named worldwide 16mm. sales promotion manager for M-G-M. Joseph Freiberg named manager of Columbia's sales accounting department. Department of Commerce finds film dividends dropped by $300,000 last year.

Jan. 24—Subsequent-run business down 50 per cent as a result of peacetime layoffs. David Blum, Orton H. Hicks and George Muchnic elected to board of directors by Loew's International. Loew's net drops to $12,913,369 for year ended Aug. 31, 1945, compared with $14,517,256 in previous year.

Jan. 25—Producers announce refusal of Conference of Studio Unions carpenters to work on sets built by IATSE members.

Jan. 28—CSU carpenters stage sit-down strike in eight studios.

Jan. 29—Universal nets $3,910,928, a record, for the year ended Nov. 3, 1945. Federal admission-tax revenue reached $375,306,023, an all-time high, in 1945. Robert W. Chambers and Michael Linden, statistical research specialists, join Motion Picture Association.

Jan. 30—Universal announces plan to buy $1,400,000 interest in United World Pictures.

Jan. 31—Sir Alexander Korda buys British Lion Film Corp. Edward Morey elected a director of Monogram Internation.

February

Feb. 1—American Federation of Labor executive council fails in efforts to settle Hollywood strike threat. Confidential Reports begins checking for 20th-Fox.

Feb. 4—Charles W. Koerner, RKO Radio vice-president in charge of production, dies. RKO Theatres sells $20,000,000 worth of three per cent debentures to Equitable Life Assurance Society.

Feb. 5—Conference of Studio Unions demands 25 per cent wage increase. Hugh Harmon and Rudolph Ising form producing company. M. Edward Morey elected a vice-president of Monogram. That company's net jumps to $181,223 for 26 weeks ended Dec. 29, compared with $85,262, for same period a year earlier.

Feb. 6—IATSE asks 40 per cent wage increase for exchange workers. Dr. Isador Lubin elected president of Confidential Reports.

Feb. 7—N. Peter Rathvon, RKO president, shifts headquarters from New York to Hollywood to succeed the late Charles W. Koerner in direct charge of production. Ned E. Depinet, RKO Radio president, becomes chief executive in New York. Malcolm Kingsberg becomes president of RKO Theatres; Sol Schwartz and A. W. Dawson, vice-presidents. William H. Clark becomes president of the parent company; Robert Mochrie, RKO Radio vice-president. Tugboat strike forces dim-out of exterior lighting in New York.

Feb. 8—Paul Hollister named RKO Radio studio representative in New York. Hearing on appeal in Jackson Park Theatre case opens before U. S. Supreme Court.

Feb. 11—Cyril Landau named assistant general counsel of RKO.

Feb. 13—New York theatres closed for one day in tugboat-strike crisis. Byron Price elected vice-president by Association of Motion Picture Producers. Spyros P. Skouras accepts chairmanship of industry's Red Cross drive. W. J. Heineman named vice-president and general sales manager of United World Pictures.

Feb. 14—Jack Kirsch elected president of National Allied. Harold J. Fitzgerald appointed national campaign director of industry Red Cross drive. William Satori named European manager by Monogram.

Feb. 15—IATSE exchange workers granted 15 per cent wage increase. Motion Picture Export Association reaches agreement with Czechoslovak government. International Pictures withdraws from Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

Feb. 18—Alfred W. Schwalberg appointed assistant general sales manager of United World. S. Barret McCormick elected chairman of Eastern Public Information Committee. Warner net jumps to $4,367,000 for three months ended Dec. 1, 1945, compared with $2,368,000 for the corresponding period in 1944.

Feb. 19—Conference of Studio Unions withdraws Hollywood strike threat. Liberty Films committed to supply one to three pictures per year to RKO Radio.

Feb. 20—B. J. McKenna resigns as general manager of Griffth Amusement Co.

Feb. 21—IATSE wage talks start at Coast studios. CSU negotiations suspended as president Herbert K. Sorrell begins serving 16-day jail sentence for contempt of court.

Feb. 25—Anti-trust suit brought by Thomas A. Murray, former owner of Thalia Theatre, Chicago, dismissed in U. S. District Court there. U. S. Treasury reports that film companies paid $147,219,000 in excess profits and income taxes during 1944.

Feb. 26—Jackson Park Theatre, Chicago, awarded $360,000 in treble damages when U. S. Supreme Court reverses anti-trust suit dismissal verdict of Chicago Federal District Court. Schine circuit files flexible dissolution plan with Buffalo Federal District Court.

Feb. 27—Charles Skouras named national industry chairman of American Cancer Week, April 21-28.

Feb. 28—James M. Brennan, head of RKO's Metropolitan New York and New Jersey Theatres, dies. David M. Noyes resigns as vice-president of Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers.

March

March 1—Jack Kirsch, Allied president, suggests grouping all theatre charity collections into one per year. Paramount product returns to Skouras' theatres in Greater New York after lapse of more than a year.

March 4—Improvements in the raw stock supply assure meeting full demands of all users within the next 45 days. Enterprise Productions sets $13,000,000 for six features in its first year. John C. Flinn, executive secretary of the Society of Independent Motion Picture Producers, dies in New York. U. S. Surplus Property Board sets first sale of motion picture equipment.

March 5—Harry Sherman Pictures affliates with Enterprise. Charles L. Glett elected Vanguard-Selznick general manager. January federal admission tax revenue of $33,741,349 tops last year's first month by more than $9,000,000. Interstate Circuit announces five-cent admission price rise.

March 6—Final draft of proposed new building code for New York State is completed. Eastman Kodak nets $32,715,[illegible] for 1945.

March 7—Paramount plans 20 films for the next nine months.

March 8—Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences names "The Lost Weekend" the best film of 1945 and cites Ray Milland and Joan Crawford for best performances and Billy Wilder for direction. P. E. McCoy, manager of the Miller Theatre, Augusta, Ga., and Harry G. Boesel, manager of the Fox Wisconsin Theatre, Milwaukee, win Quigley Showmanship Awards. License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding asks end of lotteries in New York City theatres.

March 11—A. Pam Blumenthal named vice-president of Enterprise Productions.

March 12—Frank J. Harris, president of Harris Amusement Co., Pittsburgh, dies. IATSE issues charter to Motion Picture Studio Publicists Association. Strike action against RKO theatres voted by Motion Picture Theatre Operating Managers and Assistant Managers Guild.

March 13—Labor dispute halts production in Mexico. B. T. Davis elected vice-president of the Cinematograph Exhibitors Association in England and will automatically succeed to the presidency next year. Morris Helprin named to represent Sir Alexander Korda in the U. S.

March 14—Corn syrup and sugar shortages hit candy sales in theatres.

March 15—Paramount authorizes prepayment on April 15 of $2,500,000, principal amount, of its notes due 1947-1949. Fred Morhardt elected treasurer of Paramount; Paul Raibourn, vice-president.

March 18—Setay Co. and its Republic subsidiaries netted $669,000 for the 13 months ended Nov. 28, 1945. Film Classics franchise holders in six Southern cities form single distribution outlet.

March 19—Producers submit arbitration plan to end labor jurisdiction disputes in Hollywood. Charles M. Reagan heads National Committee of Distribution Chairmen, to handle charity campaigns undertaken by the industry. Detroit exchange strike closes 75 theatres. Laudy Lawrence named chairman of London Film Productions, Inc. Price ceilings on many film equipment items lifted in Canada.

March 20—Red Cross collections started in 17,000 theatres. Harvey Day, Sr., becomes Eastern sales manager of Jules Levey Productions.

March 21—Stanton Griffis, chairman of Paramount executive committee, honored by President Truman for his American Red Cross services during the war.

March 22—Defendants in Chicago Jackson Park Theatre anti-trust suit petition Supreme Court for a rehearing. Screen Office and Professional Employes Guild asks $10-a-week increases for 2,500 industry workers in New York. U. S. companies accept voluntary quota of 128 films for export to Italy during remainder of 1946. Motion Picture Export Association decides to fight Holland's Bioscoop Bond. William Brandt heads Distinguished Films, Inc., new distributor-exhibitor of foreign pictures. Universal nets $934,506 for 13 weeks ended Feb. 2, compared with $1,083,601 for corresponding period a year earlier.

March 25—President Eric Johnston's report at the annual meeting of the Motion Picture Association emphasizes the motion picture's expanding role in the postwar world. Strike of Detroit exchange workers settled. Phil Reisman and William H. Clark elected directors of RKO Radio; Malcolm Kingsberg retires from the board; Norman Freeman elected an assistant secretary.

March 26—United Artists board of directors authorizes management to make study of an employes' pension plan. Ned E. Depinet succeeds N. Peter Rathvon as RKO representative on the board of directors of Motion Picture Association.

(Continued on next page)

World Market Being Rebuilt By Companies

Upheaval Follows Decision of U. S. Court

Exhibitors in Protests on Auction Sales

(Continued from preceding page)

March 27 — M-G-M announces "Metro News," an international reel. Distributors close backrooms in Detroit exchanges following a series of work stoppages. Sol Lesser and Edward G. Robinson form Film Guild Corp., producing unit. Sir Alexander Korda forms Tricolore Corp. to distribute French films in the U. S. Changes in New York State's building code doomed by Legislature.

March 28—Twentieth Century-Fox estimates net profit at $12,700,000 for year ended Dec. 29, 1945, compared with $12,480,491 for the previous year. Columbia nets $1,295,000 for 26 weeks ended Dec. 29, 1945, compared with $950,000 for the same period in 1944. Civilian Production Administration announces $15,000 limitation for each motion picture set. Society of Motion Picture Engineers approves 20 new American standards in its field. Linden Theatre Co., Baltimore, files $225,000 anti-trust suit against distributors.

March 29—National Board of Review of Motion Pictures opens fight on censorship.

April

April 1—Universal signs 10-year exhibition franchises with Greater Union Theatres of Australia.

April 2—American Theatres Association organized in St. Louis.

April 3—Ted Gamble heads American Theatres Association.

April 4—Sol Lesser and others plan $7,000,000 Coast studio. Herbert K. Sorrell of CSU walks out in studio labor negotiations.

April 5—Motion Picture Export Association members decide to split revenue on basis of their grosses here. $17,821,000 Paramount profit in 1945.

April 8—J. Arthur Rank organization convention opens in London. Monogram borrows $2,500,000. George Schaefer launches financing company.

April 9—Billy Rose heads United Jewish Appeal industry campaign. Some New York theatremen face forfeiture of child licenses.

April 10—Studio musicians ask 100 per cent raise. Arthur Sachson named sales manager of Samuel Goldwyn Productions.

April 11—13,000 pledges in for cancer trailer. Warners promotes I. F. Dolid.

April 12—Motion Picture Association summons Howard Hughes on "Outlaw" ads. Machinists in new studio labor row.

April 15—Studios discuss new pact with musicians. FBI breaks illegal ring in 16mm. operations. European study to decide Monogram's stand on MPEA bid.

April 16—Schine files notice of appeal of dissolution ruling. Film leaders pledge a million to United Jewish Appeal.

April 17—Producers offer blanket increase to labor. Robert W. Coyne named executive director of American Theatres Association.

April 18—Crisis in studio labor situation—New York City applies Production Code to its new advertising standards.

April 19—Conference of Studio Unions agrees to resume negotiations.

April 23—Howard Hughes resigns from and files suits against Motion Picture Association. United World distribution to start Jan. 1. General Smith named executive secretary of Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatre Owners.

April 24—Rank forms theatre unit for overseas. National Theatres gets $20,000,000 for new financing.

April 25—"Outlaw" closed by San Francisco police. Warner loan cut by $13,135,000 in eight months.

April 26—MPA not in violation of trust laws, Department of Justice says. Deadlock is broken in musicians' talks.

April 29—Musicians and producers agree on pact. Tax revenue up five million. Tony Sudenkum, Crescent circuit president, dies.

April 30—OPA removes price ceilings on theatre equipment. ATA forms national press network. Variety award to General Evangeline Booth.

May

May 1—RKO Theatres and managers' union reach agreement. 20th Century-Fox pension plan proposed.

May 2—20th-Fox nets $12,746,467 for 1944. James M. Franey named treasurer of United World.

May 3—Illinois theatres to close nights and Sundays in coal-strike conservation move. Earle W. Sweigert named Paramount division manager.

May 6—RKO nets $6,031,085 for 1945. M-G-M to finance educational films. William E. Erbb joins Vanguard.

May 7—Eighty percent of Chicago theatres are closed by coal strike. All-embracing MPA census research is set. PRC acquires 25th branch.

May 8—Theatres hit by U. S. dimout order. $2,000,000 added to distributors payrolls this week.

May 9—Some Chicago theatres re-open. Schine plan proposes three corporations of its theatre holdings. Monroe Greenthal appointed United World vice-president.

May 10—$11,000,000 Paramount net for quarter. Rule theatres must close in Washington. Truman cites industry aid.

May 14—Vanguard names John Howard Western division manager.

May 15—Building code is approved for New York State.

May 16—ATA lists membership at 5,500 theatres. Gerald Mayer joins Motion Picture Association.

May 17—Robert Vining joins Motion Picture Association.

May 17—Robert Vining joins Motion Picture Association.

May 20—Third term for Robert J. O'Donnell as Variety chief. New jurisdictional flare-up at studios. Canadian board to designate "adult" films.

May 21—Columbia profits reach a new peak of $2,315,000 for 39 weeks.

May 22—20th-Fox nets $6,241,953 for quarter.

May 24—Rail stoppage sets stage for major industry crisis. MPA denies charges brought by Howard Hughes. CIEA adopts resolution to resist ATA.

May 28—France drops film barrier. Irving Maas named vice-president and general manager of Motion Picture Export Association.

May 29—French film pact seen as world model.

May 31—CPA tightens theatre, set building curb.

June

June 3—30 new arbitration cases filed in six months. Canadian MPA counterpart is established.

June 4—Warners in 16mm. field abroad.

June 5—Enterprise in deal with "U" for six a year. Southeastern Theatre Owners Association votes to enter ATA ranks. Francis L. Harley gets 20th-Fox managing director's post in Europe.

June 7—38 per cent ticket price rise since 1940, says Gallup. Warners nets $9,125,000 for six months.

June 10—ATA budget officially set at $200,000.

June 11—Universal net is up half million in 6 months. Estimated 50 millions see top features.

June 12—Partial divorcement, "auction" sales ruled by N. Y. court.

June 13—Abrams Myers declares trust suit decision is inconsistent.

June 17—William Goldman of Philadelphia asks $982,704 in anti-trust suit.

June 18—Hughes denied an MPA injunction.

June 19—Atlas Corp. to sell 650,000 shares of RKO common.

June 20—Capital alarmed over British bars. Schine makes new high court move. Department of Justice sees failure for Hughes' suit.

June 21—Government serves its N. Y. suit decree. Lawrence J. McGinley tops Rank special sales here.

June 24—U. S. asks date for decree compliance. Odeon and Gaumont British form new unit for Rank operations abroad. Universal opens first convention since 1942.

June 25—U. S. ready for "policing" final decree. Universal accounts are up 4,500, billings 300 per cent. Balaban and Katz pull "Outlaw."

June 26—MPTOA "cold" on N. Y. suit decision.

June 27—MPTOA fears "auction" sales will imperil theatres. Universal to release 45 in '46-47 on flexible policy.

July

July 1—Department of Justice will not support theatre divorcement legislation. E. K. (Ted) O'Shea named head of Liberty Films' sales.

July 2—Coast studios slowed down as new jurisdictional strike gets underway. War Department gets control of films in occupied zones. Barney Balaban, today celebrating his 10th anniversary with Paramount, is named head of the United Jewish Appeal in the U. S.

July 3—Two-day studio strike ends in a three-way pact. British plan legislation to extend films quota act. John B. Byrne named M-G-M Eastern manager.

July 5—Increase of $181,585,000 in films on stock market during first half of 1946. Court rules MPA is free to withdraw Production Code seal on "Outlaw."

July 8—Schine circuit ordered by court to divest itself of more than 50 theatres.

July 9—Office of War Mobilization designated to handle U. S. film requests. Columbia adopts "one or all" 1946-47 selling plan. Paramount slates single sales. U. S. to investigate Coast jurisdictional row.

July 10—20th-Fox fixes single-picture selling procedure.

July 11—SIMPP drafts auction sales plan which would set up regional boards to handle bids. RKO Radio will offer one to five pictures to its customers.

July 12—Bureau of Internal Revenue establishes new ticket rules to halt "irregularities."

July 16 — Production Code Administrator Joseph I. Breen visits England. Eric Johnston hails U. S. loan to Britain.

July 18—CIO drives for Canadian film workers. Independent Theatre Owners of Michigan oppose auction selling.

July 19—MPTOA hits auction selling, asks Government to appeal entire court decision.

July 22—Loew's 40-week profit is $12,579,245.

July 24—Majors and U. S. revealed widely apart on decree terms. Eric Johnston says jurisdictional strikes must end.

July 26 — Internal Revenue Bureau says capital gains tax is retroactive to July 24, 1943. Eric Johnston gets new pact as MPA head; contract extended from five to seven years.

July 29—Theatre candy sales hit by new price "squeeze."

July 31—Universal and International merge; William Goetz heads production.

August

Aug. 1—Warners 9-month record profit is $14,749,000.

Aug. 2—Arthur B. Krim named head of Eagle-Lion.

Aug. 5—MPA approves machinery to handle international film problems.

Aug. 6—Twentieth anniversary of talking pictures celebrated by Warners; film industry's assets doubled since sound.

Aug. 7—U. S. refuses to change its decree version in the equity case. RKO's profit for second quarter is $3,205,398.

New Strife on Labor Front As Year Ends

Aug. 8—William J. Heineman is named sales head of U. S. Rank organization.

Aug. 9—Record 6-month net profit for Paramount is $21,792,000.

Aug. 12—Film business hit by 30-year infantile paralysis high. First returns in MPTOA poll show 26-3 ratio against competitive bidding. Ben Martin Cohn named to head Universal Theatres overseas.

Aug. 14—Some 43-45 fewer films anticipated for 1946-47 by the industry.

Aug. 15—A. J. O'Keefe promoted to Universal sales executive. Alliance Productions, Ltd., formed in London to effect joint RKO-Radio-Rank organization distribution.

Aug. 19 — MPTOA poll shows exhibitors about evenly divided on divorcement of theatres. Monogram executive Trem Carr dies on Coast.

Aug. 20—Film company dividends at $9,043,000 for three months. Eastman Kodak and DuPont increase price of positive by 17½ and 13 per cent, respectively.

Aug. 21—U. S. would limit product for affiliated theatres under new proposed anti-trust suit decree. National Theatres' purchase of stock of Charles Skouras, Elmer C. Rhoden and Harold J. Fitzgerald is approved by 20th-Fox stockholders. PRC slates 28 features for 1946-47. A. W. Schwalberg named vice-president of Eagle-Lion.

Aug. 22—Rise in production costs hits short subjects.

Aug. 23—MPA launches detailed world survey of theatres.

Aug. 26—Monogram president Steve Broidy assumes company's production reins formerly held by late Trem Carr. MPTOA poll shows exhibitors 10-1 against auction sales.

Aug. 28—Musicians seek 40% pay increase from New York theatres. Winter Garden, New York, passes from United Artists to Universal operation.

Aug. 29—Allied's Jack Kirsch asks for a sales plan based on seating capacity.

Aug. 30—Enterprise and Universal dissolve distribution deal. New York License Commissioner Benjamin Fielding probes sanitary conditions in city's theatres.

September

Sept. 3—Republic president Herbert J. Yates says auction selling will benefit industry. National Theatre Supply celebrates 20th anniversary. Anglo-American Films, Ltd., formed at Toronto.

Sept. 4—Distributors win Ball trust case at Pittsburgh.

Sept. 5—Max Roth named PRC Eastern sales manager.

Sept. 6—Joan Leslie places first in *Motion Picture Herald's* "Stars of Tomorrow" poll. MPA sets pension plan for employes.

Sept. 9—"Outlaw" deprived of PCA seal.

Sept. 11—Film shipments jeopardized by express company employes' strike. MPA institutes "Children's Film Library."

Sept. 12—William Goldman of Philadelphia awarded $410,000 in suit against distributors.

Sept. 17—National Allied hits checking as first post-war convention opens in Boston.

Sept. 18 — Dipson Theatres files $2,561,833 anti-trust suit in Buffalo. United Artists concludes new producing deals with Walter Kanger and Hal Roach.

Sept. 19—Edward G. Zorn re-elected United Theatre Owners of Illinois president.

Sept. 20—Legion of Decency hits Production Code dope film amendment. Confederacy of Southern Associations slates intercession in New York equity suit. Fred Wehrenberg, MPTOA president, proposes exhibitor-distributor national forum.

(Continued on next page)

Many New Independent Film Producers

Film Exports Harried by New Problems

(Continued from preceding page)

Sept. 23—Producers face new wage hike in living cost rise.

Sept. 24—U. S. Narcotics Bureau chief fears "half-baked" dope films with relaxation of Production Code reins. Mary Pickford and Lester Cowan form new company.

Sept. 25—Murray Silverstone, president of 20th-Fox International, finds U. S. films lag in Britain.

Sept. 26—U. S. Justice Department to fight ATA intervention in equity suit. Loew's, RKO resign from ATA fold.

Sept. 27—Conference of Studio Unions picketing starts in new Coast labor dispute.

Sept. 30—MPTOA poll is 100 per cent against auctions for third week in a row.

October

Oct. 1—July admission taxes net government $39,537,980.

Oct. 2—MPA asks for court order to make Hughes surrender MPA seal of approval of "Outlaw". Hollywood producers ask for action by county officials to stop violence in CSU picketing.

Oct. 3—Otto E. Koegel named chief counsel of 20th-Fox. Columbia nets $3,450,489 in year, against $1,703,687 in 1945-46 fiscal year.

Oct. 4—Dennis F. O'Brien, industry attorney and one of founders of United Artists, dies. MPTOA sends to Department of Justice seven-point criticism of auction-selling proposal. Eight companies and SOPEG sign new pact providing for $200,000 in retroactive pay to 3,000 home office employes and six dollars or 15 per cent wage rise.

Oct. 7—Warners files suit for $3,000,000 against Conference of Studio Unions.

Oct. 8—Justice Department, in revision of proposed decree, would limit auction selling to exclusive run deals. California Theatres and affiliates vote to join ATA.

Oct. 9—Distributors ask court to authorize them to set minimum auction terms, permit them to expand their theatre holdings and retain certain pools. British Board of Trade cuts playing time available to American films.

Oct. 10—Griffith Amusement Co. found innocent of anti-trust charges. Hollywood projectionists win 25 per cent wage raise at the major studios in pact signed with IATSE.

Oct. 11—Justice Department to appeal Griffith decision.

Oct. 14—Double bill programs on decline in St. Paul and Minneapolis houses.

Oct. 15—Universal to buy out International Pictures Corp. Laboratory workers in Hollywood, IATSE-organized, halt film processing after decision to respect CSU picket lines. Spyros P. Skouras presides at inauguration of National Arthritis Research Foundation Fund drive. Boston and Detroit exhibitors raise $1,000,000 for 16 Screen Guild productions.

Oct. 16—Vanguard Films files as *amicus curiae* in New York anti-trust suit, requesting exemption of road shows from final decree. AFL convention accepts Screen Actors Guild arbitration resolution in studio jurisdictional fight.

Oct. 17—U. S. District Court, entering final decree in Jackson Park Theatre's anti-trust suit, limits Loop theatre first runs to maximum of two weeks, subsequent runs to one week. Official and public pressure in New York forces cancellation of local bookings of "Outlaw." Milton Sperling named president and production head of United States Pictures.

Oct. 18—Five major defendants in anti-trust suit hit segments of government's proposed decree as "contrary to the Federal court's opinion."

Oct. 21—Justice Department asks court to find all eight defendants in motion-picture case guilty of monopoly. Ed Kuykendall, 59, former MPTOA president, dies. Several major distributors to seek 25 to 50 per cent increase for short subject rentals. Republic to invest $1,600,000 to expand Fort Lee and Hollywood plants to handle additional Trucolor prints.

Oct. 22—Judge Hand, presiding at New York equity suit decree hearings, says the court will entertain alternatives to suggested competitive bidding plan. Canadian Odeon Circuit announces plans for four-year construction program to add 64 theatres.

Oct. 23—J. J. Fitzgibbons, president of Famous Players-Canadian Corp., calls upon Canadian film industry to press for "de-controls". Jerry I. Zigmond appointed to executive post in Paramount theatre department.

Oct. 24—Justice Walter of New York State Supreme Court rejects UA motion for mandatory injunction to compel exhibition of "Outlaw" at three New York houses. Byron Price hits American Authors Authority plan as threat to free speech.

Oct. 25—U. S. District Court concludes hearings on final decree in industry anti-trust suit. Treasury and SEC approve Universal merger with International Pictures. Benjamin Fielding, New York license commissioner, asks state censorship board to revoke license from "The Outlaw". Fred Schwartz resigns as New York regional vice-president of ATA over differences on competitive bidding.

Oct. 28—Eric Johnston leaves aboard *Queen Elizabeth* for Europe. Strike threat faces New York exchange offices of four majors following breakdown of discussions for wage rise with SOPEG. Jules E. Brulatour dies in New York.

Oct. 29—Thatre candy sale hit by price rises. Federal box-office tax collections for August reach $38,559,484, only $1,000,000 below top-figure of July, 1946. Benjamin B. Kahane, Columbia production executive, to supervise all productions not handled directly by Harry Cohn.

Oct. 30—Audience Research cites growth of weekly motion picture audience by 5,500,000 in five years to 57,500,000. Iowa-Nebraska Allied votes affiliation with National Allied.

Oct. 31—William Goetz and Leo Spitz of International to receive $5,000,000 in Universal deal. Joseph Keenan, Chicago AFL secretary, named Arbitrator in Hollywood labor dispute.

November

Nov. 1—France fosters quota, reorganizes general administration of film industry and establishes a National Center of the French Cinema. Carpenters Union of CSU broadens Hollywood dispute by introducing wages-and-hour demands.

Nov. 4—Joseph Garbarino elected president of MPTA of Ontario.

Nov. 6—Office of Mobilization and Reconversion finds production and distribution bottlenecks in Government film program. William E. Danziger becomes advertising and publicity director for Rank division of Universal.

Nov. 7—Five major defendants in New York film case propose clause in Federal Court decree for permission of leasing independently-owned theatres for road-shows. Industry executives express bewilderment at Government criticism of lack of machinery to facilitate handling government films. New Portuguese film quota law enacted.

Nov. 8—Eric Johnston, in England, calls for creation of World film council. Anti-trust damages are subject to U. S. taxes, Internal Revenue Bureau rules. J. J. Nolan and Leon Goldberg are elected vice presidents of RKO Radio.

Nov. 11—Film quotas among discussions on agenda for talks between U. S. and 18 nations on reduction of trade barriers. Eric Johnston contracts pneumonia in England, forcing cancellation of his tour of the Continent.

Nov. 12—W. J. German heads Jules E. Brulatour, Inc.

Nov. 13—David O. Selznick in center of clash among UA members. Universal merger with International formalized.

Nov. 14—Cliff Work resigns as studio head of Universal but will continue as advisor. Former members of Michigan Allied form new booking and buying combine. MPEA plans American newsreel for distribution abroad.

Nov. 15—Selznick bids $10,000,000 for UA shares or would sell stock. MPA backs UN 16mm. production program. Strike threat lifted from N. Y. exchanges of four companies as SOPEG accepts wage offer.

Nov. 18—David Lewis elected vice-president of Enterprise. Sedalia, Mo., exhibitors win 14-week strike against municipal tax on gross receipts.

Nov. 19—New York Federal Court denies intervention of ATA and Confederacy of Southern Associations in industry anti-trust suit. Republicans on record in opposition to government film program. RKO Radio net profit in nine months was $9,963,906, compared with $3,941,830 in same period last year. Former Mayor James J. Walker, 65, dead. North Central Allied joins National Allied.. Louis Kanturek appointed supervisor for MPEA in Eastern Europe.

Nov. 20—Film executives in White House parley set up "study committee" for government motion picture project.

Nov. 21—About 33 per cent of theatre equipment is going abroad, according to survey. Picture Pioneers inducts 65 new members. U. S., civic organizations and film leaders meet in Washington to map program on juvenile delinquency.

Nov. 22—All industry branches, including trade press, included on 12-man committee to organize cooperation of film industry in government film program. 20th-Fox net profit of $16,219,815 for 39 weeks ending Sept. 28, sets all-time high for company, compared with $7,529,287 for corresponding period last year.

Nov. 23—Sweeping order sets dimout for most U. S. theatres as a result of miners strike. Bishop Scully heads Bishops' Committee on Motion Pictures. U. S. foreign service to facilitate film exports.

Nov. 26—Eric Johnston, leaves England on return to U. S. UA board ratifies distribution pact with Enterprise.

Nov. 27—Balaban testimonial dinner raises $150,000 of $250,000 goal in Joint Defense Appeal drive in industry.

Nov. 29—Nine-months' earnings in film industry hit $93,437,432 more than double net for previous year. DuMont transmits pictures and sound by light wave instead of coaxial cables.

December

Dec. 2—Fred Schwartz elected head of Metropolitan Motion Picture Theatres Association.

Dec. 3—Top executives of all branches of film industry convenent in New Orleans to chart motion picture charity foundation.

Dec. 4—Fred Allen voted "Champion of Champions" in MOTION PICTURE DAILY radio poll for 1946.

Dec. 5—British M.P.'s ask Labor government to buy 500 theatres. Army refuses to list copyrights in clearance of 5,000 pictures produced during war.

Dec. 6—Solid Fuels Administration empowers 38 governors to shut theatres in coal crisis. New Orleans conference adjourns, leaving formalization of Motion Picture Foundation in hands of attorneys. Herman F. Levy appointed Coast advertising manager for Universal-International.

Dec. 9—Dimout, affecting motion picture theatres, ends on 12th day of coal strike.

Dec. 10—Majority of United Artists producers entering MPEA fold.

Dec. 11—Link between films and science cited by Hal Wallis at Nobel anniversary dinner at Hotel Astor in New York. Paul White appointed to head European and North African interests of Vanguard.

New Theatres, Improvements Set for 1947

Dec. 12—David O. Selznick breaks with UA, forms own releasing organization.

Dec. 13—Billy Rose honored by 200 leaders of amusement world at Federation of Jewish Philanthropies dinner. R. S. Taplinger appointed to head advertising and publicity for Enterprise. Rejection of local checkers show big drop during year. Spyros Skouras, Irving Berlin and Robern Sherwood given tribute by National Conference of Christians and Jews. Adolph Zukor returns from European tour.

Dec. 16—Warner Brothers and Arrowhead Productions dissolve contract. Emil C. Jensen, director of film division of March of Dimes, launches industry's drive.

Dec. 17—Supreme Court rejects Schine circuit appeals.

Dec. 18—Newly-organized Selznick Releasing Organization to establish five "division points" and 15 additional sales offices in U. S. Gerald M. Mayer named managing director of MPA international division. Railway Express calls off plan to set up distribution facilities for independent producers. Thomas J. Connors, 20th-Fox vice-president, elected chairman of National Distributors Committee.

Dec. 19—Gradwell L. Sears, UA vice-president of distribution, announces new plan for advance screenings of product for salesmen. J. Arthur Rank reports earnings of $8,000,000 from U. S. and Latin America.

Dec. 20—Philadelphia court awards William Goldman $375,000 in his anti-trust suit on behalf of Erlanger Theatre there.

Dec. 23—N. Y. State Education department's motion picture division upholds license of "Outlaw." Arnold Stolz promoted to national sales representative for PRC. Selznick institutes suit for $13,500,000 against UA and co-owners.

Dec. 24—Government gets permission to appeal Griffith Theatre's anti-trust case to Supreme Court. Duluth Theatre and Lyceum Building Corp. of Duluth. filed $1,350,000 anti-trust suit. Joseph Bernhard purchases interest in Film classics.

Dec. 27—Bing Crosby tops *Motion Picture Herald-Fame* poll of exhibitors as leading money-making star of 1946, with Ingrid Bergman the runner-up. Neil Agnew resigns as director of UA.

Dec. 30—Film stocks drop $155,000,000 on stock exchange. Business soars at N. Y. first-runs to set four new records. Congressman blasts hope of cut in admission taxes. Dividends in 1946 last quarter for some companies double over year ago.

Judge Rules Against Vidor in Col. Suit

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30. — Federal Judge Ben Harrison today ruled against Director Charles Vidor in the latter's suit against Columbia for release from his contract, declaring the language used by Columbia President Harry Cohn, on which Vidor had based his complaint, "was part of Cohn's speaking vocabulary used by him as superlative adjectives, not intended by him as insulting or used for purpose humiliating Vidor, and Vidor misunderstood them."

Hayes on 'Dimes' Drive

Helen Hayes will serve as chairman of the actors' section of the theatrical division of the March of Dimes, according to an announcement by Emil C. Jensen, director of the motion picture division.

Key City Grosses

FOLLOWING are estimated picture grosses for current engagements in key cities as reported by MOTION PICTURE DAILY *correspondents.*

CHICAGO

Loop managers reported the biggest business in history, with impressive new records set by "The Best Years of Our Lives" and "The Show-Off." Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 1-2:

THE JOLSON STORY (Col.)—APOLLO (1,200) (95c). Gross: $25,000. Average: $12,000)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—CHICAGO (3,900) (95c). On stage: Burl Ives and Lorraine Rognan. Gross: $91,000. (Average: $60,000)

HENRY V (U)—CIVIC (900) ($1.20-$1.80-$2.40) twice daily, 21st week. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—GARRICK (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $28,000. (Average: $13,000)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—GRAND (1,150) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $25,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M)—ORIENTAL (3,200) (95c). On stage: Kathryn Grayson and Johnny Johnston. Gross: $81,000. (Average: $45,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—PALACE (2,500) (55c-65c-95c). Gross: $30,000. (Average: $24,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—RIALTO (1,687) (65c-95c). Gross: $20,000.

NEVER SAY GOODBYE (WB)—ROOSEVELT (1,000) (65c-95c). Gross: $22,000. (Average: $20,000)

RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—STATE-LAKE (2,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $45,000. (Average: $29,000)

UNDERCURRENT (M-G-M)—UNITED ARTISTS (1,700) (65c-95c). Gross: $38,000. (Average: $25,000)

BEST YEARS OF OUR LIVES (RKO Radio)—WOODS (1,200) (95c-$1.40) 2nd week. Gross: $53,000. (Average: $20,000)

BALTIMORE

With strong features, a holiday schedule, fair weather and a couple of midnight shows, most of the current box-office figures are considerably above average. Nothing in town offers any outside competition. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 2:

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M)—CENTURY (3,000) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,000)

MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—KEITH'S (2,400) (35c-44c-55c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—NEW (1,800) (35c-50c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $21,000. (Average: $12,000)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—STANLEY (3,280) (35c-44c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $17,000)

THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—HIPPODROME (2,205) (35c-44c-60c-70c) 7 days. With stage show. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE GREAT MR. HANDEL (English Films)—LITTLE (328) (35c-44c-65c) 7 days, 3rd week. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—MAYFAIR (1,000) (25c-35c-54c) 7 days. Gross: $6,000. (Average: $6,000)

PITTSBURGH

Two of the houses did better than average this week, with "The Show-Off" at the Warner turning in especially good business. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31:

SUSPENSE (Mono.)—FULTON (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $9,500. (Average: $9,700)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—J. P. HARRIS (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week. Gross: $9,000. (Average: $11,000)

RAGE IN HEAVEN (M-G-M reissue)—PENN (3,400) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $25,000)

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio)—RITZ (1,100) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from Stanley. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,500)

WHITE TIE AND TAILS (U) and BAMBOO BLONDE (RKO Radio)—SENATOR (1,700) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $2,500. (Average: $3,200)

THE MAN I LOVE (WB)—STANLEY (3,800) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $25,000)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M)—WARNER (2,000) (40c-55c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $8,000)

CINCINNATI

"The Bachelor's Daughters," aided by Beatrice Kay headlining a stage show, is giving the RKO Albee outstanding business, with other houses also heading toward big post-Christmas returns. The weather has ranged from unseasonably mild to cold. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31-Jan. 3:

THE BACHELOR'S DAUGHTERS (UA)—RKO ALBEE (3,300) (55c-65c-75c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight and New Year's Eve show. Gross: $38,000. (Average: $30,000)

THE SECRET HEART (M-G-M)—RKO CAPITOL (2,000) (50c-55c-70c-85c-95c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $15,000. (Average: $10,000)

ROLL ON, TEXAS MOON (Rep.) and DANGEROUS MILLIONS (20th-Fox)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,900. (Average: $1,600)

BRUTE MAN (PRC) and TRIGGER FINGERS (Mono.)—RKO FAMILY (1,000) (30c-40c-50c) 4 days. Gross: $1,300. (Average: $1,100)

TEMPTATION (U)—KEITH'S (1,500) (50c-55c-60c-70c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $7,500)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio)—RKO GRAND (1,500) and RKO SHUBERT (2,150) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days. Combined gross: $22,000. (Combined average: $10,000)

THE WESTERNER (Film Classics)—RKO LYRIC (1,400) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, 2nd week, on a moveover from the Palace. Gross: $8,500. (Average: $5,000)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—RKO PALACE (2,700) (50c-55c-60c-65c-70c-75c) 7 days, plus a Saturday midnight show. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

(Continued on page 12)

"The Shocking Miss Pilgrim"

[*20th Century-Fox*]

ALTHOUGH bathed delightfully in Technicolor and repeatedly lifted out of the world by 11 George-and-Ira Gershwin songs, this prize-package production should not be treated primarily as a musical, for exceptional story values boost it beyond the class of much of the best in that sometimes stereotyped category.

Betty Grable is back, after more than a year's absence from the screen, and is more bewitching than ever—even though she lifts the discreet costumes of 1874 for only about 10 seconds. Teamed with Dick Haymes and an over-all excellent cast, she creates the character of a pioneer in the cause of woman's rights with a charm that the suffrage movement must seldom have developed—and probably could have used to good advantage.

The year 1874, we are told, was distinguished by the invention of the typewriter, or at least by the first graduating class containing young ladies capable of running that strange machine. Miss Pilgrim led the class and, as Betty portrays her, goes forth from New York to introduce the phenomenon of a female stenographer in — of all places — Boston (which, by the way, would probably respond happily to a premiere of this gracious film).

IN the musty offices of an old-fashioned shipping concern, where the male clerks perch comically in shirt sleeves on their rows of high stools, Miss Pilgrim meets and ultimately conquers her reluctant employer, Haymes. Credit a fast assist at the first, and also a magnificent though brief performance, to Anne Revere, who owns a controlling interest in the firm and saves the newcomer from instant sacking. Miss Revere, it seems, is a suffragette of the blustering school, and some of the choicest satire the screen has ever depicted grows out of several meetings these determined women hold.

Miss Pilgrim's approach to the problem is naturally more subtle. She brings flowers, along with efficiency, to the office, and soon everybody there, including the boss, finds his whole life pleasantly revolutionized. The boss, of course, falls in love and follows his "typewriter," as stenographers were called in those days, even to the suffrage gatherings.

While these scenes are capital, there are others to top them: notably those in a boarding house where the employed Miss Pilgrim first finds refuge. Run by Elizabeth Patterson, the black sheep of a local family, it has become a refuge of picturesque "outcasts" who are drawn together by their mutual dislike of Boston. They include Arthur Shields, who earns his keep by painting a portrait of the landlady every year; Lillian Bronson, who is rewriting the dictionary to make the English language sound better; Allyn Joslyn, who expresses his vitriol in verse, and Charles Kemper, who sets the verses to music and plays them on a series of wine glasses.

Best scene of all, however, comes when Miss Pilgrim is to meet the boss's mother, equipped with cutting remarks composed for her by the poet. But the mother, in the person of Margaret Bannerman, turns out to be a very sweet woman, as indeed many in Boston must have been even in 1874, and has even been practicing secretly on the typewriter. From there on, the film becomes a song-filled joy ride, most of the way, to marriage for the lovers.

William Perlberg's production and George Seaton's direction, with the latter also responsible for the screen play, from a story by Ernest and Frederica Maas, are simply wonderful to watch at every point. Theirs is a glowing contribution to a happy new year.

Running time, 85 minutes. General audience classification. Release in January.

TOM LOY

'Redbook' Cites 'Yearling'

Redbook magazine's motion picture award for 1946 goes to Sidney Franklin and his associates for the making of "The Yearling," Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer picture.

Production on Even Keel; 49 Are Filming

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30. — Production activity is virtually unchanged, as three films went to the cutting rooms and three faced cameras. The shooting index still stands at 49. The production scene follows:

Columbia

Finished: "Bulldog Drummond at Bay" (Venture); "For the Love of Rusty."

Shooting: "The Corpse Came C.O.D."; "Assigned to Treasury" (Kennedy-Buchman); "Three Were Thoroughbreds" (Cavalier); "The Lady from Shanghai."

Eagle-Lion

Started: "Repeat Performance," with Joan Leslie, Louis Hayward, Richard Basehart, Tom Conway.

Independent

Shooting: "Women in the Night" (Southern California Films).

M-G-M

Shooting: "The Rich, Full Life," "Song of Love," "The Birds and the Bees," "Green Dolphin Street," "To Kiss and to Keep."

Monogram

Finished: "High Conquest."

Shooting: "Violence" (B. and B.); "Black Gold."

Paramount

Started: "Road to Rio," with Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour.

Shooting: "Blaze of Noon," "Variety Girl," "Saigon," "I Walk Alone" (Wallis).

PRC

Shooting: "Border Feud," "Philo Vance No. 3," "All in the Game" (formerly "The Payoff.").

RKO Radio

Shooting: "Flight," "Out of the Past," "The Fugitive" (Argosy); "Magic Town" (Riskin).

Republic

Shooting: "Bells of San Angelo."

Screen Guild

Started: "Untitled Melodrama," with Russell Wade, Edmund MacDonald, Susan Walters, Nestor Paiva, Vince Barnett.

20th Century-Fox

Shooting: "The Ghost and Mrs. Muir," "Moss Rose," "Captain from Castile," "Forever Amber," "Mother Wore Tights," "It's Only Human."

United Artists

Shooting: "Heaven Only Knows" (Nebenzal); "Copacabana" (Beacon); "Christmas Eve" (Bogeaus); "Vendetta" (California); "Personal Column" (Stromberg); "The Other Love" (Enterprise).

Universal-International

Shooting: "Ivy" (Interwood); "Time Out of Mind," "Buck Privates Come Home," "The Egg and I."

Warners

Shooting: "The Unfaithful," "Dark Passage," "Deep Valley," "The Woman in White," "Night unto Night."

Vasquez Joins NBC

Juan Jose Vasquez, formerly on the production staff of station XEW, Mexico City, has joined the international department of National Broadcasting here.

Key Grosses

(Continued from page 11)

KANSAS CITY

Business has shown good recovery this week. The temperature dropped from a record-breaking high on Friday to zero yesterday. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31-Jan. 2:

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—ESQUIRE (800) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $14,000. (Average: $8,000)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—FAIRWAY (700) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $3,000. (Average: $1,750)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND (UA)—MIDLAND (3,500) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $17,000. (Average: $15,000)

BLUE SKIES (Para.)—NEWMAN (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $22,000. (Average: $11,000)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—ORPHEUM (1,900) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $10,000)

STARS OVER TEXAS (PRC) and A SCANDAL IN PARIS (UA)—TOWER (2,100) (45c-65c) Roscoe Ates on stage show, 7 days. Gross: $10,500. (Average: $9,000)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—UPTOWN (2,000) (45c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,000. (Average: $6,000)

TORONTO

First-run engagements were juggled to fit in the opening of new programs for New Year's Eve, with some pictures being held for a portion of a second week. The week, which had its range of indoor sports was marked by a spell of icy streets and disagreeable sleet. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 30-31:

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—EGLINTON (1,086) (18c-30c-48c-60c) 6 days. Gross: $5,000. (Average: $4,700)

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox)—IMPERIAL (3,373) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 4 days, 2nd week. Gross: $8,800. (Average for 6 days: $14,300)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M)—LOEW'S (2,074) (18c-30c-42c-60c-78c) 6 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $13,300)

CROSS MY HEART (Para.)—SHEA'S (2,480) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 3 days, 2nd week. Gross: $7,100. (Average for 6 days: $14,600)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—UPTOWN (2,761) (18c-30c-42c-60c-90c) 6 days. Gross: $10,900. (Average: $11,400)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—VICTORIA (1,240) (12c-30c-48c) 6 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $6,800)

MINNEAPOLIS

Business has held to the seasonal lag, with only two houses bettering their averages. Estimated receipts for the week ending Jan. 2:

KING'S ROW (WB reissue)—CENTURY (1,600) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $5,500. (Average: $7,500)

THE BOWERY (20th-Fox reissue)—GOPHER (1,000) (44c-50c) 7 days. Gross: $3,400. (Average: $3,400)

WAKE UP AND DREAM (20th-Fox)—LYRIC (1,100) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $4,000. (Average: $6,000)

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE (RKO Radio)—RKO ORPHEUM (2,800) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $19,000. (Average: $11,500)

THE TIME, THE PLACE AND THE GIRL (WB)—RADIO CITY (4,000) (50c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $20,000. (Average: $18,000)

THE RETURN OF MONTE CRISTO (Col.)—RKO PAN (1,500) (50c-70c) 7 days. Gross: $6,500. (Average: $8,000)

THE MAN I LOVE (WB)—STATE (2,300) (50c-70c) 6 days. Gross: $12,000. (Average: $13,500)

OMAHA

Business improved nicely during the holidays. The weather broke suddenly, bringing sub-zero temperatures and snow over the weekend. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 31-Jan. 2:

MY DARLING CLEMENTINE (20th-Fox) and PERSONALITY KID (Col.)—OMAHA (2,000) (50c-65c) 7 days, 2nd week, for "My Darling Clementine" on moveover from Paramount. Gross: $9,900. (Average: $8,600)

BLACK BEAUTY (20th-Fox) and THE COCKEYED MIRACLE (M-G-M)—ORPHEUM (3,000) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,800. (Average: $9,400)

THE RAZOR'S EDGE (20th-Fox)—PARAMOUNT (3,900) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $16,600. (Average: $11,000)

SONG OF THE SOUTH (RKO Radio) and THE FALCON'S ADVENTURE (RKO Radio)—RKO BRANDEIS (1,200) (50c-65c) 7 days. Gross: $11,200. (Average: $6,800)

INDIANAPOLIS

Business responded nicely to the Christmas spirit. The weather has been cold but clear. Estimated receipts for the week ending Dec. 30:

LADY LUCK (RKO Radio) and CRIMINAL COURT (RKO Radio)—CIRCLE (2,800) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $10,000. (Average: $11,700)

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—INDIANA (3,200) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $17,500. (Average: $15,800)

THE MAGNIFICENT DOLL (U)—KEITH'S (1,300) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $13,000. (Average: $9,000)

THE SHOW-OFF (M-G-M) and THE DEVIL'S PLAYGROUND (UA)—LOEW'S (2,450) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $18,000. (Average: $14,400)

THE SPIDER WOMAN STRIKES BACK (U) and THE HOUSE OF HORRORS (U)—LYRIC (1,600) (40c-60c) 7 days. Gross: $7,000. (Average: $6,700)

ATLANTA

Grosses are hovering at average and slightly below. The weather has been spring like. Estimated receipts for the week ennding Dec. 31:

MARGIE (20th-Fox)—FOX (4,661) (55c-60c) Gross: $13,000. (Average: $13,000)

THE ADVENTURES OF TOM SAWYER (Casanane-Artlee)—PARAMOUNT (2,447) (30c-60c) Gross: $7,900. (Average: $8,200)

CLAUDIA AND DAVID (20th-Fox)—ROXY (2,446) 2nd week, moveover from Fox. (50c-60c) Gross: $5,500. (Average: $5,600)

UNDER NEVADA SKIES (Rep.) and STRANGE TRIANGLE (20th-Fox)—CAPITOL (2,446) (44c-50c) Gross: $4,150. (Average: $4,200)

GALLANT BESS (M-G-M)—LOEW'S GRAND (2,554) (55c-60c) Gross: $14,500. (Average: $15,000)

"Duel in the Sun"

(Continued from page 1)

cost level, in Technicolor, and with such box-office personalities as Jennifer Jones, Gregory Peck, Joseph Cotten, Lionel Barrymore, Walter Huston, Herbert Marshall, Harry Carey and Lillian Gish distinguishing a cast that contains other exploitable names among its hundreds.

Whether this crossing of strains represented by the application of production wealth to mongrel theme, traditionally dealt with separately by producers on the grounds of incompatability, will result in an offering as much more acceptable as it is expensive, is a question to be answered by the ticket buyers, who without doubt will be legion in either case.

The screenplay, by the producer, from a novel by Niven Busch, adapted by Oliver H. P. Garrett, is a sizzler in the full meaning of the term. It opens floridly with Tillie Losch as an Indian entertainer doing a torrid dance in a Texas presidio (1880) and proceeding thence with an amorous gambler to a private chamber where both are shot to death by her white husband, another gambler, who decides this is not a proper motherly example to set before their adolescent daughter.

BUT that is just a preliminary and relatively orthodox warm-up for the emotional excesses in which the daughter is to engage after she arrives at the million-acre ranch whose sedate and unhappy mistress is an old friend and former flame of her father's, who counsels the child on the merits of virtue as they take him out to hang him for the double killing.

The ranch is owned by Barrymore, an embittered and ruthless cattle baron and senator, resolutely opposed to progress as represented by an oncoming railroad. He has two sons, an upright young lawyer whom he despises, played by Cotten, and a downright blackguard whom he worships, played by Peck. Cotten is the first to meet the half-breed girl, portrayed by Miss Jones with consumate abandon, and he falls in love with her but refrains from telling her so immediately on the theory that she rates a space of time in which to adjust herself to the social change.

Unimpeded by such considerations, Peck sets out forthwith in lustful quest of her physical favors and takes them by storm in the most forthright display of virility illicitly triumphant as an American camera has looked upon in years.

The upright Cotten intrudes a little later, too late to prevent, but in time to know, what's gone on. The girl exhibits momentary remorse when he tells her he would have asked her to marry him if this hadn't happened, but she switches back to the predatory Peck immediately thereafter and shares several more rapturously savage passages with him before she gets around, after he's shot down his unarmed brother and killed a man who wants to marry her, to the decision that she's got to kill the guy.

THIS decision, arrived at for a variety of reasons, possibly including his practice of kicking her in the face after their amours, leads to the duel in the sun from which the picture takes its title. In this final sequence, wherein the savage lovers exchange bullets across a terrain of boulders, meanwhile dragging themselves toward each other for a final bloody caress in which both die, the picture attains its peak of dramatic impact.

There are other story threads of moment, principal among them that concerning the cattle baron's fight with the railroad, in which thousands of players representing armed ranchers, railroad construction crews and the U. S. cavalry, which arrives in time to intervene between them, figure in a vastly proportioned sequence which closes peacefully with the lens focussed upon the Stars and Stripes. But this story thread, in common with a tardily introduced domestic rift in the far past of the cattle baron and his wife, is sharply subordinated to the relationship between the half-breed girl and the outlaw son which is depicted on all occasions as strictly carnal and underscored to the remarkable extent of incorporating a stable yard violence involving a stallion and a mare, which hasn't been paralleled since "Ecstasy."

King Vidor directed the picture with deliberation, daring and with manifest consideration of the cinematographic niceties as when remembering to make the nude bathing scene and the interludes of lust pictorially beautiful as well as emotionally exotic.

The picture is strictly for adults on all counts. Running time, 135 minutes. Adult classification. Release date, not set.

ROSCOE WILLIAMS

'Best Years' Gets N Y Critics Award

Samuel Goldwyn's "The Best Years of Our Lives" was voted the best picture of 1946 by the New York Film Critics yesterday. Eighteen of the organization's 21 eligible voters met here to select, in addition to the best picture, "bests" in acting, direction, and the "best foreign picture" of the year.

"Open City" was named the best foreign picture; Laurence Olivier, the best actor, for his performance in "Henry V"; Celia Johnson, the best actress, for her work in "Brief Encounter," and William Wyler, the best director, for "Best Years of Our Lives."

Runners-up in the "best picture" category were "Henry V" and "Stairway to Heaven," in that order. Fredric March and Olivia DeHavilland were runners-up in the acting departments; he for "Best Years," and she for "To Each His Own." Olivier, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, and Frank Capra were directors who also figured in the voting. "The Well-Digger's Daughter" was runner-up in the "best foreign film" category.

The critics plan to hold an awards dinner here in January to which winners will be invited and presented with scrolls.

MPEA's Jap Program Extended by Mayer

The initial reaction to, and the results of the Motion Picture Export Association's educational program designed to heighten the appreciation of the Japanese masses for American pictures, have been so successful, according to the MPEA here, that Charles Mayer, MPEA's managing director in Japan, has elaborated on his program by instituting Amercan film appreciation lectures and discussions in Japanese schools and universities. This move, MPEA adds, has been indorsed by both the Japanese Ministry of Education and American Military Government authorities.

To supplement the classroom phase of the program, Mayer is preparing a printed motion picture guide for school teachers and students. A by-product of the program, MPEA reports, is the large-scale pre-release attention it is focussing on the Military Government-approved releases of MPEA member companies.

Schwer Promoted

HOLLYWOOD, Dec. 30.—John J. Jones, president of Screen Guild Productions, has named Madison Schwer, chief accountant and comptroller of the company for the past seven months, as his assistant. Schwer will handle legal matters, insurance and finance at Screen Guild's home office here.

FAME

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